
Casting a Wide Net to Support Caregivers: A Strategy to Reach the Highest Need Infants and Toddlers



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Presentation Overview

- Review the status of **infants and toddlers in child care**.
- Examine background information on the use of **family, friend and neighbor (FFN) care** nationally, in Illinois, and in other states.
- Discuss the relationship between FFN and existing **child care quality initiatives**.
- Explore **home visiting as an FFN quality strategy**.
- Learn about successful models in **Illinois** for reaching FFN providers with quality initiatives.
- Questions and discussion, including the **role of licensing agencies** and staff in connecting FFN child care with quality initiatives.

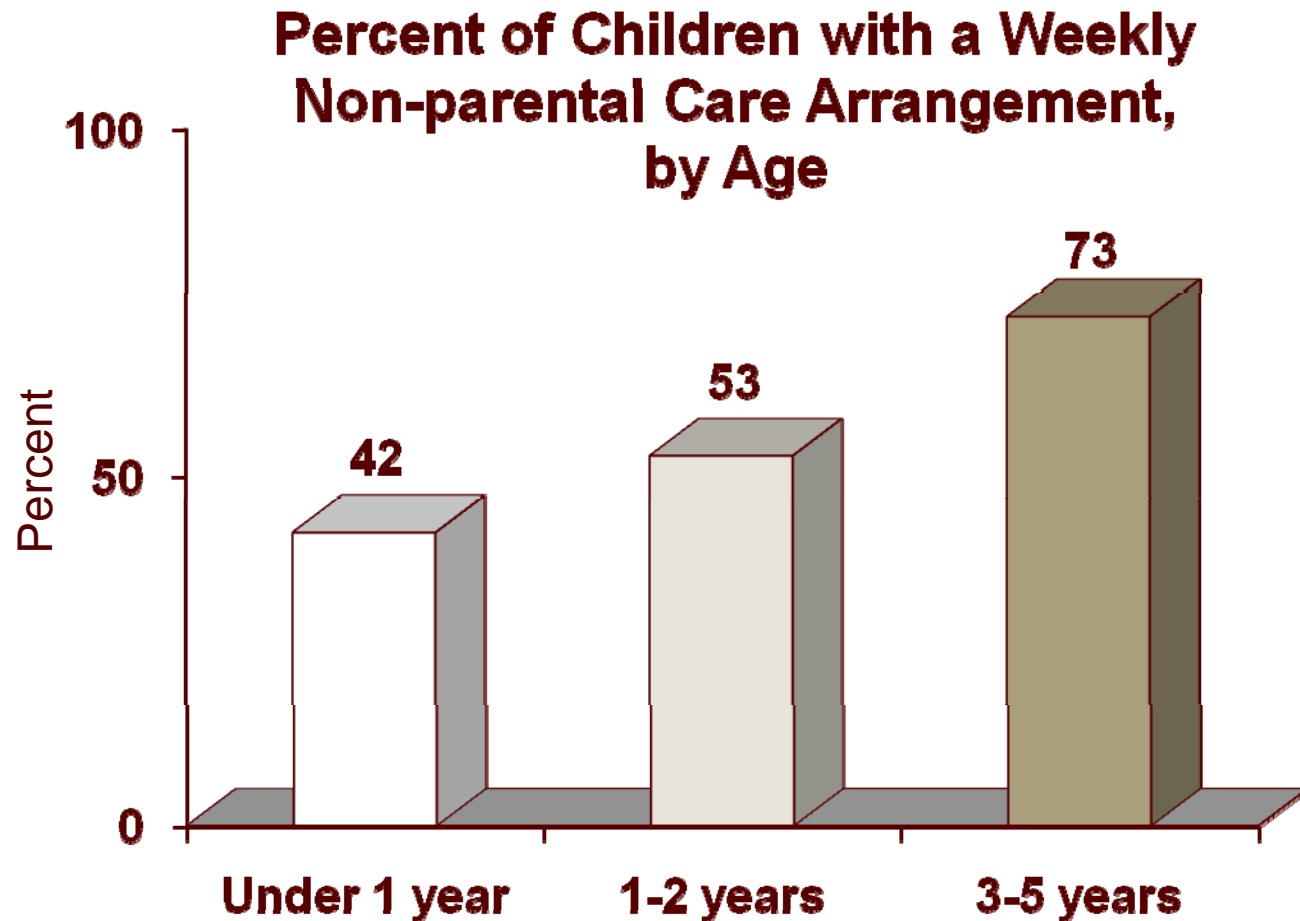


The Status of Infants and Toddlers in Child Care

Infants and Toddlers are Vulnerable

- About a quarter of children under age three live in poverty.
- The first three years of life are critical for healthy development.
- Licensed infant and toddler care is more difficult to find than care for older children, because it is more expensive for child care providers to offer.
- Negative impacts of low-quality care are more likely felt among children who are more at risk.
- Babies and toddlers in working immigrant families are more likely to be in family, friend, and neighbor care than higher-income or U.S.-born citizen families.

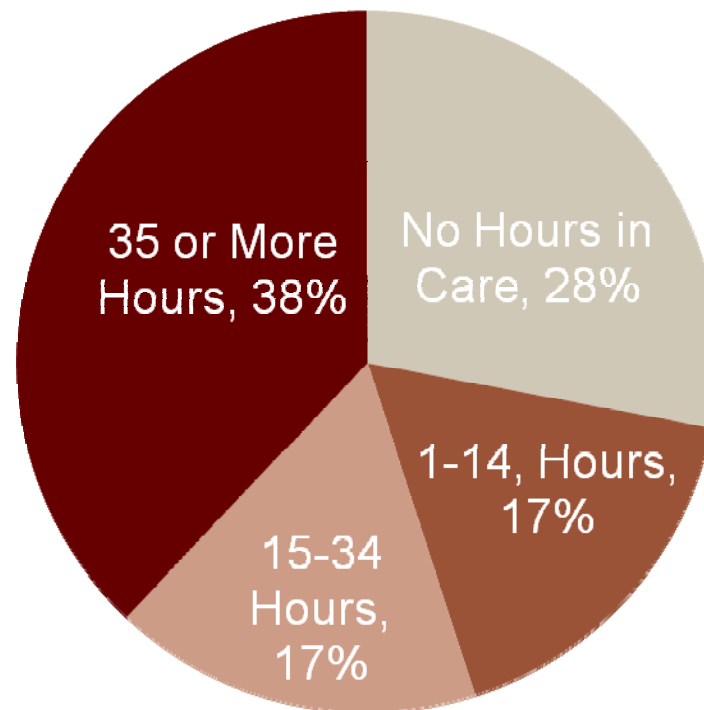
Young children are in child care...



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, 2005
National Household Education Survey.

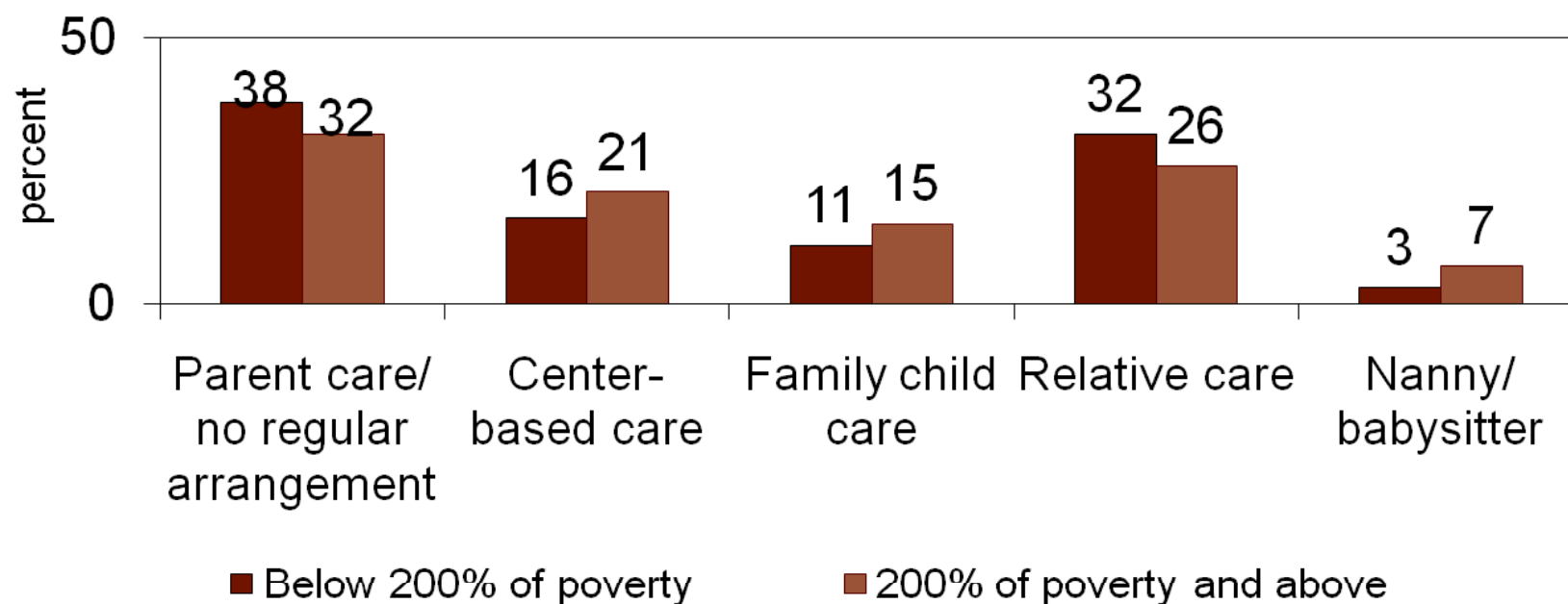
...for significant portions of time

Hours Spent in Nonparental Care by Children Under 3 with Employed Mothers, 2002



Source: Jeffrey Capizzano and Regan Main, *Many Young Children Spend Long Hours in Child Care*, Urban Institute, 2005. Analysis of 2002 NSAF Data.

Primary child care arrangements for children birth to 3 with employed mothers



Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding. Source: Jeffrey Capizzano and Gina Adams, *Children in Low-Income Families are Less Likely to be in Center-Based Care*, Urban Institute, 2003.

Supporting Babies in Child Care

- When cared for in a home-based child care setting, babies benefit when their providers have specialized training in child development.
- Relative caregivers often are not considered part of the formal child care system, but they may still be interested in and benefit from support and information.
- States can support babies by supporting their caregivers.

Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) Care

FFN and FCC

- Defining FFN: a caregiver providing regular child care who is legally exempt from state licensing requirements.
- In some states, there may be little practical difference between licensed family child care (FCC) and unlicensed (FFN) home-based child care providers.
- Providers without much support may benefit from quality initiatives with FFN and FCC.



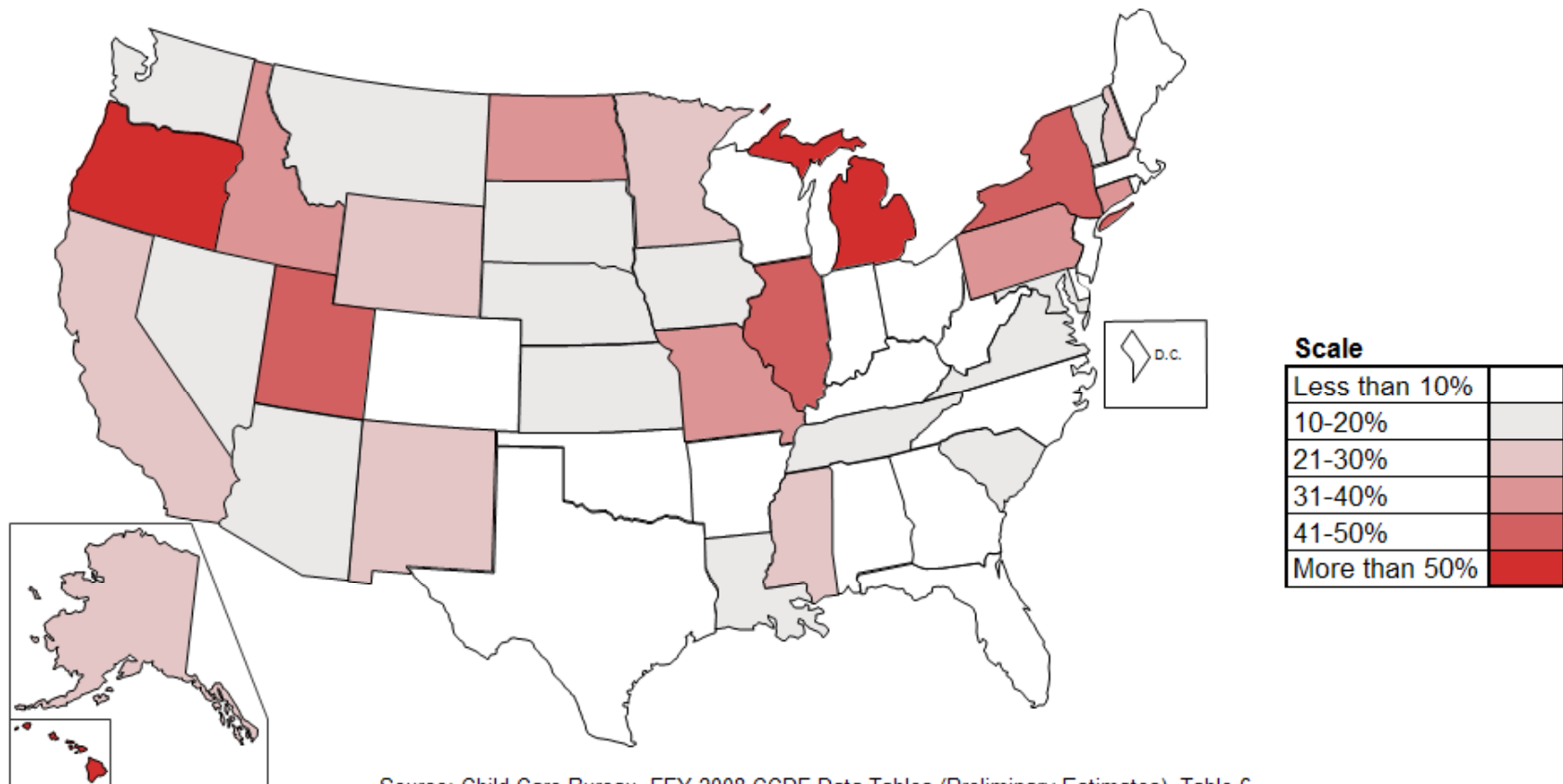
Vulnerable children are in FFN care

- Infants and toddlers and children of immigrants are more likely to be in FFN care
- Nationally, about one-fifth (21 percent) of children receiving CCDBG subsidies were served in legally unregulated care, although it varies by state

Sources: NSAF 2002 data and FFY2008 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary Estimates).

Subsidy receipt for FFN care, by state

Percentage of children receiving subsidies in legally unregulated, home-based care



Child Care Quality Initiatives

Importance of Quality

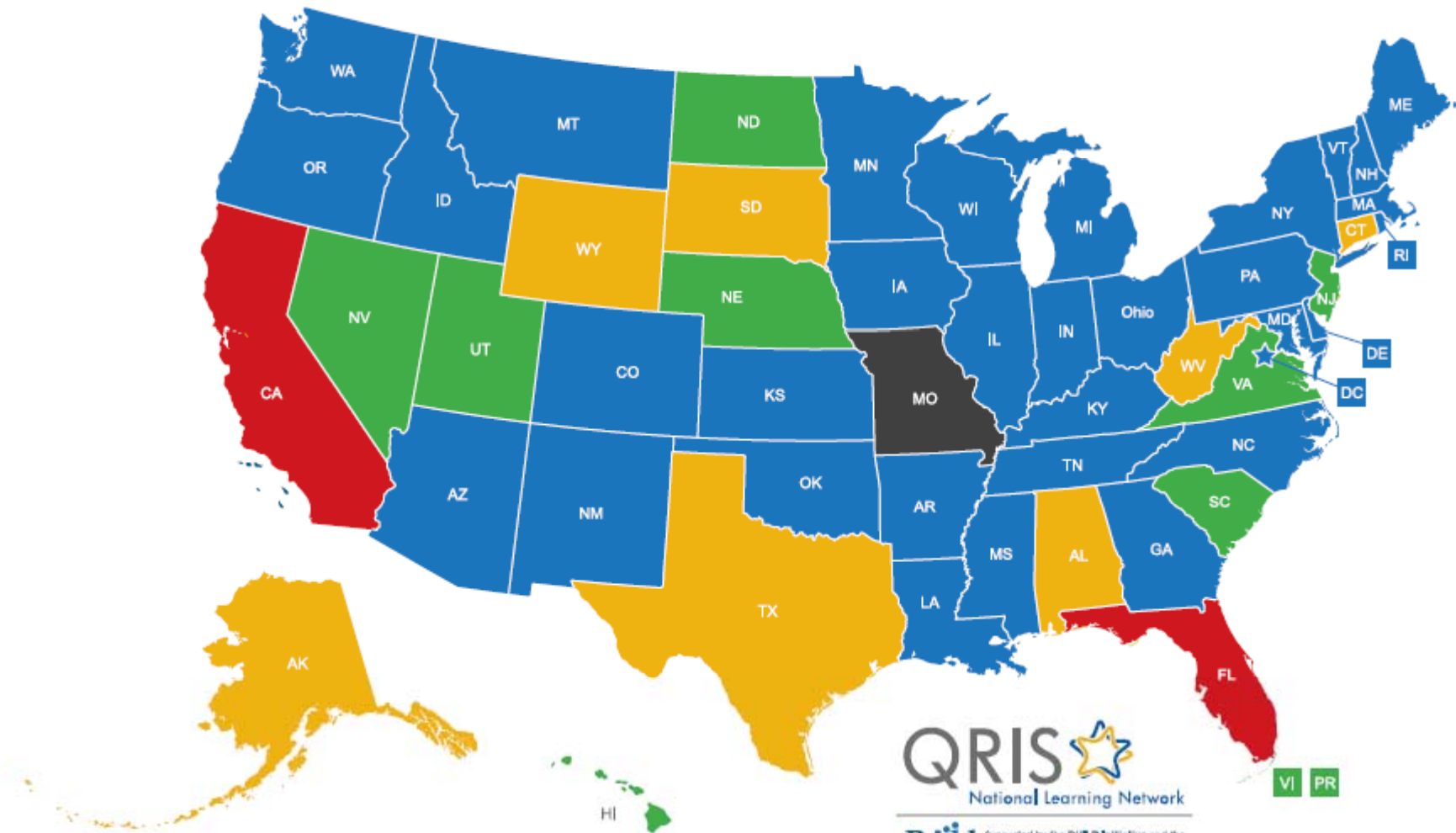
- Research shows that high quality child care and education promote healthy development and offer lifelong benefits to children.
- “Achievement gap” surfaces as early as 9 mos.
- This is particularly true for the most vulnerable children, including those who are low-income.
- High quality includes:
 - Quality adult child interactions
 - Comprehensive services
 - Basic health and safety considerations

Focus on Quality

- Closing the achievement gap
- School readiness
- Accountability for scarce dollars
- Efficiency and effectiveness



Current Status of QRIS in States



● Statewide QRIS launched
 ● Pilot QRIS Launched and/or Completed
 ● Regional QRIS launched
 ● Planning for a QRIS
 ● QRIS currently prohibited by law

Quality Initiatives and Policies that Could Benefit FFN

- Initiatives incorporated into subsidized child care
- Inclusion in Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS)
- Food programs – outreach and support via CACFP
- Coaching and mentoring
- Inclusion in family support initiatives – casting the net wider to include relative caregivers

Home Visiting as an FFN Quality Strategy

Goals of home visiting programs

- Increasing positive parenting practices and improving parent-child relationships
- Reducing child abuse, neglect, and injury
- Improving child health and development
- Increasing school readiness and academic success
- Improving child's emergent language and literacy skills
- Enhancing parents' self-sufficiency



Home Visiting/FFN Partnerships Can Include

- Visits to FFN caregivers' homes, with or without the parent present
- Inclusion of FFN caregivers in other parts of the home visiting model
 - Support and services for the caregiver, for the parent, and for the child



Opportunities and Challenges with Home Visiting/FFN Partnerships

- Current federal funding makes these timely
- Goals of home visiting programs may align with strategies for improving caregiver quality
- Partnerships can strengthen the relationship between caregiver, parent, and child
- Partnerships can make adult child interactions more consistent between home and child care setting.
- Partnerships work better with some home visiting models than with others.

The Story from Illinois



illinois
action for
children

Illinois Action for Children

- Largest of 16 CCRRs in Illinois
- Statewide public policy and advocacy program
- Membership-driven in our policy priorities
- We develop and create policy priorities based on the realities of working families with young children

Why we invest in LE Care Providers

- It is where low-income children are
- Accommodates low-income parents work schedules
- Provides financial support to family members (for related caregivers)
- First choice for many immigrant families
- Siblings can stay together
- Affordable and convenient
- Lasting bonds between related caregivers and the children they care for (social-emotional)

Supporting care for the most high-need children

- 42% of parents with children under 14 work unusual work schedules, including nights and weekends.
- For low income, single mothers of children under age 6, the number jumps to 67%
- In Illinois, 27% of children of children 0-3 are in LE homes.
- Including all ages of children, 34% of them use informal care arrangements.

Responsive and Innovative Programs

- Look at data that tells us where children are

	Children under 3	Children under 3 in LE home care	Percent of children under 3 in LE home care		Total children (all ages)	Total children in LE home care	Percent of total children in LE care
Statewide	36,455	9,768	27%		144,820	49,743	34%
Cook	18,080	4,971	27%		77,306	28,019	36%
data source: IDHS June 2012 payment file							

Responsive and Innovative Programs

DHS Child Care - Providers By Type Of Care													
FY 2013													
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	AVG
760-Lic Center	2,872	2,918											2,895
761-Ex Center	611	644											628
762-Lic Home	5,453	5,508											5,481
763-Lic Group Hm	367	375											371
Total 760-763	9,303	9,445											9,374
764-Ex Home	3,775	3,880											3,828
765-Rel Home	9,785	10,218											10,002
766-NR Chld Home	2,771	2,780											2,776
767-Rel Chld Home	5,867	6,159											6,013
Total 764-767	22,198	23,037											22,618
Total 760-767	31,501	32,482											31,992

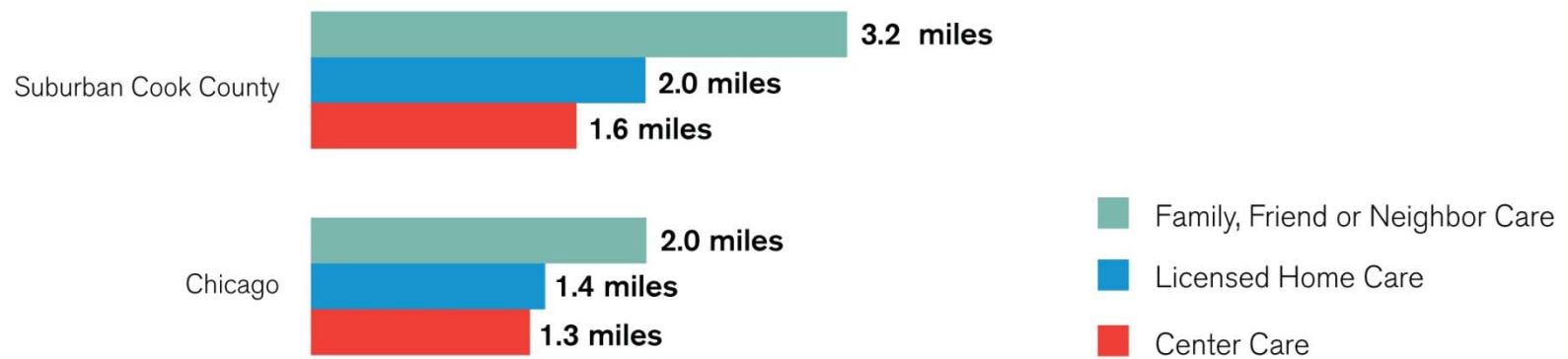
Responsive and Innovative Programs

- Tailored program-outreach driven by quality improvement (not licensing)
- Relationship-based approach
- Tie quality improvement to services and supports
- Understanding the motivation of providers
 - Distinguish between related and unrelated caregivers
 - Our experience tells us that money is not the motivator – but networking, resources and information are what LE providers crave.

The choices parents make

Figure 8. How Far Parents Live From Their Child Care, by Type of Care

median distance, in miles; parents who use care outside their home or apartment building



The choices parents make

Figure 9. How Far Out of Their Way Parents Travel for Child Care

as a percentage of their work commute; parents who travel more than 1 mile for care

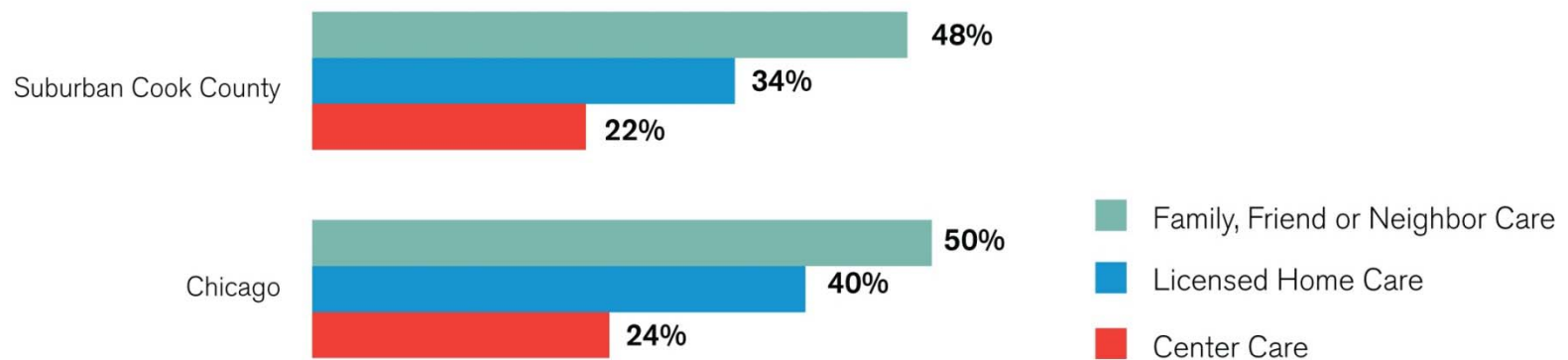
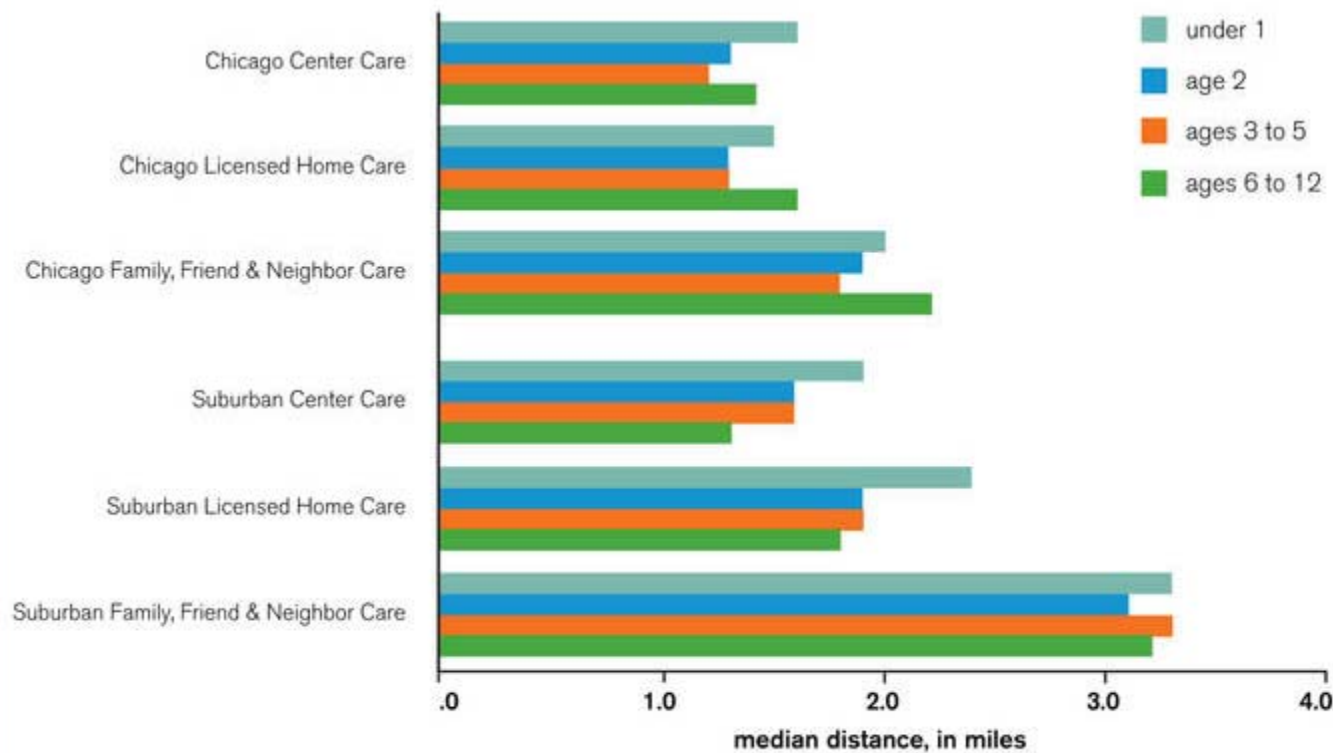


Figure 11. How Far Chicago Parents Live From Their Child Care, by Age of Child and Type of Care

for parents using care outside their home or apartment building



Strategies for Informal Caregivers

- CACFP outreach
- QRIS - parallel or included in same system
- Preschool collaborations
- Family support models



**Illinois Department of Human Services
Quality Rating System – Training Tiers
LICENSE-EXEMPT FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES**

TIER	TRAINING TIER 1	TRAINING TIER 2	TRAINING TIER 3
Number of Modules	4 Modules (Approximately 12 contact hours)	Tier 1 PLUS 4 Modules (Approximately 12 contact hours)	Tiers 1 & 2 PLUS 8 Modules (Approximately 24 contact hours)
Required Training Modules	Overview of Child Development	Observation and Guidance	Child Growth & Development (Birth – 8 mos.)
	Health Issues for Group Care	Learning Happens in Relationships	Child Growth & Development (8 – 18 mos.)
	Nutrition Issues for Group Care	Family & Community Relationships	Child Growth & Development (18 – 36 mos.)
	Safety Issues for Group Care	Personal & Professional Development	Preschool Child, Social & Emotional Development
			Preschool Child, Physical Development
			Preschool Child, Language Development
			Preschool Child, Cognitive Development
			School Age Development
CCAP Rate Add-on	10%	15%	20%
Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To receive the listed CCAP rate add-on, a provider must complete Training Tiers in order. • A provider must complete training in any one tier within a 2-year timeframe. • Completion of all three Training Tiers will result in award of the Gateways to Opportunity ECE Credential Level 1. 			



Questions?

Contact Information and Resources

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CLASP Child Care and Early Education: www.clasp.org/childcare

Charting Progress for Babies in Child Care:
<http://www.clasp.org/babiesinchildcare>

*Home Away from Home: A Toolkit for Planning Home Visiting
Partnerships with Family, Friend, and Neighbor Caregivers:*
<http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/Home-Away-from-Home.pdf>