

State Initiatives to Expand Early Head Start

ZERO TO THREE & CLASP Webinar September 13, 2012





- Findings & recommendations from Expanding Access to Early Head Start: State Initiatives for Infants and Toddlers at Risk
- State efforts to expand and enhance Early Head Start (Idaho and Illinois)
- Question and answer

Report is available at:

www.zerotothree.org/expandingehs www.clasp.org/childcare



Speakers





Jamie Colvard ZERO TO THREE



Stephanie Schmit CLASP

What Do We Know About Babies? CLASP





- 4 million babies are born every year
- All babies need good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences
- 25% of infants and toddlers live in poverty
- Young children in poverty face challenges that can negatively impact their development



What is Early Head Start (EHS)?





- Federally-funded, community-based program that provides comprehensive child and family development services to low-income pregnant women and children under age 3
 - Access to health care and screenings
 - Support for full range of child development
 - Parent support and linkages to services
 - Prenatal health care and support

What is Early Head Start (EHS)?





- Services provided in centers, homes, child care or a combination of settings
- Programs must comply with federal Head Start Program Performance Standards
- Program positively impacts:
 - Children's cognitive, language and socialemotional development
 - Parental support of child development
 - Family self-sufficiency



Who Receives EHS Services?



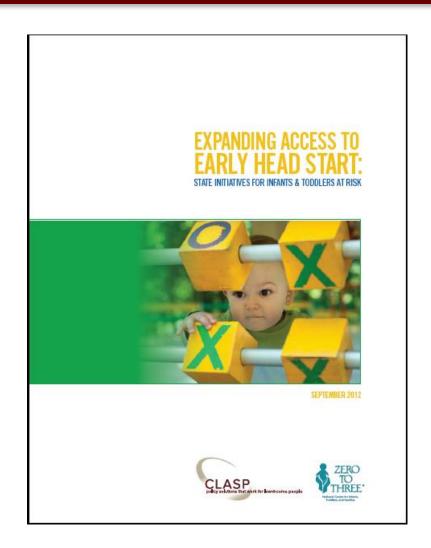
Less than 4% of eligible children are served by federally funded EHS



Expanding Access to Early Head Start CLASP POLICY SOLUTIONS that WORK FOR IOW-Income people





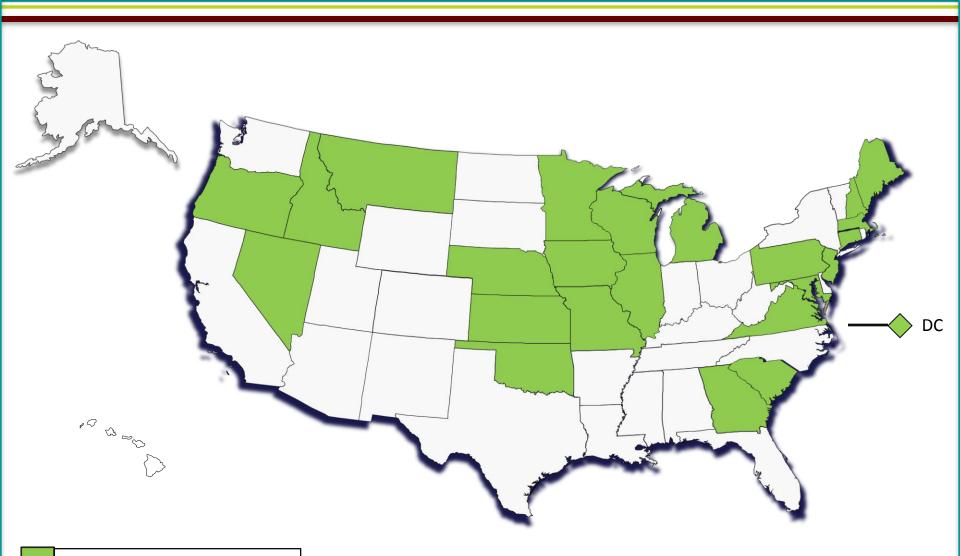


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23 States Are Building on EHS







Have state initiatives

Do not have state initiatives

Four Primary Approaches



Extend the day/year of existing services

Expand the capacity of EHS programs

Provide resources and assistance to child care to deliver EHS

Support partnerships between EHS and centers and family child care to improve quality of child care

Findings



1. Initiatives to extend the day of EHS services are funded through a variety of sources and policy strategies

- Funding sources
 - Tobacco settlement funds, state general revenue, Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), and private foundation funds
 - Example: Maine
- Policy strategies
 - Illinois, Montana, and New Hampshire
 - Example: Illinois

Findings



2. Several states are utilizing MIECHV funding to expand EHS services

- 15 states utilize the EHS home-based option
 - Example: Michigan
- EHS representatives were involved in MIECHV planning in many states
 - Example: New York



3. Several states have supplemental funding initiatives that are open to Head Start and EHS grantees

- A majority of these states have supplemental funding initiatives in which both existing Head Start and EHS grantees are eligible to participate
 - Example: Oklahoma
- Oregon and Kansas direct funds specifically to EHS
 - Example: Kansas





4. A few states continue to provide resources to child care providers

 Illinois and Oklahoma build on EHS by providing resources to help child care providers meet EHS standards





5. States continue to encourage EHS-child care partnerships

- States primarily use two strategies:
 - Establishing policies to lessen the burden of partnership
 - Providing funding to EHS programs that partner with child care providers so EHS services are delivered in child care settings.
 - Examples: Nebraska and Kansas

Recommendations for States





- Leverage federal funding streams to further state investment in EHS and increase the availability of comprehensive services to more children and families
- Provide sufficient state funding to the EHS initiative and participating providers to ensure stable resources in communities

Recommendations for States



- Use EHS initiatives to partner with and enhance the quality of child care for infants and toddlers in the state
- Cultivate champions for EHS and the needs of vulnerable infants and toddlers, inside and outside of state government
- Integrate EHS into the broader early childhood system so that more infants and toddlers receive high quality services

Speakers





Carolyn Kiefer
Idaho Department of Health
and Welfare



Gina Ruther
Illinois Department of Human
Services

State Initiatives to Expand Early Head Start: Idaho's Efforts in Rural Areas



Carolyn F. Kiefer, M.S.
Idaho Head Start Collaboration
Director



IDAHO: the Northwest I, A, O state

- 26 "frontier" counties: <6 people /sq. mile
- 9 "rural" counties: no city over 20,000
- 9 "urban" counties: 1 city over 20,000
- ≈ 72,475 children under 3



Early Head Start

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- @ 9 of Idaho's 13 Head Start Programs have EHS
- 2 Tribal Programs and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start

- About 5,000 children served in all of Idaho's Head Start Programs.

TANF Funded EHS

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- \$1.5 million dollars TANF funds
- ☐ Initiated 1999 as an annual contract between Idaho Dept. of Health and Welfare and Idaho Head Start Association
- □ Purpose is to expand Early/Head Start services to an additional 180 eligible children. Includes Tribal and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start
- Grantees receive funds based on a program size formula. Can be used for either HS or EHS slots

Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visitation Grants: Opportunity!

- Careful process to identify counties for service by multiple risk factors

- □ Decision to serve counties with some existing home visitation program: EHS, Part-C Infant Toddler Program

MIECHV Program Models



- Read Start
- Rarents as Teachers
- Nurse Family Partnership
- R. Idaho has capacity for all three models
- S. Idaho starting with Early Head Start MSHS branching out into home visitation.
- MIECHV grantees now recruiting families!

Challenges

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- Building professional capacity
 - Home visitors
 - Supervisory staff--reflective supervision
- **Community** resources
 - Mental health
 - Referral process
- Sequence of funding stream and grant cycles

Contacts

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- Stan Burton, Idaho Head Start Association: sburton@idaheadstartassoc.net. (208) 345-1182
- Laura DeBoer-Alfani, MIECHV Coordinator: deboerl@dhw.idaho.gov (208) 334-0658
- Idaho Department of Health and Welfare: http://CSHP.dhw.idaho.gov

STATE INITIATIVES TO EXPAND EARLY HEAD START: ILLINOIS CHILD CARE COLLABORATION INITIATIVE

Gina Ruther, Head Start State Collaboration Director and Acting Child Care Bureau Chief

ILLINOIS CHILD CARE COLLABORATION INITIATIVE







NURTURING ILLINOIS' PROMISE



BACK DROP: IL LANDSCAPE

- Early/Head Start − 4,909 Early Head Start & 36,834 Head Start. 48 grantee agencies. 19% Early & 46% Head Start in Chicago
- Child Care More than 173,000 average monthly
- Preschool for All About 84K preschool & 19K infant/toddler children
- oRural, Urban, Metropolitan
- State Administered

DESCRIPTION



- Child Care Collaboration Program
- Promotes collaboration between child care
 & other provider, including Early Head
 Start through policy bridges, not funding
 extend day/year of Early Head Start
- Annual redetermination of eligibility; 90 day job search period; categorical eligibility if part of TANF Responsibility & Services Plan

BEGINNINGS

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; changing family needs
- Key Partners: Discussions with Directors about collaboration barriers
- Partners in Care & Education Pilot 1999
- •Statewide in 2003

PROCESS

- Collaboration providers apply to Head Start State Collaboration Office
- •Must have collaboration already in place
- Services must be provided in 1 location
- Demonstrate improved quality
- Demonstrate continuity of care

ELIGIBILITY & THE NUMBERS

- Income: same as most restrictive collaborating program. IL Child Care is 185% of federal poverty (\$2,944 family of 3); Early Head Start is 100% federal poverty
- Service: parents must be employed, attending school or in job training
- Fiscal year 2012: more than 15,000 total slots; about 1,700 Early Head Start; 100 agencies



SUPPORTS & EVALUATION

- Head Start Program Performance Standards and Licensing
- Policy clarification, technical assistance & professional development
- Resource match improves quality
- 2007 Evaluation Report

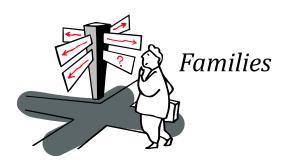
IMPACTS

- Program Practice Continuity of Care
- •Broadening Impacts on Other Policies
- Paradigm Shift for Child Care OCC Policy Principles

PreK/Prevention Initiative







Child Care





IL CONTACTS/RESOURCES

- Gina Ruther, DHS Head Start State Collaboration Director, Acting Child Care Bureau Chief <u>Gina.Ruther@illinois.gov</u>
- Online Child Care Assistance Program Manual http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=9877
- IL Early Childhood Collaboration Web Site www.ilearlychildhoodcollab.org
- Governor's Office of Early Childhood
 Development & IL Early Learning Council
 http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/OECD/Pages/default.aspx

Facilitated Discussion







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Questions?



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Paper is available at: www.zerotothree.org/expandingehs
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Webinar recording and PowerPoint will be posted at: www.zerotothree.org/policywebinars and http://www.clasp.org/resources_and_publications/filter?type=presentations

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To request printed copies of the report, email: Patricia Haigler at <u>policycenter@zerotothree.org</u> or Emily Firgens at <u>efirgens@clasp.org</u>