



**Office of Children  
and Family Services**

**New York's Child Care & Development Fund  
Plan for FY 2016-2018:  
A Closer Look Into the Impact on Child Care  
in New York State**

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# Overview of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan

- The CCDF Plan = the agreement between the lead agency and the federal government as to how CCDF programs will be administered
- Lead agency = OCFS
- 2 ½ year plan: FFY 2016-2018 (for the period June 1, 2016 – September 30, 2018)



# Timeline

- **Draft Plan** is posted to the OCFS website
- **Public Hearings:**
  - Rensselaer, January 26
  - Rochester, January 27
  - New York City, January 29
- **Comments integrated** into draft Plan
- **Final draft** submitted to the federal Office of Child Care by March 1



# The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014

- The CCDBG Act of 2014 reauthorized the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) for the first time since 1996
- Passed in Congress on Nov. 7, 2014 and was signed into law by President Obama on Nov. 19, 2014
- The CCDF is a **\$5.3 billion block grant** that provides funding to states to improve the quality of child care and provide access to low-income families
- In 2015, NYS's CCDF allocation was **\$309 million**
- CCDBG reauthorizes the CCDF through FY 2020



# Sections of the Plan

- Part 1: Leadership and Coordination
- Part 2: Family Engagement
- Part 3: Financial Assistance to Families
- Part 4: Equal Access
- Part 5: Health and Safety Standards and Monitoring
- Part 6: Child Care Workforce
- Part 7: Quality Improvement
- Part 8: Program Integrity



# Part 1: Leadership & Coordination

- CCDF leadership
- CCDF policy decision authority
- Consultation in the development of the CCDF Plan
- Coordination with partners to expand accessibility and continuity of care
- Optional use of combined funds
- Public-Private partnerships
- Coordination with local or regional Child Care Resource and Referral Systems
- Disaster preparedness and response plan



## Part 2: Family Engagement

- Child care financial assistance availability and application process
- Consumer and provider education information/website for consumer education
- Information about the quality of child care providers



# Part 2: Website for Consumer Education

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## Division of Child Care Services

### Resources For Families

#### Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

CACFP provides aid to child and adult care institutions and family or group day care homes for the provision of nutritious foods that contribute to the wellness, healthy growth, and development of young children, and the health and wellness of older adults and chronically impaired disabled persons. For more information go to the United States Department of Agriculture website at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program> or the New York State Department of Health website at <http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/nutrition/cacfp/aboutcacfp.htm>.

#### Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Temporary help for needy men, women, and children. If you are unable to work, can't find a job, or your job does not pay enough, temporary assistance may be able to help you pay for your expenses. Families that need information about Temporary Assistance (TA) should visit their local department of social services or go the New York State Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (NYSOTDA) website at <http://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/>

#### Head Start and Early Head Start Programs

Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive child development programs. Head Start serves children ages 3 to 5 and their families. Early Head Start serves pregnant women and their families and children birth to age 3 and their families. Families looking for Head Start and Early Head Start Programs should visit the New York State Education Department website at <http://eservices.nysed.gov/countymap/index.html> and search for your county.

[http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/Resources\\_for\\_Families.asp](http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/Resources_for_Families.asp)



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# Child Care Options Videos

Welfare Prevention Juvenile Justice Domestic Violence Commission for the Blind Adult Protective Services

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## Find Child Care

Choosing child care is an important decision. You can learn about choices in the short [Child Care Options](#) video. Safe and positive child care sets the stage for healthy growth and development. It takes time, patience and understanding of what to look for when selecting child care. You know the needs of your child and family. However, you may need assistance in matching those needs to available resources. That is why OCFS is proud to share with you the supports that we have put in place to assist you in making this important decision.

## Search for Child Care Programs

If you would like to start your search on your own, the [Child Care Facility Search page](#) will bring you to a search window that will allow you to search the entire database of regulated child care providers in New York State (**with the exception of day care centers in New York City**). This search engine will allow you to look up a specific provider by name, or all the providers in a particular county or even zip code. It also lets you search by different types of care, such as family day care or day care centers. You will see information on the program including contact information, address, capacity, when it first opened and the current status of its license or registration.

Please note that day care centers in New York City are regulated by the New York City Department of



<http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/looking.asp>



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## Part 2: Unmet Requirements

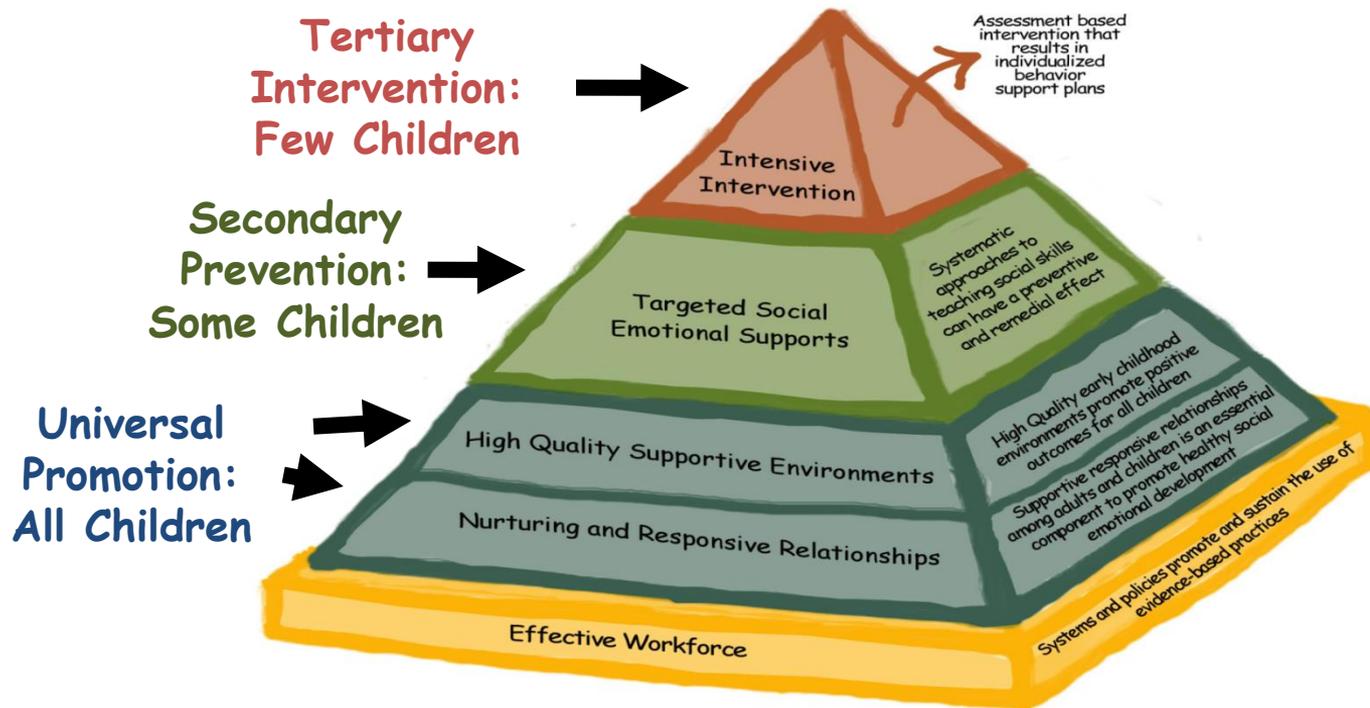
- Research and best practices
- Policy on expulsion
- Access to developmental screenings
- Consumer Education Website



# Part 2: Progress to Date

## The Pyramid Model:

Promoting Social and Emotional Competence and Addressing Challenging Behavior



<http://bit.ly/NYpyramid>



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# Part 2: Progress to Date

## Developmental screenings

OCFS continues to partner with the NYS Department of Health, Division of Family Health to:

- Develop communication to child care providers on the importance of developmental screening
- Issue a guidance document to early childhood providers on the importance of early identification and early intervention services
- Implement a set of quality indicators to be incorporated in OCFS licensing visits



## Part 3: Financial Assistance to Families

- Increasing access for vulnerable children and families
- Protection for working parents
- Family contribution to payment



## Part 3: Unmet Requirements

- 12-month eligibility
- *Graduated phase-out*



# Part 3: Improving access to homeless children and families

Plan of action:

- *Expand definition of protective services*
- Provide child care subsidies to support families for at least three months of job search
- *Waive family fee for homeless families.*
- Revisit the enhanced subsidy rate for providing child care during non-traditional hours,
- New enhanced subsidy rate to incentivize providers to serve children who are homeless
- Broaden the scope of one of the milestones of our performance-based contracts with CCR&Rs to allow them to do targeted outreach to homeless shelters



# Part 3: Professional Development to improve access to homeless children and families

- Develop a statewide live videoconference training for providers in trauma-informed approaches to supporting child development for children who are homeless or experiencing other traumatic events
- Offer relevant Head Start training (both online and in-person) to child care providers serving children who are homeless



# Part 4: Equal Access

## Market Rates

- Survey was conducted in the spring of 2015
- 42% response rate
- New market rates will be issued by June 1, 2016



# Part 4: Unmet Requirements

- *Payment practices*
  - *Paying for absences and program closure days*
  - Child Care Time and Attendance (CCTA)
- Supply building
  - Infants and toddlers
  - Children with disabilities
  - *Non-traditional hours*
  - Homeless children
- Child Care Mapping Research Project (CCMRP)



# Part 5: Health & Safety Standards and Monitoring

- Licensing and monitoring policies and practices
- Criminal background checks



## Part 5: Progress to Date

- Pre-licensure inspection (already NYS practice)
- Child Care standards address appropriate ratios between the number of children and the number of providers and group size
- Required qualifications for providers are appropriate to each type of setting
- Policies and practices to ensure that providers for children receiving assistance and their facilities comply with applicable state or local licensing and health and safety requirements



## Part 5: Unmet Requirements

- Establish health and safety requirements for providers serving children receiving CCDF assistance relating to matters included in the topics listed below, and have pre-service or orientation training requirements that address these health and safety topics:
  - Prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunization)
  - Prevention of SIDS and use of safe sleeping practices
  - Administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent



## Part 5: Unmet Requirements (cont'd)

- Prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions
- Building and physical premises safety
- Prevention of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma
- Emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, or a man-caused event
- Handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants
- Precautions in transporting children (if applicable)
- First aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification



## Part 5: Unmet Requirements (cont'd)

- Require licensing inspectors to perform one unannounced inspection
- Annual monitoring visit of license-exempt CCDF providers
- Ratio of licensing inspectors
- Annual, unannounced **full** inspections of all facilities (including legally-exempt)
- Inspection results posted publicly online
- Online information regarding major substantiated complaints; number of deaths, serious injuries, and instances of substantiated child abuse



# Part 5: Criminal Background Checks

- National Crime Information Center
- FBI fingerprint check
- National Sex Offender Registry
- State criminal and sex offender registry in each state applicant has resided in over the *past 5 years* (including NYS)
- Child abuse and neglect registry in each state applicant has resided in over the *past 5 years* (including NYS)



# Part 6: Child Care Workforce

- Mandatory pre-service/orientation health and safety training for all child care staff
- New list of federal training topics for professional development
- Include ongoing, annual training and a progression of professional development
- Training requirements include legally exempt providers



## Part 6: Progress to Date

- Training and professional development requirements for regulated providers and programs
- Policies and practices to strengthen provider's business practices
- Early learning and development guidelines appropriate for children from birth to kindergarten entry



# Part 7: Quality Improvement

- Activities to improve the quality of child care services
- Quality rating and improvement system
- Improving the supply and quality of child care programs and services for infants and toddlers
- Child care resource and referral
- Facilitating compliance with state standards
- Evaluating and assessing the quality and effectiveness of child care programs and services
- Accreditation support
- Program standards
- Other quality improvement activities



# Part 7: Progress to Date

## NYS's Overarching Goals for Quality Improvement:

1. Supporting the training and professional development of the child care workforce.
2. Improving the quality of child care programs and services for infants and toddlers by supporting seven infant/toddler regional resource centers throughout the state.
3. Supporting a statewide network of 36 CCR&R agencies, along with the Early Care and Learning Council, which is the membership organization for CCR&Rs in New York State.



## Part 7: Progress to Date (cont'd)

4. Supporting compliance with state requirements for licensing, inspection, monitoring, training, and health and safety .
5. Supporting providers in the voluntary pursuit of accreditation through the Educational Incentive Program.
6. Supporting the development or adoption of high-quality program and regulatory standards related to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development.



## Part 7: Progress to Date (cont'd)

Developing a system of quality indicators for regulated child care programs

- Dr. Richard Fiene, Director, Research Institute for Key Indicators
- Differential Monitoring – using the key indicator methodology process to identify the strongest predictors of full regulatory compliance





# Part 7: New List of Quality Activities

States must spend quality funds on at least one of the following Quality Activities:

- **Training and professional development**
- Early learning and development guidelines
- Tiered quality rating system
- **Improving quality of services for infants and toddlers**
- **Child care resource and referral services**
- **Licensing and health and safety requirements**
- Quality evaluation
- **Accreditation**
- **Program standards**
- Other measurable quality activities as determined by the state



# The Road Ahead

- Analyzed public comment
- Integrated some of the recommendations
- Submitted the Plan
- Requested waivers and extensions
- Plan approval by June 1
- New federal regulations expected in the summer



# Questions???



**Thank you!**



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For information about  
Child Care in  
New York State  
visit:

<http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/default.asp>

