



# Complexities of Nontraditional Hour Care: Closing Knowledge Gaps

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# What is Non-Traditional Child Care?

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Child care offered to parents whose work schedule is outside of the standard hours of ?? am to ?? pm, Monday through Friday. Child care services might be offered on the weekend, nights, and evenings.



# Child Care during Nontraditional Hours is Needed

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- One in five mothers of young children work in low-wage jobs
  - Often work in the service industry
  - Non-standard work hours and unpredictable schedules
- Finding care is hard
  - 8% of center-based providers provide some care during evenings, overnight, and/or weekends
  - 34% of listed home-based child care providers offer care
    - Overall supply of **regulated** home-based child care is diminishing



# What Do We Know about HBCC

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- Home-based care is an important part of the early childhood education and care delivery system, particularly for families needing care during nonstandard hours
  - About half of all child care is provided in home-based settings
  - #'s are higher for infants/toddlers, families of color who are lower income
- Our understanding of HBCC is more limited than what we know about care in center-based environments
  - Who is providing care, what care is available and when, what happens day-to-day (night-to-night?)



# Some Thoughts from the Field

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- Availability
  - Nontraditional care hours are being provided in home-based child care
  - Mix of above and “underground” care
- Policy and Regulations
  - Meeting licensing requirements for evening and overnight care is a challenge
  - Rules and regulations re: space can make providing nontraditional hours a challenge



# Some Thoughts from the Field

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- Practice

- Providing care during nontraditional hours is mentally and physically taxing, expensive and often not profitable
- Qualified workers are hard to find and retain



# Where are the Opportunities for Innovation?

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- Provide mentoring and technical assistance to help encourage more centers and home-based child care providers to offer care during non-traditional hours
- Offer higher child care payment rates for non-standard hour care for parents receiving child care assistance
- Incentivize providers as a way to shore up availability for parents receiving child care assistance
- Child care assistance coverage for parents for time spent working and during the day



# Gaps and Next Steps

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- Need to better understand:
  - the universe of providers both regulated and “underground”
  - ways to bolster/strengthen support to the subsidy system (providers and parents)
  - care demand differentials (weekend vs. night/evening)





# Thoughts and Questions

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