

WVDHHR

Bureau for Children & Families

Division

of Early Care and

Education

The purpose of the Division of Early Care and Education is to administer the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) block grant

## MISSION

Early Care and Education

improves the safety, quality, affordability, and supply of early childhood services through financial and technical assistance, regulation, and quality enhancements.

# What We Do?

- We provide child care financial assistance for families with children from birth through age 12 who meet eligibility requirements
- We promote quality through a Quality Tier process and other initiatives
- We ensure safe and healthy environments for families needing child care through regulation

# Safe and Healthy Environments

**ECE licenses approximately 560 child care centers :**

<b>Child Care Center</b>	<b>370</b>
<b>Head Start</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Out-of-School Time</b>	<b>75</b>

**The Division directs and develops the procedures and rules for family child care for regional Department staff**

<b>Family Child Care Facility</b>	<b>112 (licensing process)</b>
<b>Registered family child care homes</b>	<b>1772</b>
<b>Registered relative care homes</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>Registered informal care homes</b>	<b>34</b>

# Promote Quality

- Provide technical assistance to child care providers
- Offer financial incentives to providers to increase quality
- Collaborate with Head Start and the Department of Education on the Pre-K efforts
- Develop training modules for early care and education practitioners

# Subsidy

- We provide child care financial assistance to families who are working or engaged in other allowable activities such as education
- Entry into the system is 150% of FPL and exit is at 185%
- Most parents who participate in the program pay a portion of the daily fees for child care

## Four Person Family

% of FPL	From	To	Daily Fee
40%	\$0.00	\$768	\$0.00
50%	\$768.01	\$960	\$1.00
60%	\$960.01	\$1,153	\$1.50
70%	\$1,153.01	\$1,345	\$1.75
80%	\$1,345.01	\$1,537	\$2.00
90%	\$1,537.01	\$1,729	\$2.25
100%	\$1,729.01	\$1,921	\$2.50
110%	\$1,921.01	\$2,113	\$2.75
120%	\$2,113.01	\$2,305	\$3.00
130%	\$2,305.01	\$2,497	\$3.25
140%	\$2,497.01	\$2,689	\$3.50
<b>150%</b>	<b>\$2,689.01</b>	<b>\$2,881</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>
160%	\$2,881.01	\$3,073	\$4.25
170%	\$3,073.01	\$3,265	\$4.50
180%	\$3,265.01	\$3,458	\$4.75
185%	\$3,458.01	\$3,554	\$5.00

# The Cost of Child Care

2012 Child Care in West Virginia	
Average Annual Fees in a Center for an infant	\$6,932
Average annual fees in a family child care home for an infant	\$6,269
Average Annual Fees in a Center for a four year old	\$5,806
Average annual fees in a family child care home for a four year old	\$5,730



According to the US Census Bureau the Median household income, from 2007-2011 was \$39,550

<b>Affordability (cost of full time child care as percent of median family income)</b>	
Infant in center, percent of income for MARRIED COUPLES	11%
Infant in center, percent of income for SINGLE MOTHERS	41%

# Impact

2012 Child Care in West Virginia	
Total Number of Children Birth to age 11	280,708
Total Families with Children	183,476
Families in Poverty	44,864
Number under age 6 potentially in need of child care	41,343
Number of children served monthly by CCDF	9,100
Number of families served monthly	5,500

# Summary

The Division uses the resources available to implement best practices in all of the areas for which we are responsible. The Division affects a larger number of families and children under the age of 5 than many other early childhood program in West Virginia. It is the responsibility of this Division to build a foundation so that when funding is available we can maximize the use of those funds to best serve the population of West Virginia.

# The Problem

- Parents need access to reliable child care in order to work but cannot always afford it
- Many people view child care as just baby sitting
- The current system does not allow families to move out of poverty and off the system
- Care is often provided at less than desirable levels of quality
- Child care professionals are not viewed as educators and therefore not paid accordingly

# **Early interventions in the lives of children result in:**

**higher school achievement,  
higher rates of high school graduation,  
less crime and delinquency,  
more income and employment,  
and fewer teen pregnancies.**

**Investments made now will mean lower  
public expenditures later.**

# What We Want to Accomplish

- Build stability for families by having sufficient resources to serve all eligible families
- Improve measurable outcomes and have a data system that allows evaluation of this
- Reduce abuse, neglect and violence
- Break the cycle of poverty
- Ensure school readiness

# Where Do We Go From Here?

- ECE must be viewed as a prevention tool that can reach our most vulnerable population and not “baby sitting”
- Change thinking to understand that the funds we put into early care are truly an investment
- Implementation of a QRIS that addresses the Federal Poverty Level, professional development and wage disparities amongst our early childhood professionals as well as other quality issues.





# The Next Three Years

- Increase the availability of and access to quality early care and education settings
- Continue focusing on best practice in quality initiatives to lead the way to implementation of QRIS
- Launch a public awareness campaign to increase knowledge

## Early Care and Education

is leading the way to ensuring a successful future for our children and our state by developing an early childhood system comprised of strengthened families, dedicated teachers, well-equipped facilities, and nurturing environments.

The Division of Early Care and Education takes pride in constantly improving the child care system in this state.

We will continue to build the foundation to support a stronger and more effective child care system.



**"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men"**

*Frederick Douglass*