

New Hampshire Child Care and Development FFY 2019- 2021 Fund (CCDF) Federal Plan



Highlights of Proposed Plan for Public Review and Comment

Prepared by DHHS/DCYF

Bureau of Child Development & Head Start Collaboration

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June 11, 2018

Where Can You Find the Draft Plan & Related Information?

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cdb/publications.htm>

AAA

an official NEW HAMPSHIRE government website

dhhs New Hampshire Department of
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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Child Development Bureau Publications

- FFY 2019-2021 Child Care and Development Fund Plan
- CCDF Plan Highlights
- Public Hearing Notice
- June 11th Public Hearing Webinar Link

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What's Different in this Plan vs. 2016?

It's mostly about :



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*The successful CCDF Plan
will.....*



Show progress on meeting/exceeding initial CCDF Plan (2016 – 2018) goals and plan components

- Few new additions
- Focus: accomplishments/progress from 2016 - 2018 CCDF plan goals & activities
- Explanations/next steps for non-compliance



Share solid goals & plans for using funds/ programming elements over 2019 – 2021 grant cycle

Details strategy to:

- Improve child care quality
- Support families via stable funding , accessible communication & resources
- Address specific challenges unique to NH

Communicate information with clear, concise & user-friendly responses

- Concentrates on streamlined answers with minimal redundancy/flowery language
- Use “plain-language” & insure we are doing same with stakeholders from parents to providers



Now let's look at the Plan Section by Section



Section I

Define CCDF Leadership
&
Coordination with Relevant Systems

- ✓ **Leadership** of Plan Design and Implementation
- ✓ **Authority** over policy decisions
- ✓ **Accountability** for Plan components

- ✓ **Development** of Plan
- ✓ **Collaboration** with partners to expand accessibility & continuity



- ✓ ***Optimization*** through use of funds, CCDF matching & Maintenance of Effort \$
- ✓ ***Encourage*** public & private partnerships



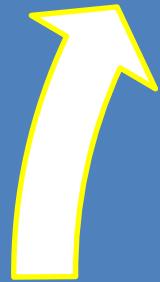


- ✓ **Coordination** with Child Care Resource & Referral
- ✓ **Demonstration** of a plan for disaster preparedness & response



Lead

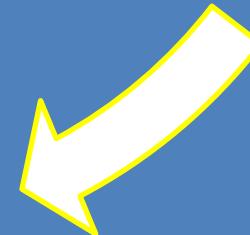
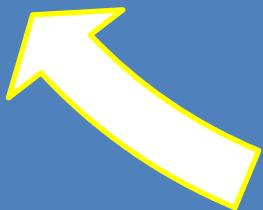
Partner



ACCOUNTABILITY

Evaluate

Plan



Implement

Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ **New DHHS Division of Economic and Housing Stability**
- ✓ **Expanded partnerships with stakeholders**
- ✓ **Emergency Operations Plan focused on ensuring continuity of child care**

Section 2

Promote Family Engagement
via
Outreach & Consumer Education

- ✓ **Support** role of parents as child care consumers
- ✓ **Reach out** to families with limited English & disabilities
- ✓ **Respond** to complaints about child care providers in a logical, user-friendly way from initial contact to final resolution
- ✓ **Provide** consumer information on child care, quality initiatives & child development – via online easily-accessible format

- ✓ **Expand** parents' knowledge (e.g., available services, parenting resources, children's health, education, more)
- ✓ **Deliver** information on how, when, & where to get developmental screenings for children
- ✓ **Gain** consumer confidence by providing & adhering to consumer statement & related resources

SMART
Information
and
Resources

STEPS
Access
and
Application

TO STABILITY
Funding and Child
Care

Current Achievements & Future Goals

- **Expanded resources/information on Child Care Aware of NH consumer education website**
- **Easy-to-use, trackable complaint system that includes licensed & license-exempt child care provider information**
- **Active collaboration between families, child care providers & service providers to ensure accessible, affordable, timely developmental screenings and interventions**

Section 3

Provide Stable
Child Care Financial Assistance
to Families

- ✓ **Eligibility** criteria for children & families in need of CCDF funding
- ✓ **Accessibility** for most vulnerable populations
- ✓ **Flexibility** to ensure continuity of child care during life changes & job transitions
- ✓ **Affordability** of parent contributions while supporting provider needs

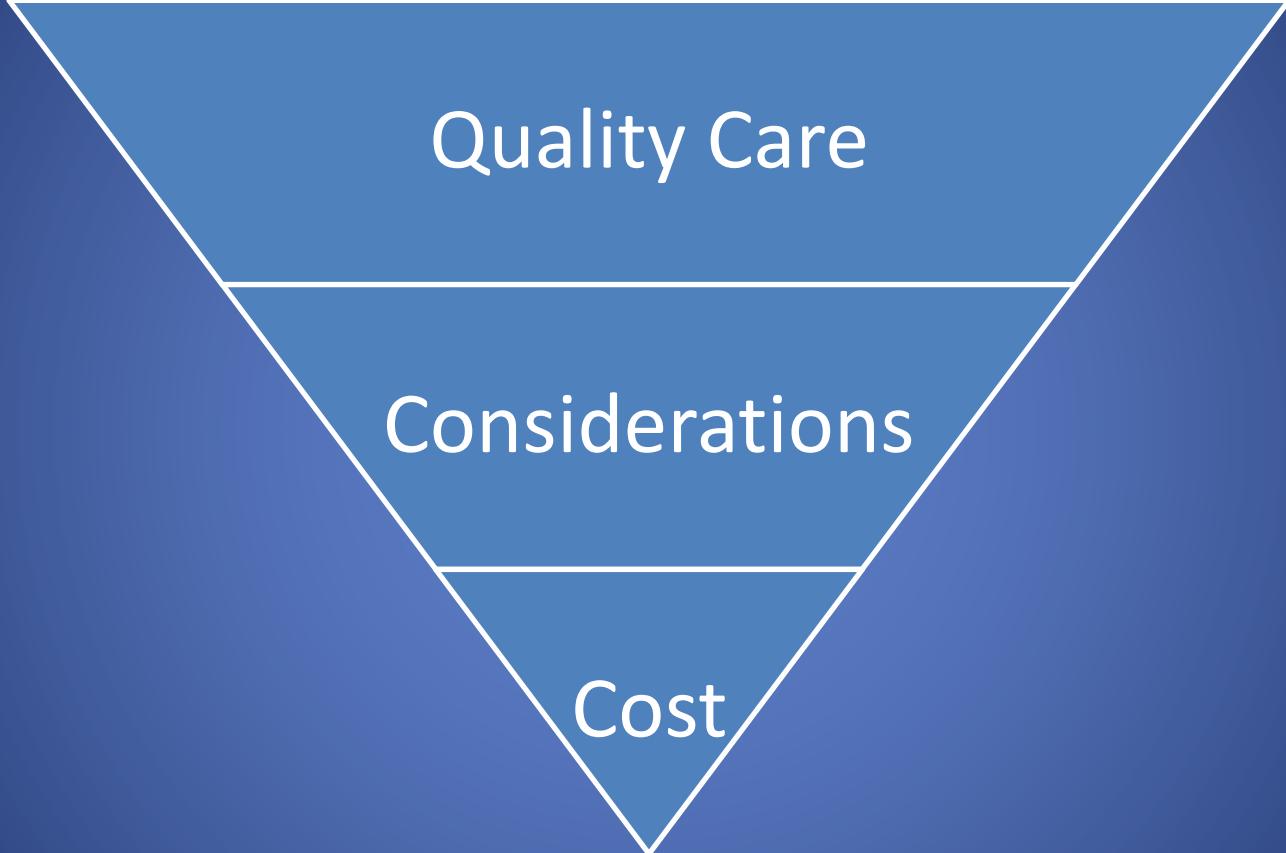
Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ **Expand ways families can qualify for eligibility for Child Care Scholarship Program funds**
- ✓ **Implement a 12-month eligibility period to protect working parents**
- ✓ **Address absenteeism to give more stability to providers as they financially plan for their program & to families for more stable, predictable payments**

Section 4

**Ensure Equal Access
to Child Care
for Children in Families
with Low-Incomes**

- ✓ **Choices** for equitable & affordable child care
- ✓ **Assessments** of market rates & true cost of child care
- ✓ **Estimates** for child care market rates based on verifiable market research, common sense accounting & ensuring equal access
- ✓ **Practices** for timely/accurate payments to providers to keep families & programs financially stable
- ✓ **Supplying** adequate child care options for needs of special populations



Quality Care

Considerations

Cost

Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ **State-wide resource mapping project - realistic look at challenges & needed supports to ensure NH families have quality, affordable, accessible care**
- ✓ **Adoption of 85% attendance rule for children will result in better funded providers & increased affordability for families**
- ✓ **Commitment to addressing child care workforce shortage**

Section 5

**Establish Standards & Monitoring
Processes to Ensure Health & Safety of
Child Care Settings**

- ✓ **Licensing** requirements - connect quality, safety, access, affordability
- ✓ **Health & Safety Standards** for CCDF providers inform, prevent, protect, respond in ways that benefit children, families & providers
- ✓ **Provider Training**- pre-service & orientation re: requirements

- ✓ **Skills** through ongoing professional development requirements that support provider growth & expertise
- ✓ **Enforcement** of licensing, health, safety, inspection, monitoring, & all other policies & procedures
- ✓ **Checks** on criminal backgrounds to protect children from predatory or dangerous persons, from NH & outside of state



Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ Projected monitoring for license-exempt providers to begin in FFY 2019-20
- ✓ Licensed & license-exempt providers have met new health & safety training requirements
- ✓ Improved staff background checks aligned with national criteria

Section 6

**Recruit and Retain
a Qualified and Effective
Child Care Workforce**

- ✓ **Framework** for professional development
- ✓ **Requirements** for training and professional development from entry-level to seasoned professionals
- ✓ **Guidelines** for early learning and development covering the essential domains
- ✓ **Criteria** for using guidelines to support kindergarten readiness
- ✓ **Collaboration** with partners to expand accessibility to training and resources

Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ **Development of a multi-level career lattice that fosters professional growth for providers with wide variety of educational/experiential knowledge**
- ✓ **Continued growth of NH Professional Registry**
- ✓ **Increased number of articulation agreements with colleges to link more formal education with ongoing training of child care providers**

Current Achievements & Future Goals (continued)

- ✓ **Expanded training opportunities for current providers and prospective providers**
- ✓ **Planned coordination /collaboration between K-12 community & early childhood community to ensure scaffolding of skills, readiness & ongoing support for children**

Section 7

Support
Continuous
Quality
Improvement



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- ✓ **Key activities** must demonstrate continuous quality improvement
- ✓ **Essential** quality activities based on state-wide assessment system
- ✓ **Integral** funding of quality improvement activities
- ✓ **Supportive** use of CCDF funds for training and professional development
- ✓ **QRIS** is critical to fostering quality

- ✓ **Improvements** to supply of quality child care programs & services for infants & toddlers
- ✓ **Enhancements** to existing Resource and Referral system, consumer website, links, resources, etc.
- ✓ **Standards** that are applicable state-wide & supported through laws, activities, systems, training
- ✓ **Activities** with inclusive approach for improving quality

Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ **Incorporate QRIS system for launch in FFY 2019-20**
- ✓ **Collaborative efforts by field, state, & other stakeholders to identify/embrace measurable quality improvement system**
- ✓ **Launch of NH Pyramid Model as means of improving the lives of children and their families**

Section 8

**Ensure Grantee Program
Integrity & Accountability**

✓ **Effective** administration via internal controls & accountability including:

- Sound fiscal policy/practices
- Fraud prevention
- Clear rules & regulations
- Monitoring/auditing for program compliance & violations

Current Achievements & Future Goals

- ✓ **Clear, understandable, enforceable policies**
- ✓ **Expanded technical assistance for billing, payments, financial tracking & other provider based activities**
- ✓ **Dedicated staff for accountability & auditing**
- ✓ **Sound fiscal management with adherence to budget**
- ✓ **Increased available funds for the 2019 – 2021 Plan**

