Small Steps at a Challenging Time: Federal Legislation for Infants and Toddlers

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Presentation Overview

- Demographics of infants and toddlers in early childhood
- The President’s promise
- The impact of the deficit on promises and policy
- Federal opportunities
The Youngest Children are Most Likely to be Poor

Children Living in Low-income and Poor Families in the U.S. by Age, 2006

- Birth - 2: 44% Poor, 21% Low-income
- 3-4: 43% Poor, 20% Low-income
- 5: 41% Poor, 18% Low-income
- 6-11: 39% Poor, 17% Low-income
- 12-17: 35% Poor, 15% Low-income

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty
Young children are in child care...

Percent of Children with a Weekly Non-parental Care Arrangement, by Age

Babies are in child care for many hours...

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

- No Hours in Care, 28%
- 1-14 Hours, 17%
- 15-34 Hours, 17%
- 35 or More Hours, 38%

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

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.
Babies are in diverse care settings and there are differences in participation

Primary Care Arrangements of Children Birth to Three, with Employed Mothers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>White, non-Hispanic</th>
<th>Black, non-Hispanic</th>
<th>Hispanic, all races</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parental/Other</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center-based Care</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanny/Babysitter</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The Urban Institute, *Caring for Children of Color: The Child Care Patterns of White, Black and Hispanic Children Under 5, 2006.*
Ages of Children Served in CCDBG, 2007

Source: CLASP report, *Infants and Toddlers in the Child Care and Development Block Grant: 2007 Update*
Infants and Toddlers in CCDBG

Source: CLASP report, *Infants and Toddlers in the Child Care and Development Block Grant: 2007 Update*
Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funding (in billions), 2002-2009

Source: CLASP analysis of HHS funding documents. FY 2009 funding includes $2 billion in ARRA funding.
Head Start/Early Head Start Funding (in billions), FY 2002-2009

Source: CLASP analysis of HHS funding documents. FY 2009 funding includes $2.1 billion in ARRA funding.
Disparities Begin to Emerge Early

- Disparities in children’s cognitive, social, behavioral, and health outcomes begin as early as 9 months.
  - Disparities grow larger by 24 months
  - Disparities are present by family income, race/ethnicity, home language and maternal education.

Source: Child Trends, *Disparities in Early Learning and Development: Lessons from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study – Birth Cohort (ECLS-B).*
Young Children Face Multiple Risk Factors for Unhealthy Development

Exposure to Multiple Risk Factors Among Children Under 6, 2006

- 0 risks: 58%
- 1-2 risks: 33%
- 3+ risks: 10%

These risks include: lives in poverty, with a single parent, in households where both parents have less than a high school education, in families with parents who do not speak English well or at all; and/or has parents with no paid employment.

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty
The President’s Promise

In his presidential campaign platform, Mr. Obama pledged to create a $10 billion effort to:

• establish a **Presidential Early Learning Council** to coordinate federal, state and local policies;
• quadruple financing for **Early Head Start**;
• provide **federal challenge grants** for states to use for early care and education programs; and
• expand **home visiting** programs for low-income mothers.

*The platform emphasizes improving quality, not just reaching more children.*
“Record-High Deficit May Dash Big Plans”

$1.4 Trillion in Red Ink Means Less to Spend On Obama’s Ambitious Jobs, Stimulus Policies

-Washington Post, A1, October 17, 2009
Most of Budget Goes Toward Defense, Social Security, and Major Health Programs

Defense and Security: 21%
Safety Net Programs: 11%
Interest on Debt: 8%
Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP: 20%
Social Security: 21%

Program Areas in the Remaining Fifth of the Budget

Benefits for Federal Retirees and Veterans: 6%
Scientific and Medical Research: 3%
Transportation Infrastructure: 3%
Education: 2%
Non-security International: 1%
All Other: 5%

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, based on analysis of Congressional Budget Office data. Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.
All federal spending other than Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and interest payments on the debt will decrease as a share of GDP between now and 2050. Thus, the rest of the budget are not major factors in the long-term fiscal problem.
Federal Opportunities

- The Appropriations Process
  - ARRA
  - Status of FY 2010 Appropriations
  - Agency Priorities for FY 2011
Federal Opportunities

• Early Learning Challenge Fund
  ▪ $8-$10 billion investment in systems for child care
  ▪ Birth to five programs
  ▪ Metric: more low-income children in high quality programs
  ▪ Small number of competitive grants
  ▪ Components focus on all aspects of QRIS, professional development, teaching and data
Federal Opportunities

- Child Care and Development Block Grant reauthorization
  - Increase access
  - Raise reimbursement rates
  - Invest in programs for infants and toddlers to increase access and improve quality
  - Improve basic health and safety
  - Increase funds for quality

$25 billion over five years
Federal Opportunities

• Health Care reform
  ▪ Save money to make structural reforms in deficit and federal spending
  ▪ Includes possible reform to S-CHIP
  ▪ Increase access to preventive health measures for parents and children
  ▪ Home visiting initiative
Federal Opportunities

- H1N1 flu
- Head Start implementation
- ARRA spending
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Reauthorization
- Baby Caucus
What Does It All Mean?
Tell Your Story – Show off Your Programs!

- What tradeoffs do families with infants and toddlers make when looking for child care?
- What is the overall quality of care for infants and toddlers in your community?
- What is the need for high quality infant and toddler care in your community?
- How are community partners—Head Start and Early Head Start, schools, health care, child care centers and family child care and others—working together?
- What are the education and training opportunities for providers working with infants and toddlers?
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