

C5: Approaches to Incorporating Parent and Provider Perspectives in Child Care and Development Fund Policy Research

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. | Gallery II

1. Descriptive Information

C5: Approaches to Incorporating Parent and Provider Perspectives in Child Care and Development Fund Policy Research

This roundtable is designed as an interactive working session where presenters and attendees will learn from each other's approaches to incorporating parent and child care provider perspectives in research examining Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) policies. We hope to hear perspectives from researchers who have already included these perspectives in their work, as well as those who are starting to explore how to be inclusive of parent and provider perspectives. A panel of presenters from six Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation-funded projects, including Planning Research on Subsidy Payment Rates (PROSPR) grantees, will provide brief opening remarks highlighting key aspects of their projects' approaches to including these perspectives in their research designs. Presenters will then divide into groups to facilitate roundtable discussions with attendees, during which presenters will share more details about their own work and attendees can share how they have, or plan to, include such perspectives in their own research projects. Each roundtable will include presenters from multiple projects involving research organizations and CCDF state and tribal lead agencies. The discussions will include the challenges faced and the approaches taken to involve provider and parent voices in the development of measures and the overall design of research plans.

Presenters

Michael Strambler, Yale School of Medicine

Kate Giapponi Schneider, Brandeis University

Joanne Roberts, Boston Children's Hospital

Liz Davis, University of Minnesota

Diane Schilder, Urban Institute

Gina Adams, Urban Institute

Scribe

Anna O'Connell

Number of Attendees: 20

2. Documents/Presentations Shared (Please list any electronic documents, PowerPoint presentations, or web links used during the session.) **Collect presenter PowerPoints or other documents on the flash drive provided.**

- PROSPR CCEPRC session_FINAL (PPX File)

3. Brief Summary of Presentations

Presenters are currently in the grant planning phase

Commonalities Across Teams

How providers experience CCDF payment policies and the degree which this affects their decision making?

How parents experience CCDF payment policies and how it affects parents' perspectives of affordability, choice, and quality

Innovative ways of capturing parent and provider experiences

- **Summary of Presentation #1: CA Tribal Project Team; Joanne Roberts**
 - What are the 32 different tribes doing when it comes to CCDF payment policies?
 - Landscape analysis
 - Met with all 32 tribes multiple times
 - Four key areas of policy

- Impact of blended policy systems
 - Some Tribes are located in several counties and therefore use multiple payment rates
 - Determining payment rates and costs of care
 - Most of the tribes have never done a market rate survey
 - Connections between payment practices and the availability of culturally grounded care
 - Most communities lack providers
 - Parent preferences and needs for care
 - Proposed Evaluation
 - Analysis of administrative data on state county and community levels
 - Study of community leadership and providers' practice and policies
 - Intensive case studies of four communities that are Tribal Child Care Association (TCCAC) CCDF grantees
 - Data driven and community informed recommendations and resource development
 - Engagement Opportunities
 - TCCAC Quarterly Meetings
 - Provider Surveys (includes Family, Friends, and Neighbors care)
 - Case Studies
 - Focus groups with providers
 - Parent Cafes
 - Something that the community already does in other sectors
- **Summary of Presentation #2: Partnership Planning Grant: Coordinated Evaluation of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Policies and Initiatives in Connecticut; Michael Strambler**
 - Four different policies which CT will be looking at
 - Increase in base payment to providers
 - Increase in quality bonus for accredited providers
 - No rating component to CT's system so rating and accreditation is synonymous
 - Temporary waiver of family co-payment
 - Coverage of Provider Registration Fees
 - Implementation Evaluation
 - Examines both providers' and parents' experiences
 - Key informant interviews
 - Provider survey and interviews
 - Parent survey and focus groups
 - Impact Evaluation (interrupted time series)
 - Looks to see if subsidy payment policies are associated with:
 - Increased number of providers participating in Care 4 Kids (C4K)
 - Increased number of C4K children served by accredited providers
 - Changes in C4K enrollment "churn"
 - Engagement Opportunities
 - Office of Early Childhood Convened Parent Cabinet
 - CT Early Childhood Alliance
 - Statewide org that represents children 0-8
 - Child Care Resource and Referral
 - Additional Advisors
- **Summary of Presentation #3: District of Columbia; Diane Schilder**
 - Payment Policies and Practices in DC
 - Changes in payment rates to providers based on a cost estimation model
 - Increase in rates based on cost of quality
 - Temporary waiver of family co-payment during COVID-19 and currently a cap of no more than 7% of household income

- Providers cannot charge differential
 - Shared services business alliances cover many costs incurred by small and home based providers
 - Reduces administrative burden
 - Engagement Methods
 - Advisory Committee
 - Engage Community Leaders
 - Continued engagement in provider and parent meetings
 - Pulse surveys using river sampling
 - In Arabic, Spanish, and English
 - Use of snowball sampling to engage underrepresented participants
- **Summary of Presentation #4: Evaluation of the Relationship between Massachusetts' Child Care Subsidy Payment Policies and Access to Care; Kate Giapponi Schneider**
 - MA CCDF Payment Policies
 - Post-Pandemic: Small Rate increases (2-4%)
 - 2023: 10% rate increase with additional targeted increases to ensure all rates are at the 30th percentile
 - 2024: increase rates to the 50th percentile of market prices
 - Policy Impact Analysis and Intervention Impact Analysis
 - Intervention Impact Analysis: evaluate the effect of a communications focused intervention on improving the impact of rate changes on access to care
 - Looking to engage both participating and non-participating providers
- **Summary of Presentation #5: Minnesota Planning Grant: Coordinated Evaluation of Minnesota's Child Care Assistance Payment Policies and Initiatives; Liz Davis**
 - In MN providers can charge parents the gap between the payment rate and their price
 - Planning
 - Community Engagement
 - Place based recruitment
 - World café participatory format
 - Small team of providers partnered with MN to come up with the questions for these discussions
 - Found that geographically implementation varied
 - Family Engagement
 - Journey Map of childcare decisions and participation in the subsidy program

4. Brief Summary of Discussion

- Several questions were posed about the world café / parent café models (mostly clarification)
 - Use of Zoom / virtual format versus in person
 - Those who plan to have some in-person hope to provide childcare
 - Tribal communities have been harder to engage virtually
 - Mentions of establishing trust and determining what is needed to establish it among different communities
 - A participant recommended using existing parent cafes
 - Those with experience in these say that there tends to be good retainment among participants
- Comments surrounding people being “parent voiced to death” / “surveyed to death”
 - CA Tribal noted that they would like to provide resources from their findings to show that it is more than just findings
 - MA noted that this was why they wanted to include an intervention in their study to attempt to provide a solution
- Participants mentioned choosing one or two things to focus on for advocacy rather than taking the “throwing spaghetti on the wall and seeing what sticks” approach
 - Also followed up with trying to bring things to the table that are partisan have multiple opinions
- Advisory Boards – who will be a part of this?

- Parents, Providers, and Community Members (Particularly those who have historically been underrepresented)
- Some are tapping into existing advisory boards and others are creating their own

5. Summary of Key issues raised (facilitators are encouraged to spend the last 3-5 minutes of sessions summarizing the key issues raised during the session; bullets below are prompts for capturing the kinds of issues we're looking for)

- How to use findings to advocate for funding/policy change
- Creation of use of advisory boards