ACF Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System Transformation

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
ODAS-ECD Goals

• Building successful early learning and development systems across Head Start, child care, home visiting, and pre-K

• Promoting high quality and accountable early learning and development programs for all children

• Ensuring an effective early childhood workforce

• Promoting family support and engagement in children’s development

• Improving health and safety of early learning and development programs
Head Start

- Approximately 1,600 Head Start grantees promote the school readiness of children ages birth to 5 from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social and emotional development.

- More than 1 million children are served annually in every state and territory, including American Indian and Alaska Native communities and Migrant and Seasonal Farm worker families.

- Since 1965, approximately 30 million low-income children and their families have received education, health, nutrition, social-emotional, and family services through Head Start.
FY 2015 Head Start T/TA Funding

National
- National Center on Health
- National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations
- Early Head Start National Resource Center
- National Center on Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness
- National Center on Quality Teaching & Learning
- National Center on Parent and Family Engagement

Regional
- Grantee Specialists
- Early Childhood Education Specialists

Local
- Head Start Grantees
Child Care

• 1.5 million children each month receive financial assistance for child care through the Child Care and Development Fund

• Promotes children’s learning by improving the quality of early care and education and afterschool programs

• 93% of families are working or participating in training or education

• Approximately 460,000 child care providers across the country serve children receiving CCDF subsidies
FY 2015 Child Care T/TA Funding

National

• National Center on Child Care Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
• National Center on Child Care Data and Technology
• National Center on Child Care Quality Improvement
• National Center on Tribal Child Care Implementation and Innovation
• Child Care and Early Education Research Connections

State

• Child Care State Systems Specialist Network
History of Jointly Funded T/TA

- National Center on Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships (OHS/OCC)
- Healthy Child Care America (MCHB/OCC)
- Early Childhood Hearing Outreach (ECHO) Initiative (MCHB/OHS)
- Early Educator Central (OCC/OHS)
- National Center on Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives (OCC/OHS)
- Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (OHS/OCC)
- Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (SAMHSA/ACF/MCHB)
Why Create a New Training and Technical Assistance System?

• Better use of resources to address the common needs of children and families
• Simplify and clarify guidance by using one voice
• Enhance dissemination of existing and new resources to reach a broader audience
• Strengthen coordination between Head Start and Child Care and other early childhood services
• Weave a continuum of services based on the same science to meet the developmental needs of children throughout all TA entities
Stakeholder Input

• What are the most important current and emerging T/TA needs that you and your stakeholders have going forward?

• Based on your experience and the experiences of your stakeholders, what T/TA approaches and practices have you seen to be most effective for early childhood programs?

• Based on the experiences of your stakeholders, what additional T/TA needs should be addressed that are not currently being supported?

• What thoughts do you have on the best delivery system (infrastructure) that will allow T/TA to reach those that most need it?
Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System Vision

To foster happy, healthy children and families with school readiness as a basis for continued life success by supporting early care and education programs and staff in the delivery of quality services.
New National Centers

- National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness
- National Center on Development, Teaching and Learning
- National Center on Parent, Family, and Community Engagement
- National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance
- National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment
- National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations
Key Features

• Focus on services for children ages birth to five and their families, with some support for the full continuum of expectant families through school age children

• Integration of culturally and linguistic responsive practices in all the TA projects

• Integration and attention to services for children with disabilities and their families incorporated into all the TA projects

• Emphasis on data and continuous improvement
Head Start Regional T/TA Specialists

- Early Childhood Education Specialists
- Grantee Specialists
- Health Specialists
- Systems Specialists
Child Care State Capacity Building Center

- State Systems Specialist Network
- Infant/Toddler Specialist Network
- Intensive Capacity Building Network
- Information Services Team
Early Childhood T/TA Cross-System Evaluation Project

- To inform federal staff in better understanding of:
  - T/TA resources and professional development methods used in the T/TA system
  - Efficacy of dissemination strategies within the system and out to states and programs
  - Effectiveness of the T/TA system in changing practice at the state and local level

- To promote and build capacity among T/TA stakeholders to use data/research for continuous improvement of T/TA services
Early Childhood T/TA Cross-System Evaluation Project (cont.)

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<th>Year</th>
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NORC at the University of Chicago
- **Carrie Markovitz**, Project Director/Co-Principal Investigator
- **Marc Hernandez**, Co-Principal Investigator
Now what?

• Access T/TA in the same ways you did before
  – Head Start Regional Grantee Specialists
  – Head Start Regional Early Childhood Education Specialists
  – Child Care State Systems Specialists
  – National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
  – National Center on Tribal Child Care Implementation and Innovation

• Enjoy new enhancements now
  – Head Start Regional Health Specialists
  – Head Start System Specialists

• Look forward to new enhancements in the coming year
  – New National Centers
  – Infant/Toddler Specialists
  – Child Care Intensive Capacity Building Network
For more information, please visit:


https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc

https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/