Recovery Act Funds for Child Care – Data Summary as of 12/31/2010

States and Territories are reporting on the use of supplemental Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) ARRA funds through two different data sources: 1) the ACF-696 Financial Report; and 2) data reported under section 1512 of the Recovery Act. The information below provides a summary about how States and Territories are using CCDF ARRA funds.

EXPENDITURES

- States and Territories reported spending **$1.63 billion or 84%** of their ARRA allocations as of December 31, 2010.[1] They have until September 30, 2011 to spend their CCDF ARRA funds, and States and Territories are apportioning spending across the expenditure period to sustain services for children over time.

- As of December 31, 2010, 11 States (AZ, AR, CO, DC, GA, HI, MN, NC, TN, VT, and WI) reported expending all of their ARRA allocations.

ACTIVITIES

- The majority of the reported ARRA expenditures were on **direct services** (**83% or $1.36 billion**). Through December 31, 2010, States spent enough ARRA child care funds on direct services to support child care services for an estimated 295,000 children.

- States reported either shortening, eliminating, or avoiding wait lists with the CCDF ARRA funds. States also reduced parent co-pays, increased eligibility limits, and added or extended job search for parents that may have lost their jobs. For example, Mississippi served 28,070 children with ARRA funds, and Arizona was able to keep 6,600 children from being put on a waiting list for child care subsidies. American Samoa made children with families actively seeking employment eligible to receive child care assistance. Lastly, California began expanding the number of infant and toddler slots available across the state. As of December 31, 2010, 38 States had used Recovery Act funds to implement policy changes that provide low-income families with expanded access to child care assistance.

- $204 million was reported as being spent on activities to improve the quality of child care. Lead Agencies focused quality funds on creating or expanding Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS), investing in infant and toddler programs, and improving health and safety standards. For example, Alaska began work on a professional development system and a program to assist providers in professional development planning. Also, Delaware and Missouri supported T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships with CCDF ARRA funds. As of December 31, 2010, 28 States had used ARRA funds for systemic investments to improve the quality of child care.

JOBS

- 38 States and Territories reported creating or retaining **3,268 direct jobs** (measured in Full Time Equivalents) between October and December 2010. These direct jobs included eligibility and licensing specialists, administrative positions, professional development specialists, and child care providers through contracts/grants.

- CCDF Lead Agencies may only count direct jobs; therefore it is likely that the direct jobs reported in the 1512 reports do not give a complete picture of the impact of CCDF ARRA funds on employment. Two States voluntarily reported creating or retaining 18,965 indirect jobs, including child care provider jobs and parental jobs, as a result of ARRA funding.

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[1] The Office of Child Care posts ARRA data quarterly. The most recent outlay data is available through the Health and Human Services Recovery Act website, Weekly Financial and Activity Reports, http://www.hhs.gov/recovery/reports/index.html#weekly.