

# Putting it Together: Financing Comprehensive Services in Child Care and Early Education



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# Goals for Today

- Share lessons learned in developing our finance guide.
- Discuss the value of reaching children in child care settings with comprehensive services.
- Learn about the potential uses of a variety of federal funding streams in child care settings.
- Explore local examples of partnerships.
- Address key considerations for implementation.

# Putting it Together: A Guide to Financing Comprehensive Services in Child Care and Early Education

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*Available at  
[www.clasp.org](http://www.clasp.org)*



# What's in the Guide?

- Getting Started: How to Begin Planning a Funding Partnership
- Financing Examples: Learning from States and Communities
- Funding Streams: The Nuts and Bolts of Federal Sources
- Lessons Learned: Considerations When Designing a Financing Strategy
- A Worksheet to Help Get Started in Putting it Together
- Additional Resources

# Financing Guide Focuses on the Following Funding Streams

- Maternal and Child Health – Title V
- Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children
- Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems
- Home Visiting – MIECHV
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act/Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CAPTA/CBCAP)
- Medicaid/SCHIP
- Elementary and Secondary Education -Title I
- McKinney-Vento
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Parts B and C
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- SAMHSA (Project LAUNCH)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

# What Do We Mean By Comprehensive Services?

- Connection and access to **preventive health care services**, such as assistance in connecting to medical homes, preventive dental screenings, and tracking of vaccination and medical screening records;
- Support for **emotional, social and cognitive development**, including screening to identify developmental delays, mental health concerns, and other conditions that may warrant early intervention, mental health services, or educational interventions;
- **Family leadership and support**, including parent leadership development, parenting support, abuse prevention strategies, and connecting families to needed social services.

# Why Comprehensive Services?

- Programs showing lasting benefits of high quality early education focused on whole child and included comprehensive services.
- Increased attention to school readiness, child outcomes, return on investment.
- Increased poverty has increased need for comprehensive services.



# Why Child Care Settings?

- Young children are in care for significant portions of time and from an early age.
  - Opportunity to reach young children early.
- Low-income children have less access to health insurance and health services.
- Relationships between caregivers and children and families may provide positive context for delivering preventive services.



# Early Childhood System Components



# Why Financing and Funding Partnerships?

- Child Care and Early Education Funding is Insufficient
  - Head Start serves 40% of eligible preschoolers and fewer than 3% of eligible infants and toddlers.
  - CCDBG serves 17% of eligible children and states do not pay rates higher enough to support comprehensive services.
- Approaching services with a system building mindset
- Emphasis on effective and efficient use of funds.

# What is a Partnership?

- Funding direct services in a child care setting
- Funding coordination of services that take place either inside or outside of the setting
- Building capacity of child care staff to provide services
- Funding materials and supplies to provide services

# For Example: How Can Title V be Used?

States and communities can use Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant dollars to:

- Respond to needs identified by state health agencies (grantees);
- Improve access to quality health care for low-income families;
- Coordinate resources;
- Implement targeted population based initiatives; or
- Provide direct services.



*Source: Sec. 504. [42 U.S.C. 704]*

# Arizona: Child Care Nurse Consultants

- Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board (First Things First) has used Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) funds and Maternal and Child Health block grant dollars to develop a network of child care nurse consultants
- Work with programs to build their internal capacity to meet children's health and developmental needs
- Work with child care staff to develop policies related to health, medical and emergency procedures, and train staff to work with children who have specific health needs

# Rhode Island: Watch Me Grow

- Voluntary initiative that provides child care programs with materials to screen children using the ASQ, ASQ/SE, and the ECSA.
- Provides training to providers
- How to use the results of the screenings to identify potential developmental issues
- How to communicate effectively with parents and physicians about the screening results to plan for any necessary treatment or interventions.
- Maternal and Child Health and ECCS dollars were used to purchase materials.



# New York: Eat Well, Play Hard

- In New York, the state Department of Health coordinates a partnership that brings a nutrition and physical activity curriculum in child care settings, for children and parents.
- They use a combination of SNAP-Ed and state anti-obesity dollars.
- Curriculum is delivered by registered dietitians to parents in child care settings, and the RD's provide training to child care staff.
- Curriculum is based on one developed by NY CACFP RD's.
- Partnering agencies include NY Department of Health, NYCACFP, Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

# Oklahoma: Child Guidance Support

- Oklahoma's Department of Health uses CAPTA/CBCAP and state funding to support parenting support, developmental screening, and behavioral and mental health consultation.
- Clinicians made 754 visits, and provided on-site mental health consultation to 104 child care centers in SFY 2011.
- Consultants visited child care facilities in 17 counties.



# Financing: How to Make a Plan

## 1. Evaluate your “readiness”

- Assess community needs, available funding and existing partnerships
- Identify decision makers
- Identify potential policy or practical constraints

## 2. Learn From Other States, Communities

- Consider the full range of funding streams available—federal, state and private
- Identify models in other states and communities and evaluate whether they would work for you.
- Don't reinvent the wheel

# How to Make a Plan (cont'd)

3. Become an expert in funding stream uses, opportunities, and parameters.
  - Talk to federal, regional, state and local contacts about the funding streams you're exploring.
  - Understand where funds originate, who are the relevant decision makers, and which agencies or organizations at the state or local level are eligible to receive them.
  - Learn about the allowable uses of funds and whether they are available for long- or short-term uses

# State Financing Worksheet

**Appendix A: A Worksheet to Help States Get Started in Putting it Together**

States and communities embarking on a partnership to expand access to comprehensive services within child care and early education settings can use this worksheet to begin mapping the need, available resources, and potential partnering strategies that will help them move forward.

**What services do children need?**

*What type of service do you want to provide in your program, community, or state? (e.g. developmental screening, parent support, etc.)*

*What data do you have to document need in the state and in specific communities?*

**What funding streams are available to pay for these services?**

*Which funding streams include the needed services as part of their allowable uses?*

*Which funding streams can be used in partnership and/or within the child care and early education setting?*

*Are there opportunities presented by expansion of existing funding streams, changes in funding parameters, or the introduction of new funding opportunities in the state?*

*Which funding streams have other states and communities used to provide similar services in child care and early education settings?*

The screenshot also shows a Windows taskbar at the bottom with various application icons and a system tray displaying the time as 12:05 PM on 2/5/2013.

# Lessons And Considerations

- Find your service gaps, then create your financing and partnership strategy.
- Build relationships with other early childhood partners and new allies.
  - Consider which agencies administer which funds, and what relationships and other collaborations already exist.
- Intermediaries can help coordinate partnerships between agencies, and can help bring private funds into the mix.

# Lessons And Considerations

- Use research, data, and models from other states to make your case.
- Consider child care and early education partnerships when assessing community needs.
- Share data, and include partners in planning.
- Look for short-term funding to get started and long-term funding to sustain services.



# Lessons And Considerations (Cont.)

- Align systems as you incorporate funding streams, to make your financing initiative more sustainable.
- Consider multiple strategies and all child care settings.
- Pay attention to silos, and the targeted populations they serve as you explore creative financing solutions.

# Questions? Thoughts? Examples?



# Contact Information

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