



NATIONAL CENTER ON

Early Childhood Quality Assurance

# Supports and Systems for Improving Access to and Sustainability of Family Child Care

Webinar

December 12, 2017

# National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance

- ◆ Supports state and community leaders in improving the health, safety, and quality of early childhood settings
- ◆ Works across early childhood sectors
- ◆ Encourages policies and practices that are culturally and linguistically responsive

# Our Priorities

- ◆ Advance strong health, safety, and quality standards and licensing regulations
- ◆ Support the development and enhancement of state quality initiatives
- ◆ Enhance quality assurance systems through the use of technology, data analysis, and research

# Introductions



## **Amanda Szekely**

- Senior Technical Assistance Specialist on state policy with ZERO TO THREE



## **Harriet Feldlaufer**

- Director of the Division of Early Care at the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood



## **Erica Phillips**

- Chief Operating Officer, All Our Kin, Connecticut

# Supporting Access to High-Quality Family Child Care: A Policy Assessment and Planning Tool for States, Territories, and Tribes



<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/supporting-access-high-quality-family-child-care-policy-assessment-and-planning-tool-0>

# Assessment: Four Steps to Action

1. Current Systems and Data to Inform Policy Change
2. Policy Strategies to Support Access to High-Quality Family Child Care
3. Initiatives to Support Supply and Quality of Family Child Care
4. Outreach to the Full Range of Providers

# Current Systems and Data to Inform Policy Change

- ◆ Assessing Current FCC Systems
- ◆ Assessing Data Collection on Family Child Care



# Assessment Tool: Current Systems

Policy Benchmark or Indicator	Measure	Comments
<p><b>FCC is incorporated in state-level plans to promote high-quality child care and build strong early childhood education (ECE) systems.</b></p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Do your strategic plans include FCC?</li> <li>◆ Is FCC included in the ongoing work of ECE advisory councils?</li> <li>◆ Is FCC a priority for your state agency partners?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is fully met</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark requires implementation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is not met</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Data are available to inform policy decisions.</b></p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Does your state have data on the demand, supply, and quality of FCC?</li> <li>◆ Are the data available for use by the Lead Agency?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is fully met</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark requires implementation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Benchmark is not met</li> </ul>	



# Assessment Tool: Data Collection

Data	Licensed FCC	License-Exempt FCC	Comments
<p><b>The number of FCC providers currently operating in the state</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available  <input type="checkbox"/> Not available            Source:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available  <input type="checkbox"/> Not available            Source:</p>	
<p><b>Demographic data on FCC providers:</b></p> <p>Language preference  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Age of provider  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Level of education  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Number of years' experience  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available  <input type="checkbox"/> Some but not all data is available  <input type="checkbox"/> No data is available</p> <p>Source(s):</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Available  <input type="checkbox"/> Some but not all data is available  <input type="checkbox"/> No data is available</p> <p>Source(s):</p>	

# Policy Strategies to Support Access

- ◆ Licensing and monitoring
- ◆ Quality rating and improvement systems or quality frameworks
- ◆ Professional development systems
- ◆ Child care subsidy policy

# Assessment Tool: Licensing & Monitoring

Policy Benchmark or Indicator	Implementation Status	Comments
FCC providers serving a minimal number of children who are not their relatives are required to be licensed. (States typically require licensing for providers serving three or four children who are not relatives.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partially implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	
License-exempt FCC providers are required to be listed with or otherwise monitored by a public agency.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partially implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	

# Initiatives to Support the Supply and Quality of Family Child Care

- ◆ Staffed FCC networks
- ◆ Unstaffed FCC networks or associations
- ◆ Shared services model



# Initiatives to Support the Supply and Quality of Family Child Care

- ◆ Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership initiatives
- ◆ Partnership between providers and ECE initiatives
- ◆ Other initiatives that provide support to FCC



# Outreach to the Full Range of Providers

- ◆ Target high-need communities
- ◆ Include license-exempt and relative care providers
- ◆ Offer resources in languages other than English



# Outreach to the Full Range of Providers

- ◆ Provide access to information online and outside typical business hours
- ◆ Provide support and resources for those caring for children with special needs
- ◆ Connect to trusted sources within community



# Action Planning Tool

Action Steps	Next Steps	Who Will Take the Lead?	When Will It Be Done?	Priority (high, medium, low)
<b>I. Current systems and data</b>				
<b>II. Policy strategies</b>				
<b>III. Initiatives to support supply and quality of FCC</b>				
<b>IV. Outreach to providers</b>				



# Initiatives to Support Supply and Quality and Outreach to a Full Range of Providers

Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
Division of Early Care and Education



# Engaging Family Child Care Providers in Quality Improvement Systems



<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/engaging-family-child-care-providers-quality-improvement-systems>

# Building Systems Inclusive of FCC Providers

- ◆ What challenges do states have to overcome to effectively reach out to FCC providers?
- ◆ What can we learn from past studies and initiatives with FCC providers that can inform our future efforts?
- ◆ What outreach and recruitment practices effectively engage FCC providers in quality improvement initiatives?

# Strategies for Engaging FCC Providers

- ◆ Active involvement of providers
- ◆ Effective partnerships using a strength based approach
- ◆ Multiple engagement & communication approaches
- ◆ Respect for FCC provider knowledge, time & unique role
- ◆ Networks and social supports
- ◆ Financial and material incentives



# Contact Information

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# Thank you



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