

All In For Kansas Kids



Early Childhood Recommendations Panel

MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2022



WELCOME

Thank you for serving Kansas children, their families, and our state's early childhood care and education professionals!

This is a remote meeting.

- Today's meeting materials are posted on the [Panel Meetings webpage](#) on the Children's Cabinet site.
- Panel members will clearly identify themselves when they begin speaking.
- Panel members can use the "raise hand" feature to show they are ready to share.



TODAY'S AGENDA – PART 1

- Welcome
- Approval of November agenda
- Approval of October meeting minutes
- Kansans' Open Forum
- Child Care Systems Improvement Team Presentation



TODAY'S AGENDA – PART 2

- Pandemic Relief Funding Update
- PDG Planning Grant*
- Workgroup Sessions
- Workgroup Report Outs
- Bright Spots
- Upcoming Meetings
- Adjourn



ACTION ITEMS

Panel members - please clearly identify yourself when you begin speaking to make and second a motion.

- Approval of November agenda
- Approval of October minutes



KANSANS' OPEN FORUM

Kansans are encouraged to email Hannah White (hwhite@ksde.org) by 5:00 p.m. on 12/15 to share written comments or to sign up to share verbal comments with the Panel during this portion of the meeting.



CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM

- Advisory group to KDHE that focuses on Child Care Licensing
- Started work again in 2020 after several year break as part of PDG
- Group is comprised of stakeholders from across the state and early childhood care and education system
- In 2021 the group put forth 14 recommendations to:
 - Improve clarity of regulations (e.g. staff qualifications)
 - Increase resources and supports for prospective and current child care providers
 - Increase public awareness

CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM

- Several of these recommendations will be launched later this year:
 - Toolkit to help home-based applicants navigate the licensing process (will be available to public on KDHE website)
 - Go Team, led by Child Care Aware of Kansas
 - Public awareness campaign focused on the importance of quality licensed child care

CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM

- Awareness campaign will launch in the coming weeks
- It will focus on Child Care Licensing, specifically
 - Why licensing is important and how it connects to quality child care
 - The benefits of becoming a licensed child care provider
 - The resources and supports available for child care providers

CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM



Only 60% of parent have access to the child care they need. Are you interested in helping solve that?



#licensedtocare

Should you get licensed? Check out licensedtocare.com to find out!

CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM

Everyone who needs it should have access to a trusted, licensed child care provider.

You can be that provider.

To get started, you'll need:

- ✓ a high school diploma
- ✓ a clear background check
- ✓ overall good health
- ✓ to want to care for kids
- ✓ to be ready to be your own boss



#licensedtocare

CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM

Does being a licensed child care provider help me grow?

We want you and our kids to grow with the right support in place! Licensing gives you the resources you need to succeed as a business owner and child care provider.

Licensing offers you access to:

continuous training



Licensing offers you access to:

a support network



Licensing offers you access to:

a licensing partner



Licensing offers you access to:

subsidies for families



CHILD CARE SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT TEAM

- Three new work groups started this month:
 - System Engagement and Communication
 - Regulations and Best Practices
 - Provider Supports
- These groups will meet monthly to develop recommendations and/or inform tools, resources and initiatives related to Child Care Licensing.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

- Help promote toolkit and campaign when they become available
- Child Care Licensing welcomes stakeholder feedback
 - Public webinars related to proposed regulatory revisions
 - Online feedback form
 - <https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/280/Child-Care-Licensing> or <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/af4c6e20f6744f9dadb4fd8dc6a9936e>
- Have ideas for something the Child Care Systems Improvement Team or Child Care Licensing program could explore? Let us know!
 - Melissa Schoenberger, Field Services Supervisor – Child Care Licensing
melissa.schoenberger@ks.gov



CCDF Pandemic Relief Response

Recommendations Panel 11.18.2022



Goals for Today

- Overview of services currently available
- Program highlight: Background checks and licensing fees
- Program highlight: ECE Resources
KS



○
○
○

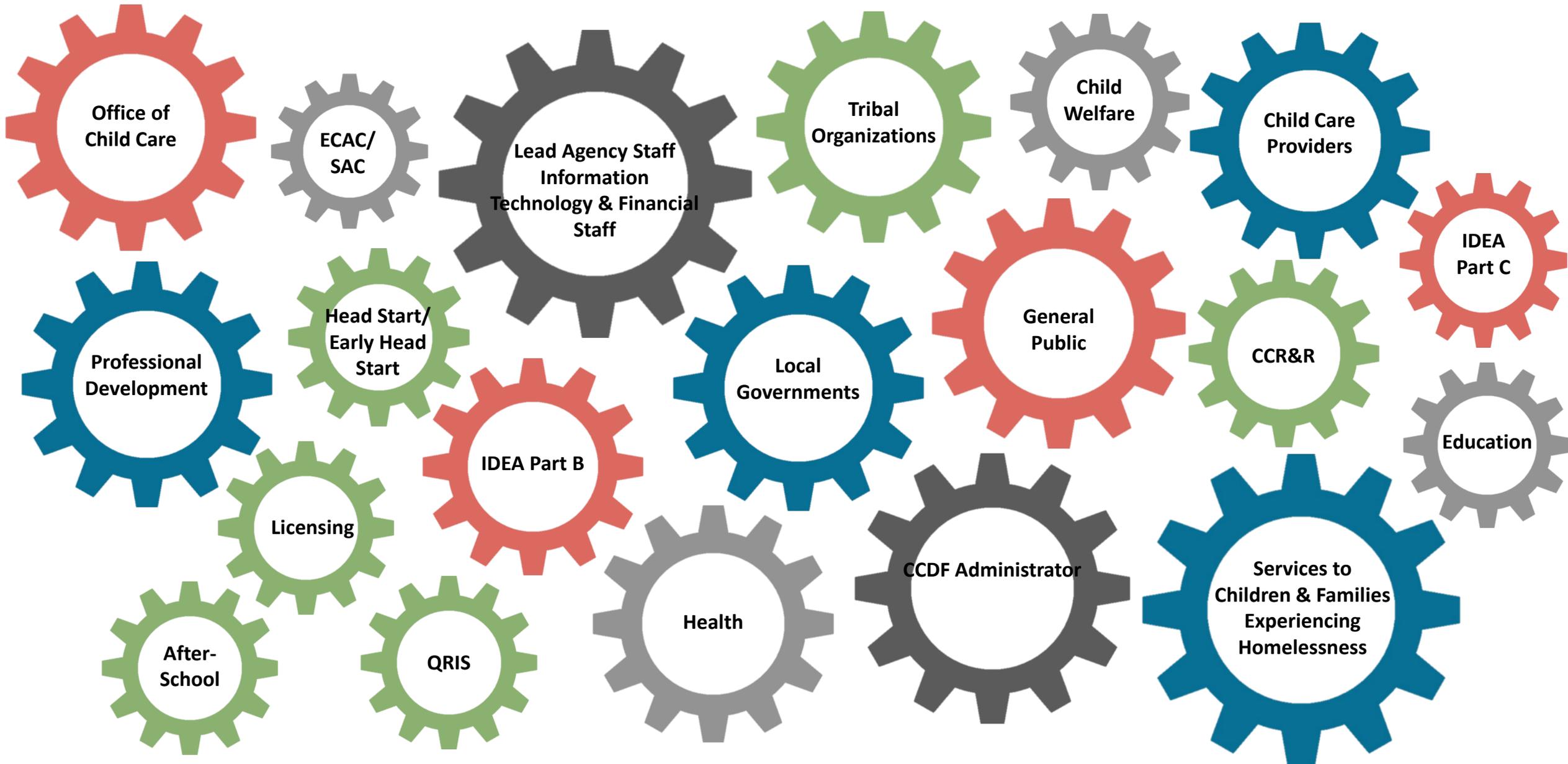
--	--	--	--	--	--

Child Care & Development Fund

Lead Administrator

01. Provide leadership & coordination
02. Promote family engagement & consumer education
03. Provide stable child care financial assistance
04. Ensure equal access to child care
05. Establish standards to ensure health and safety
06. Recruit and retain a qualified workforce
07. Support continuous quality improvement
08. Ensure grantee accountability

CCDF Administrator Relationships and Responsibilities



Governor

Kansas Department for
Children & Families

Kansas Children's
Cabinet and Trust Fund

Kansas Department of
Education

Kansas Department of
Health & Environment

Resource & Referral
Network

Child Care Assistance

Kansas Enrichment
Network

Workforce Development

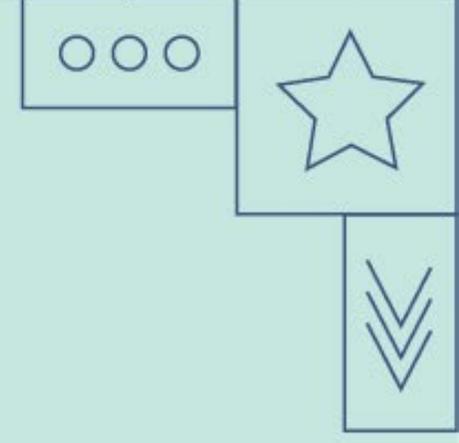
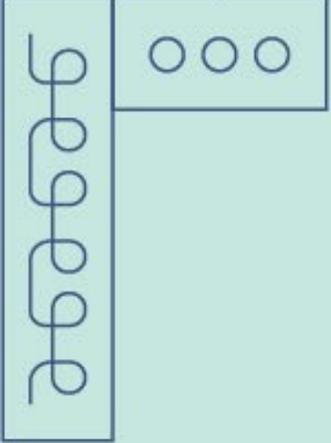
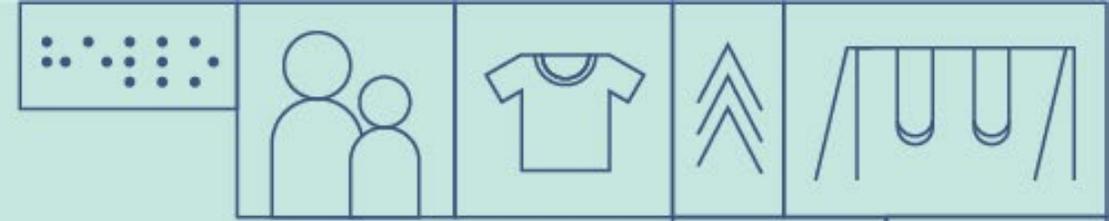
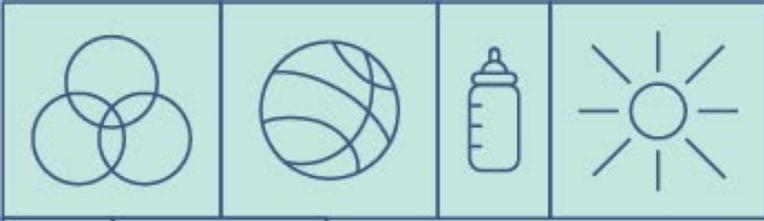
Links to Quality

Kansas Quality
Network

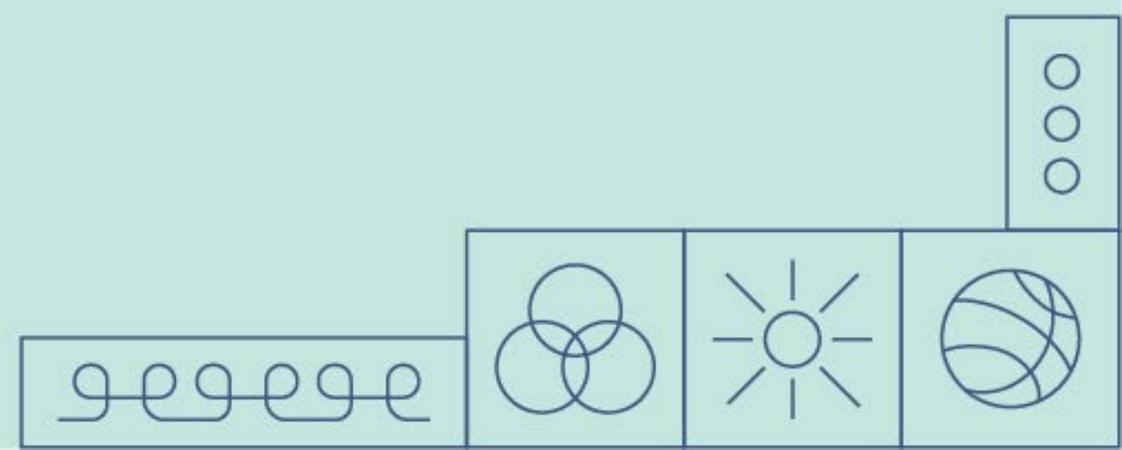
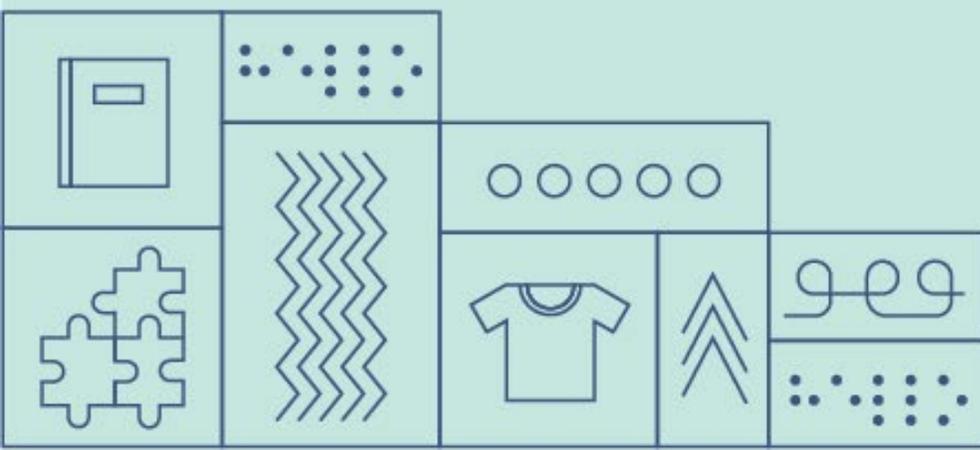
Kansas Child Care
Licensing

Kansas Early Head Start
Child Care Partnerships

Infant-Toddler Specialist
Network



Relief Funding





Direct Provider Supports

HERO Relief Provider Funding:

- 8,093 child care programs
- \$11,371,411

Sustainability Grants – Round 1:

- 3,171 child care programs
- \$43,590,000

Sustainability Grants – Round 2:

- 3,522 child care programs
- \$47,560,000





Direct Provider Supports

Sustainability Grants – Round 3:

Application Closes 11/30

3,839 child care programs have applied since March

- \$160,000,000+ total available over 14 months

Child Care Appreciation Bonus:

Application Closes 12/10

10,497 individuals have applied since July 18th





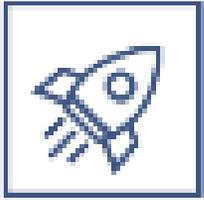
Sustainability Grants

Currently Available

**Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until
11/30!**

Funding amounts available for the final five months:

- Family/Group child care homes: **\$750 per month**
- Other child care programs (centers, preschools, head start, school age programs, and drop-in care):
 - Licensed capacity 24 or less children: **\$1,475 per mo.**
 - Licensed capacity between 25-99 children: **\$3,800 per mo.**
 - Licensed capacity 100+ children: **\$7,400 per mo.**



Start-up Supports

Child Care Health Consultant Network:

- Tiered supports *available now* through partnership with Child Care Aware of Kansas & Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE)

Background Checks & Licensing Fees:

- Available through September 2024

Community Partnerships:

- Local and regional engagement to enable communities to plan for and address child care needs
- *Community grants now available!*





Quality Improvement Support

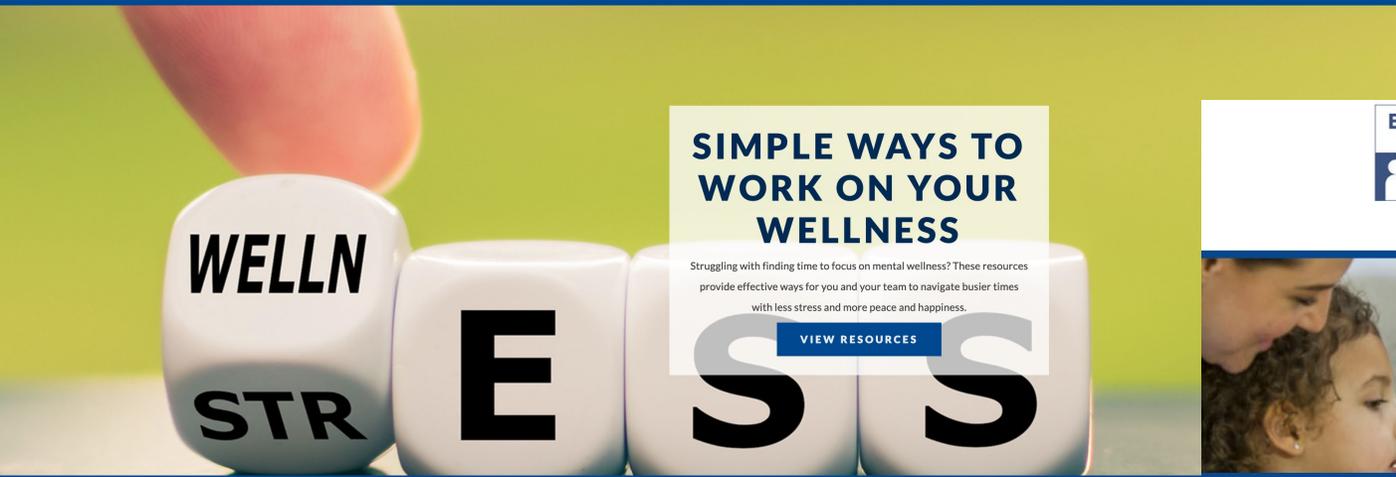
Child Care Quality Improvement & Support:

- In partnership with Child Care Aware of KS
- Links to Quality Implementation – Voluntary Quality Improvement System
- Shared Services Networks – Opportunity to leverage services and needed services

ECE Resources KS: Online catalogue of templates and resources to support child care providers and programs

- Connection to telehealth & teletherapy services





SIMPLE WAYS TO WORK ON YOUR WELLNESS

Struggling with finding time to focus on mental wellness? These resources provide effective ways for you and your team to navigate busier times with less stress and more peace and happiness.

[VIEW RESOURCES](#)


Featured Tools & Resources



ENGAGING FAMILIES

Building Strong Relationships

Communication is a great start to establishing and maintaining a strong relationship between ECE providers and the families they serve.

The resources and tools in this section provide guidance and knowledge to educate staff and families about child development, general health concerns, nutrition and fitness, and much more.

IN THIS SECTION

[Engaging Families](#)
[Admin Tools](#) >

[Child Development](#) >

[Child Tax Credit](#)
[Education](#) >

[Environment](#) >

[General Health](#) >

[Nutrition & Fitness](#) >

[Safety](#) >

[Social & Emotional](#) >

CHILD TAX CREDIT

SPREAD THE WORD

Important changes to the Child Tax Credit will help many families get advance payments of the Child Tax Credit starting in the summer of 2021.

Starting July 15 and continuing through December 2021, the new Child Tax Credit in the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act provides monthly benefits of \$250 per child between ages 6-17 and \$300 per child under age 6. The IRS will pay half the total credit amount in advance monthly payments. Families will claim the other half when they file their 2021 income tax return. The IRS will make the first advance payment on July 15, 2021 and continue monthly payments for the entire 2021 year.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Most families (nearly 90% of children in the United States) will automatically receive monthly payments without having to take any action.
- Families who did not file taxes last year still can access the benefit (see below).

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Direct families to Child Tax Credit website to learn more:
 - [ChildTaxCredit.gov](#)
- Share the flyer and handout resources ASAP with every family enrolled in your program.

RESOURCES TO HELP SPREAD THE WORD:

- Share the facts and resources on social media using the [Child Tax Credit Toolkit](#).
- Share the resources below with families and staff to be sure they know about the opportunity.
 - [WhiteHouse.gov Child Care Tax Credits Flyer](#)



Workforce Supports

Increased Professional Development & Scholarships:

- Includes In-Service Training, Higher Education, Child Development Associate Credential
- *Available* through Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities

Mental Health Technical Assistance:

- Available through Infant-Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN)
- Fostering a strong understanding of social-emotional development of young children





Workforce Supports

Supporting Children with Disabilities Technical Assistance:

- Available through Infant-Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN)
- Focused on building collaboration for supporting and understanding inclusive environments

Workforce Registry: *Coming Soon!*





Family Supports

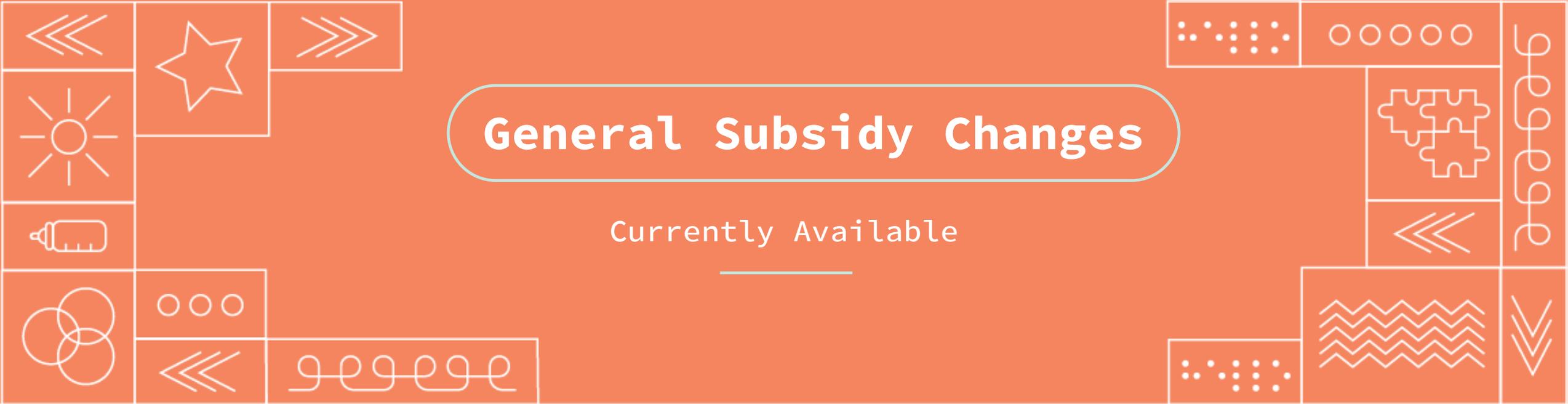
HERO Relief Program:

- Raised income limit to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Removed family share deduction for essential workers

Family Needs & Preference Study:

- In partnership with Wichita State University
- Help us understand the drivers behind the low participation in DCF child care assistance
- Survey of families and child care providers





General Subsidy Changes

Currently Available

- Raised income limit from 185% to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Child care benefits determined using blocks of time based on the calculated hours of care needed per month

- Removed the family share deduction for all families with income at or below 100% and reduced it for all other families
- Increased the maximum rates to the 85th percentile for all age groupings



General Systems Improvement & Support

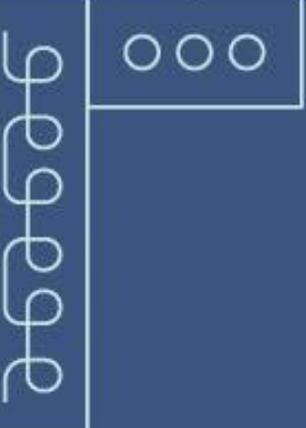
Marketing & Outreach:

- Mammoth Creative Co.
- Sharing information related to child care generally in Kansas and relief funded initiatives

Backbone Support:

- Provide administrative and strategic support to the DCF Pandemic Relief Program Team

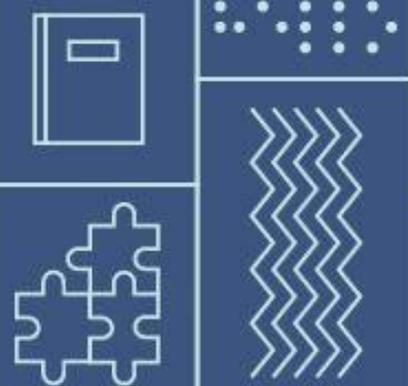




Thank you!

Stay connected

www.childcareinkansas.com



PDG B-5 PLANNING GRANT (2023)

- Funding Intent: “fund states to develop, update, and implement a strategic plan to strengthen the state’s integrated early childhood system to prepare low-income and disadvantaged children to enter kindergarten and have a seamless, high-quality early childhood experience from birth through third grade.”

PDG Opportunity - 2023



PDG B-5 PLANNING GRANT (2023)

- Due November 7, 2022 – Cabinet is designated as lead applicant of collaborative approach with KSDE, KDHE, DCF
- Grant Year: 12/30/2022 – 12/29/2023
- Up to \$4million – 10 awards total
- Kansas is one of 27 states eligible for this new planning grant
- There is also a parallel PDG Implementation grant that Kansas is NOT eligible for.

PDG Opportunity - 2023



PDG B-5 PLANNING GRANT (2023)

- Grant structure identical to 2019 PDG B-5 Planning Grant
 - Activity One: **PDG B-5 Statewide Needs Assessment**
 - Activity Two: **PDG B-5 Statewide Strategic Plan**
 - Activity Three: **Maximizing Parent and Family Engagement**
 - Activity Four: **Support the B-5 Workforce and Disseminate Best Practices**
 - Activity Five: **Support Overall Quality Improvement** (*this activity cannot be started until ACF has approved both the finished Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan*)
- As a current PDG-R grantee, Kansas had to reference existing work and build on lessons learned

PDG Opportunity - 2023



PDG B-5 PLANNING GRANT (2023)

- Activity One: **PDG B-5 Statewide Needs Assessment**
 - Collect and analyze existing needs assessments
 - Understand impact of COVID and relief funding
 - B-5 ECCE Workforce survey and any Workforce Registry data available
 - *Our Tomorrows* story collection
 - 10 community engagement and sensemaking sessions
 - Synthesize findings and produce updated Comprehensive Needs Assessment

PDG Opportunity - 2023



PDG B-5 PLANNING GRANT (2023)

➤ Activity Two: **PDG B-5 Statewide Strategic Plan**

- Review needs assessment findings and assess strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the Kansas early childhood system
- ECCE Agency Alignment Gap Analysis to understand limitations in collaboration or coordination of the current state-level coordination model. This will include public engagement sessions.
- Five Virtual Equity Design Sessions for traditionally underserved and/or marginalized children and families
- Draft Plan feedback opportunities
- Produce an updated 5-year *All in for Kansas Kids* Strategic Plan

PDG Opportunity - 2023



PDG B-5 PLANNING GRANT (2023)

- Activity Three: **Maximizing Parent and Family Engagement**
 - 6 family cohorts to design initiatives on importance/purpose of developmental health
 - Family mapping to accessing and enrolling in ECCE services
- Activity Four: **Support the B-5 Workforce and Disseminate Best Practices**
 - Workforce Engine Pilot Sites – 2-5 communities for recruitment, retention, and/or sustainability-focused efforts (scale PDG subgrants; multi-payer models; local outreach, etc.)
 - Exploration of workable compensation reform strategies
- Activity Five: **Support Overall Quality Improvement**
 - Update (as needed) and Disseminate Kansas Early Learning Standards and Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood

PDG Opportunity - 2023



WORKGROUP SESSIONS

Main Room

Quality & Environments

Separate Links

Family Partnerships

Recruitment & Retention



WORK GROUP REPORTS

Each Work Group will share a **5-7 minute** report



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND BRIGHT SPOTS

****Bright Spots – Panel members are invited to share****

Upcoming Meetings (all via Zoom):

- Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund meeting – Friday, December 2, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Early Childhood Group meeting – Friday, December 2, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
- Early Childhood Recommendations Panel, Friday, December 16, 9:00-11:30 a.m.





Adjourn

