

# **Quality Indicators**

#### Increased Focus on Data and Performance Measurement

- Report and track information about:
  - How are States using their CCDF quality dollars?
  - What are quantifiable outputs of these efforts?
  - Are these efforts effective in improving program quality and practitioner qualifications?
  - Are these efforts effective in improving child and family outcomes?

- Flexibility under CCDF block grant results in significant variation in policy and practice across States
- Gaps in data availability and lack of uniformity across States

New 3 Step Planning and Reporting Process for CCDF Quality Activities

- A self-assessment on current quality improvement activities
- Goal-setting for quality improvement in the upcoming biennium
- Reporting back on progress at the end of each fiscal year through a new Quality Performance Report

#### **Reporting on 4 Types of Quality Activities**

- Licensing and health & safety standards
- Early learning guidelines
- Program quality improvement activities, including quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS)
- Professional development and workforce initiatives

Information Requested in Proposed Plan (at beginning of biennium)

- Identify types of data collected by the State
- Describe State-specific performance measures
- Describe plans for evaluation

Information Requested in New Quality Performance Report (after each year)

- Key data on results of quality activities (if available)—standard across all States
  - E.g., for Program Quality Improvement (QRIS): # of programs receiving on-site TA; # of programs receiving financial support, etc.
- Status on meeting State-specific performance measure targets

## Looking to the Future

- Move from solely measuring outputs to measuring quality outcomes and child/family outcomes
- Establish greater national consistency on data and measures
- Develop new national measures for CCDF (Government Performance and Results Act)

### How Can You Help?

- Help States plan for improved data, performance measurement and evaluation
- Identify good performance measures
- Identify data elements that should be tracked

If you would like to comment on the proposed Plan and Quality Performance Report

- Copies available at: <u>www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb</u>
- Comments due November 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - E-Mail address: <u>infocollection@acf.hhs.gov</u>
- All comments should be identified by the title of the information collection
  - Title: Child Care and Development Fund Plan for States/Territories for FFY 2012–2013 (ACF–118).