



# Child Care Bureau's Pathways and Partnerships Priorities

## *Highlights From the Technical Assistance and Child Care Resources Sponsored by the Child Care Bureau*

Issue Number 1 • August 2010

### Infant and Toddler Professional Development and Cross-Sector Systems

#### Supporting Infant and Toddler Consultants Across All Early Care and Education Settings

Families need high-quality child care choices in a variety of settings for children of all ages. By integrating existing training resources across early childhood programs, we can expand professional development opportunities and can increase the number of high-quality choices for families. The resources listed below provide links that will assist States, Territories, and Tribes as well as consultants working in child care settings serving infants and toddlers, especially when consultants have not had education or training specific to infants and toddlers in group care.

Many of the resources refer to a technical assistance (TA) project sponsored by the Child Care Bureau (CCB) and delivered by ZERO TO THREE. The project piloted Early Childhood Consultant Infant/Toddler Modules with multidisciplinary teams. Teams from six New England States participated in a series of three sessions titled "Supporting Consultants Working With Early Care and Education Settings Serving Infants and Toddlers." The teams included consultants and policymakers from various areas—child care, Head Start, health, mental health, quality rating and improvement systems, early intervention, and professional development systems.

#### Targeted Resources

##### Strategic Planning for Infant- and Toddler-Targeted Funds Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to assist States and Territories engage in a strategic planning process to support quality child care for infants and toddlers. The process can be used to conduct a complete analysis of the State's and/or Territory's early care and education system support for infant-toddler child care and/or to plan for the use of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) infant- and toddler-targeted funds. The Web site address is [http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/strategic\\_planning\\_toolkit.htm](http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/strategic_planning_toolkit.htm).

##### Infant-Toddler Specialist Networks Factsheet

This factsheet includes a map showing the States that have Infant/Toddler Specialist Networks and describes each State's approach. It also includes each network's professional qualifications, funding sources, and delivery services. This factsheet can be viewed by visiting [http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/it\\_specialist\\_factsheet.pdf](http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/it_specialist_factsheet.pdf).

##### Infant-Toddler Consultant Training Modules

These three modules support consultants working with infant-toddler caregivers. The Web site to view them is as follows: <http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/consultants.htm>.

### Emerging Projects

#### ARRA 2009: An Early Head Start for Family Child Care

The Office of Head Start and CCB are pleased to announce that ZERO TO THREE: National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families has been awarded a \$5 million contract to develop, implement, and evaluate a framework to link family child care (FCC) providers with ARRA-funded expansion Early Head Start (EHS) grantees to support collaborative service delivery. An advisory group of national experts on EHS and family child care will provide input on the development of the framework and technical consultation throughout the duration of the project. The project will work with 24 EHS programs linked with FCC providers across the United States. A child care program consultant (CCPC) will be hired from the local community to work with the EHS and FCC programs. The CCPC will oversee the implementation of the framework and will work with each site to develop a work plan that identifies quality and service delivery improvement benchmarks and TA needs. The CCPC will have a stipend (approximately \$20,000) available to assist with the implementation of the framework. Mathematica Policy

Research, Inc., will conduct the project evaluation activities. The project will begin on July 1, 2010, and will last approximately 18 months.

For more information, please contact the Co-Project Directors:

- Angie Godfrey, Office of Head Start, at [angie.godfrey@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:angie.godfrey@acf.hhs.gov)
- Dawn Ramsburg, Child Care Bureau, at [dawn.ramsburg@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:dawn.ramsburg@acf.hhs.gov).

#### Spotlight on Research: Link Between Child Care and Academic Achievement Persists Into Adolescence

Teens who were in high-quality child care settings as young children scored slightly higher on measures of academic and cognitive achievement and were slightly less likely to report acting-out behaviors than peers who were in lower quality child care arrangements during their early years, according to the latest analysis of a long-running study funded by the National Institutes of Health.

*Continued on next page*

Continued from previous page

“These results underscore the importance of interaction between children and their daytime caregivers,” said first author Deborah Lowe Vandell, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of the Department of Education at the University of California, Irvine. “We’re seeing enduring effects of the quality of staff-child interaction.”<sup>1</sup>

### Research Connections: Early Childhood Cross-Systems Key Topic Resource List

This resource list will be available in late summer 2010. The categories will include:

- Defining, Measuring, and Evaluating Collaboration
- Collaboration and Early Care and Education Programs
- Evaluations of Collaborations in Early Care and Education.

To receive notices when new child care research results are posted on the Child Care & Early Education *Research Connections* (RC) Web site, go to [www.childcareresearch.org](http://www.childcareresearch.org) and scroll over to WHAT’S NEW.

### Save-the-Date for the Afterschool Investments Project’s Back to School Webinar

#### School-Age Professionals Go Back to School: Community Colleges and the President’s Graduation Initiative

The Afterschool Investments Project (AIP) invites Federal and State child care staff members and other interested stakeholders to participate in our next webinar to be held on September 8, 2010, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., eastern time. Last July, President Obama proposed the American Graduation Initiative to invest in community colleges and to help American workers get the skills and credentials they need to succeed. (See the following Web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/100326-community-college-fact-sheet.pdf>.) This webinar will feature new resources developed by AIP and RC for early childhood and school-age faculty. The School-Age Faculty Module includes information, worksheets, and activities that faculty can use in 2- and 4-year institutions and community-based trainings to help the school-age workforce understand and use research to learn more about effective practice. Faculty and student representatives from community colleges using these materials and developing new methods, such as online training, will share their experiences. Participant call-in and log-in information will be forwarded before the webinar. For more information on this event and past events, please visit the webinar section of the AIP Web site at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/webinars.html>.

Look for next month’s school-age edition of CCB’s *Pathways and Partnerships Priorities*.

### Child Care Bureau’s Pathways and Partnerships Priorities

- Pathways to higher standards through child care licensing and quality rating and improvement systems
- Pathways to a highly qualified workforce through professional development
- Partnerships for cross-sector early childhood and school-age care systems
- Pathways to stronger accountability and program integrity in child care.

For more resources to support these priorities and CCB-sponsored TA efforts, go to <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ta/index.htm>.

### Infant and Toddler Quick Facts

- 2,496,652** Number of women who gave birth in the past 12 months<sup>2</sup>
- 480,000** Number of infants and toddlers that the CCDF program serves each month<sup>3</sup>
- 58** Percentage of mothers with children younger than 1 year in the workforce<sup>4</sup>
- 1:3** National Association for the Education of Young Children teacher-to-child ratio for children from birth to age 28 months with a group size of 6<sup>5</sup>
- 1:4** U.S. Department of Defense Child Development Center teacher-to-child ratio for children from ages 6 weeks to 12 months with a group size of 6<sup>6</sup>

The CCDF program targets funds for activities to improve the quality of infant-toddler child care. The fiscal year 2010 CCDF program allocations include the following.

- \$5,044,081,000** Total distributions to States<sup>7</sup>
- \$99,534,000** Infant- and toddler-targeted funds to States<sup>8</sup>

Each State determines how to spend its infant-toddler set-aside allocation.

- 23** States with Infant and Toddler State Networks<sup>9</sup>
- 16** States that require an Infant and Toddler State Network specialist to have a bachelor’s degree<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2010). Retrieved July 22, 2010, from NIH News, National Institutes of Health. <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/051410-early-child-care.cfm>.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey. <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/2008/prodchanges.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Child Care and Development Fund program administrative data. July 29, 2010.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2008 American Community Survey. <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/2008/prodchanges.html>.

<sup>5</sup> National Association for the Education of Young Children (2010). Retrieved July 22, 2010, from Teacher-Child Ratios within Group Size.

[http://www.naeyc.org/files/academy/file/Teacher-Child\\_Ratio\\_Chart\\_9\\_16\\_08.pdf](http://www.naeyc.org/files/academy/file/Teacher-Child_Ratio_Chart_9_16_08.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Defense Instruction Number 6060.2. January 19, 1993, page 28.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, FY 2010 CCDF Allocations (Based on Appropriation). Retrieved July 22, 2010, from [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/allocations/current/state2010/est\\_fin\\_all\\_2010.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/law/allocations/current/state2010/est_fin_all_2010.htm).

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> National Infant & Toddler Child Care Initiative Infant/Toddler Specialist Network Factsheet. Retrieved July 22, 2010, from [http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/it\\_specialist\\_factsheet.pdf](http://nitcci.nccic.acf.hhs.gov/resources/it_specialist_factsheet.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.



Child Care Bureau

### About the Child Care Bureau

The Child Care Bureau (CCB) administers the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program, a multibillion-dollar Federal and State partnership to support access to high-quality child care for working families. CCB helps States, Territories, and Tribes administer their CCDF programs through policy guidance, program support, technical assistance, and research.