

2010 CCPRC Annual Meeting
Plenary Session 1
October 21, 2010, 8:30 a.m.

Introduction to ACF Leadership and Keynote by Joan Lombardi

Description

Leaders from within the Administration of Children and Families (ACF) involved with early childhood development policies and child care policy-related research were introduced during this session. Joan Lombardi provided the meeting keynote address describing the Administration's early childhood priorities. She challenged meeting participants to think deeply about how the research questions and findings discussed throughout the meeting can inform new directions for early childhood development and the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program.

Moderator

Ivelisse Martinez-Beck, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE)

Keynote Speaker

Joan Lombardi, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development, ACF

Presenters

Naomi Goldstein, Director, OPRE
Shannon Rudisill, Director, Office of Child Care (OCC)

Scribe

Barbara Saunders-Sims, BLH Technologies, Inc.

1. Documents in Session Folder: N/A

2. Summary of Presentations

- **Introduction and Welcome: Ivelisse Martinez-Beck**
 - The CCDBG Anniversary was celebrated on Tuesday; this is also the 15th Anniversary of the Child Care Policy Research Consortium (CCPRC).
 - The purpose of this year's CCPRC meeting is to share information, highlight findings from what we are doing, and learn from one another.
 - Yesterday, representatives from OPRE and CCPRC met with State and Territory Administrators to discuss current research projects and emerging research findings that can help in better meeting the needs of children and families. Discussion included challenges and issues that Administrators are dealing with. Ivelisse asked Administrators to continue sending her information about these issues as well as suggestions for future research.
 - History of CCPRC: CCPRC was founded in 1995. It started with three Partnership Grants intended to encourage policy-relevant research at State and community levels. These grants led to discussions across projects about child care research methodologies and issues. In 1999, \$10 million in CCDF funds was committed to

- child care policy-related research. Ten years later, the set-aside for child care research remains the same.
- Ivelisse acknowledged newly-funded projects and recipients, some of which are jointly funded by programs in ACF, and thanked the OPRE Child Care Research Team, the CCPRC, and the CCPRC Steering Committee for their work in developing this year's meeting. She noted that the final two plenary sessions will provide opportunities for feedback on the child care subsidy system, policies and practices, as well as assessing what we have learned from research that can help shape new developments in CCDF.
 - **Presentation #2: Shannon Rudisill**
 - Shannon indicated that she is happy to interact with colleagues she has known for a long time and looks forward to meeting new members.
 - Shannon met with some CCPRC members yesterday in a “lively discussion.” Shannon said the discussion centered on the tension between what we know from research and the imperative to act. Deborah Phillips’ presentation at the CCDBG Anniversary celebration highlighted the importance of acting to improve outcomes for children.
 - Shannon provided an overview of some of the research OCC is using to shape policy and practice including the compendium of Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS) as well as research that addresses subsidy policies and practices and quality activities (which were used in revising the CCDF Plan Preprint).
 - Shannon wants to create a continuous feedback loop on the Preprint. It will be available for comment until November 23rd, and she hopes to hear from the researchers in this group, who are integral partners in this effort.
 - **Presentation #3: Naomi Goldstein**
 - Naomi talked about how she appreciates that the CCPRC annual meeting functions as a working session during which research challenges are discussed. She commended Ivelisse and other members of the OPRE Child Care Research Team for what they have been able to accomplish with the child care research portfolio. It is the model that is being used in developing a research agenda for the new health professional opportunities grant.
 - In introducing Joan Lombardi, Naomi emphasized Joan’s commitment to children, collaboration, and action on a global basis.
 - **Keynote Presentation: Joan Lombardi**
 - Joan noted how far research has come and celebrated ACF’s long history in supporting research and the beginnings of CCPRC. The Administration is committed to evidence-based practices and recognizes the importance of research and researchers.
 - ACF is also committed to integration of efforts along the developmental continuum and this is reflected in its activities and initiatives. In child care, the CCDF Preprint and Technical Assistance efforts are being redesigned. Head Start is proposing rules that will result in programs that are not getting results and are not in good fiscal health being subject to recompetition. Other initiatives include creation of an Interagency Policy Board with the Department of Education and coordination related to the Home Visiting program, child care access for military families, linkages with

- mental health and injury prevention services, and promoting financial literacy in families.
- Among trends noted were the importance of research that goes beyond protecting children from harm to helping us promote children's sense of wonder, curiosity and persistence in learning. She also spoke to the need to bring early childhood research communities together across Head Start, child care, and education; to link our research efforts with the push for integrated data systems that allow us to track outcomes for groups of children; and for research that helps us think in terms of doing something right at birth, preschool and beyond.
 - Joan charged the CCPRC to listen to communities and the people who work with children every day and to consider cost-effective ways to do research, explore development of new research instruments, think internationally, mentor young scholars including those who reflect diverse languages and cultures, and translate research into language that is readily understandable.
 - Questions from the audience included: a question about whether there are cross-program efforts across early education and child welfare. Joan responded that the Interagency Policy Board crosses Head Start, Early Head Start, and IDEA Parts C and D and that child welfare is involved in work around professional development and QRIS. Particular attention is being paid to disabilities and protective and risk factors. A second question asked about the legal issues that get in the way of linking data. Joan responded that the legal issues are being discussed and that a subgroup on research is looking at how crosswalks might be created across data systems.