

SAMI-CCPRC Meeting

Supporting Family Choices in Home-based Child Care: Approaches for Improving Child Care Quality

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CCDF-Quality Initiatives

35-state survey (2006)

- Individual child care providers were primary target population in 48% of initiatives
- Types of providers:
 - Regulated center teachers or family child care providers (85%)
 - Family, friend and neighbor caregivers (37%)
- 339 initiatives total

CCDF-Quality Initiatives

48-state survey (2005 update)

- Primary target population:
 - family, friend and neighbor child care
- 23 states
- 25 initiatives



Distinguishing Features of Care

Regulated Family Child Care

- Subject to regulatory requirements
- Subsidy requirements
- Operate a business; work w/ children; stay at home w/ own children

Family, Friend and Neighbor Care

- Exempt from regulatory requirements
- Subsidy requirements
- Help out family; keep children w/in family; help children learn

Issues for Caregivers

Regulated Family Child Care

- Isolation
- Relationships w/
parents
- Low earnings

Family, Friend and Neighbor Care

- Isolation
- Relationships w/
parents
- Services to meet their
needs

Objectives of Quality Initiatives

Regulated Family Child Care

- Promoting healthy and safe environments
- Increasing knowledge and skills
- Encouraging formal education
- Strengthening professional development

Family, Friend and Neighbor Care

- Promoting healthy and safe environments
- Increasing knowledge and skills
- Encouraging participation in the regulatory system

Common Strategies

Regulated Family Child Care

- Training and TA
- Home visiting
- Resources
- Early Head Start
- Tiered strategies
- CACFP

Family, Friend and Neighbor Care

- Training and TA
- Home visiting
- Resources
- Early Head Start
- Tiered strategies
- CACFP

Different Strategies

Regulated Family Child Care

- Family child care networks
- Career development systems
- Accreditation
- Quality Rating Improvement Systems

Family, Friend and Neighbor Care

- Support groups
- Family interaction programs (Play and Learn)
- Parent education/family support

Emerging Models

- Linking home-based caregivers to Pre-K
- Integrating family, friend and neighbor care in career development systems
- Unionization for home-based providers

Policy Issues

- Honoring parent choice
- Improving quality across all settings
- Evaluation of results

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Questions

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