Quality Improvement in Home-Based Child Care at the State, Community, and Agency Levels

CCEEPRC Plenary March 2, 2017

CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDUCATION POLICY AND RESEARCH ANALYSIS

Overview

- Presentation 1: State/Territory initiatives to support quality improvements for family child care providers

- Presentation 2: Examining quality of support to home-based child care; agency and provider perspectives on approaches to quality improvement

- Presentation 3: Building a coordinated system of support for family child care

State/Territory Initiatives to Support Quality Improvements for Family Child Care Providers

Project Team: Dale Epstein, Tamara Halle, Brenda Miranda, and Maya Cook, *Child Trends*

Methodology

- **Review of State/Territory documents:**
  - State and Territory Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) plans, FFY 2016-2018
  - FY2014 Quality Performance Reports

- Focus on reported efforts of States/Territories to support quality improvement for FCC providers.
- New rule puts emphasis on supporting quality.
- CCDF plans provide broad look at states' efforts prior to implementation of the new rule.
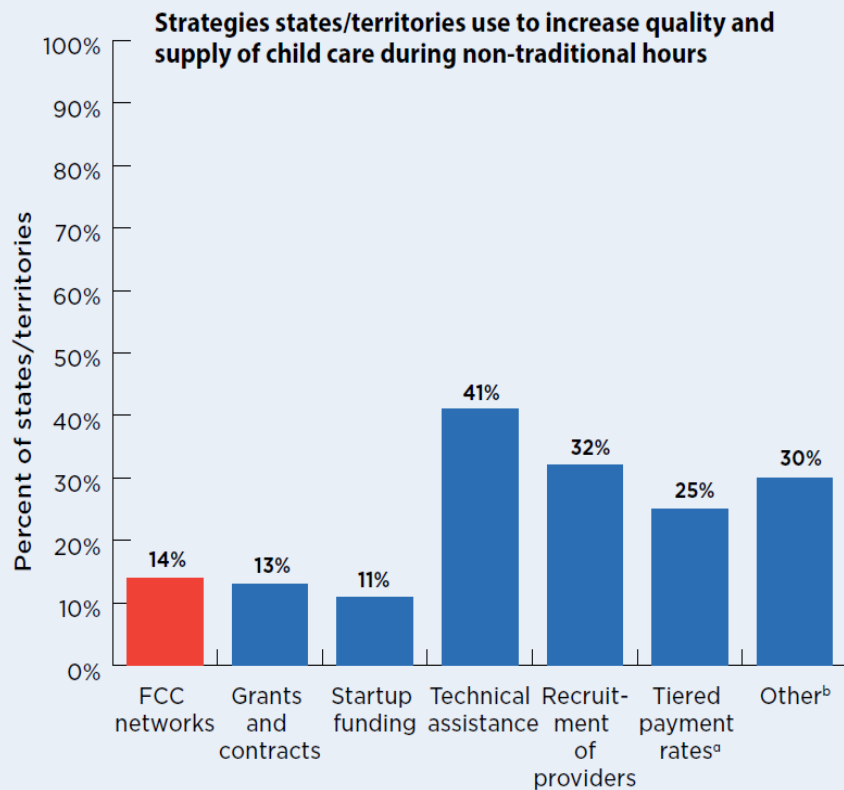
Definitions

- FCC Home/Program: one individual, providing child care services for fewer than 24 hours/day/child, in a private residence other than the child's (source: FY2014 QPR).

- FCC Network: an agency or organization with paid staff that offers supports and professional development to FCC providers over time.
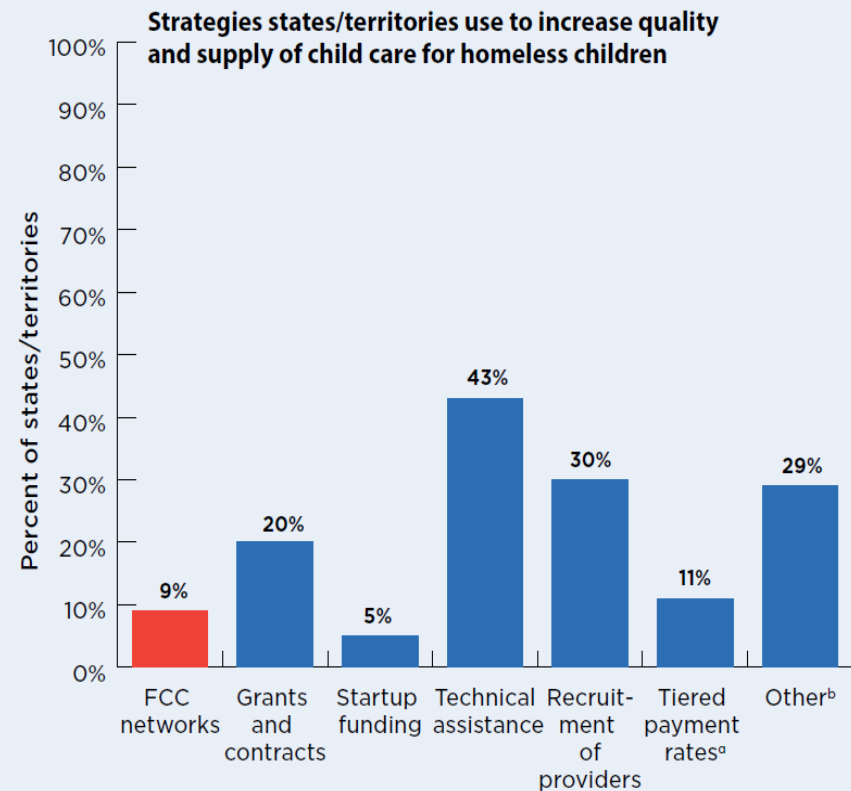 - States may have their own interpretation/definition of FCC Networks.

FCC Networks are one strategy used to increase quality and supply of child care

Children who receive care during non-traditional hours

Strategies states/territories use to increase quality and supply of child care during non-traditional hours

Percent of states/territories

- FCC networks: 14%
- Grants and contracts: 13%
- Startup funding: 11%
- Technical assistance: 41%
- Recruitment of providers: 32%
- Tiered payment rates[a]: 25%
- Other[b]: 30%

Homeless children

Strategies states/territories use to increase quality and supply of child care for homeless children

Percent of states/territories

- FCC networks: 9%
- Grants and contracts: 20%
- Startup funding: 5%
- Technical assistance: 43%
- Recruitment of providers: 30%
- Tiered payment rates[a]: 11%
- Other[b]: 29%
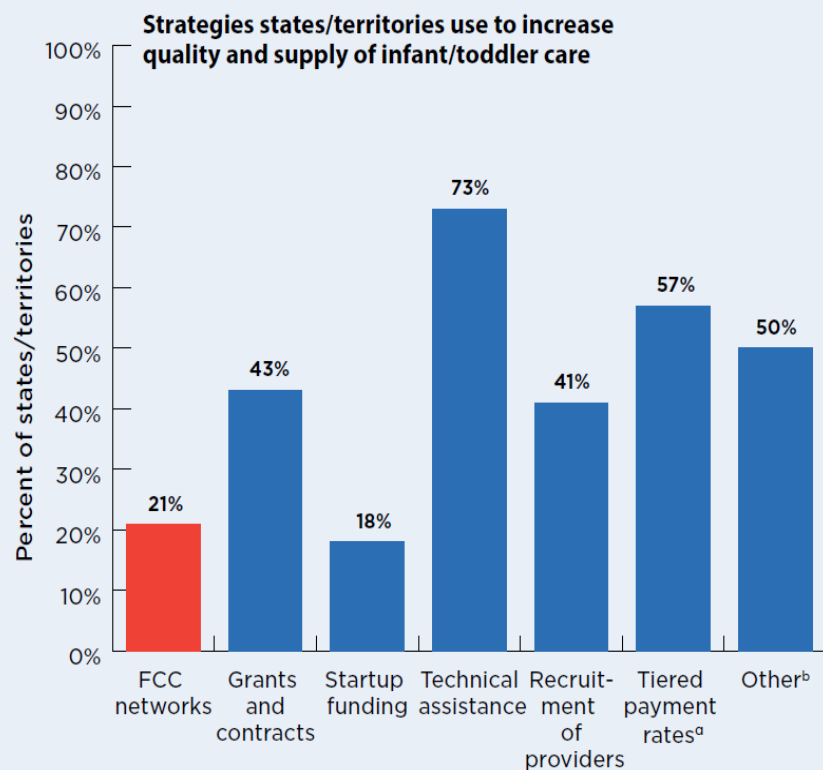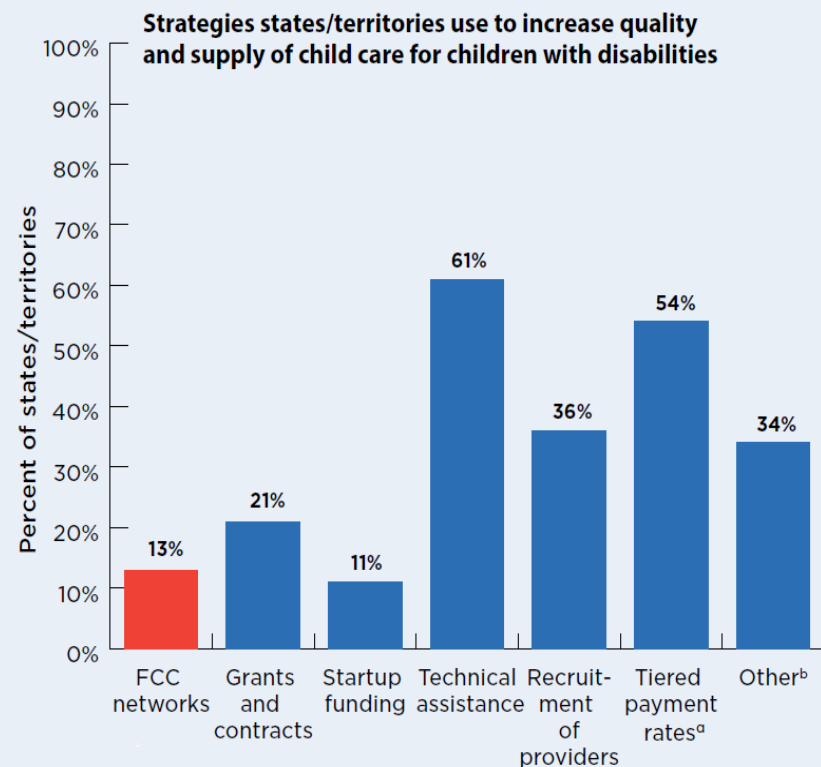
States/Territories are more likely to use FCC Networks to support infant/toddler care compared to other select populations

Infants and toddlers
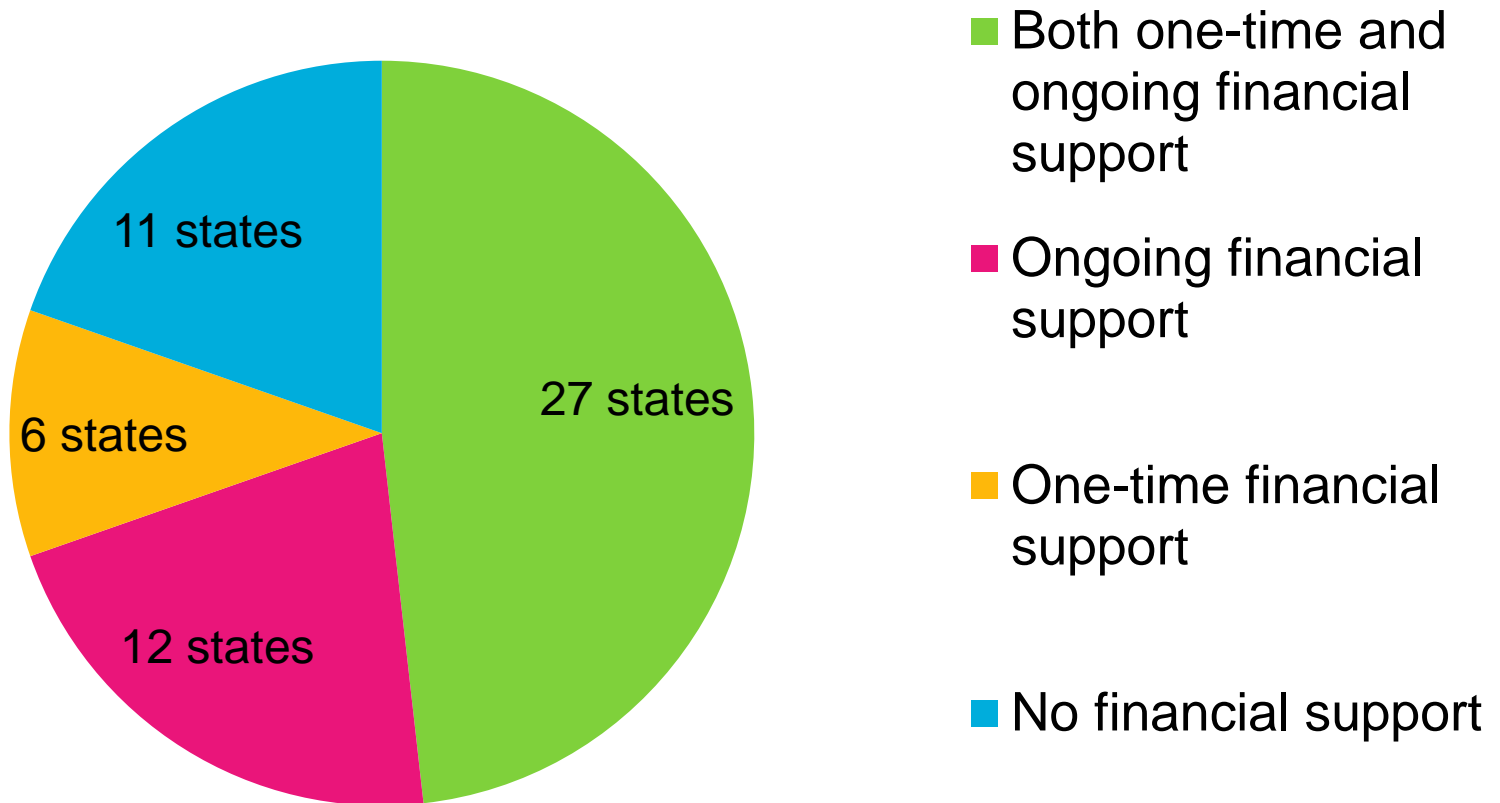
Strategies states/territories use to increase quality and supply of infant/toddler care

Strategy	Percent
FCC networks	21%
Grants and contracts	43%
Startup funding	18%
Technical assistance	73%
Recruitment of providers	41%
Tiered payment rates[a]	57%
Other[b]	50%

Children with disabilities

Strategies states/territories use to increase quality and supply of child care for children with disabilities

Strategy	Percent
FCC networks	13%
Grants and contracts	21%
Startup funding	11%
Technical assistance	61%
Recruitment of providers	36%
Tiered payment rates[a]	54%
Other[b]	34%

80% of States/Territories provide financial supports to FCC providers for quality improvement

Pie chart segments:
- 27 states (green) — Both one-time and ongoing financial support
- 12 states (pink) — Ongoing financial support
- 6 states (yellow) — One-time financial support
- 11 states (blue) — No financial support

Legend:
- Both one-time and ongoing financial support
- Ongoing financial support
- One-time financial support
- No financial support

82% of States/Territories require FCC providers to complete pre-service training

Pie chart:
- 10 states — Pre-service/orientation training not required
- 15 states — Less than 15 hours
- 14 states — 15-30 hours
- 5 states — 31-60 hours
- 12 states — Unspecified number of hours
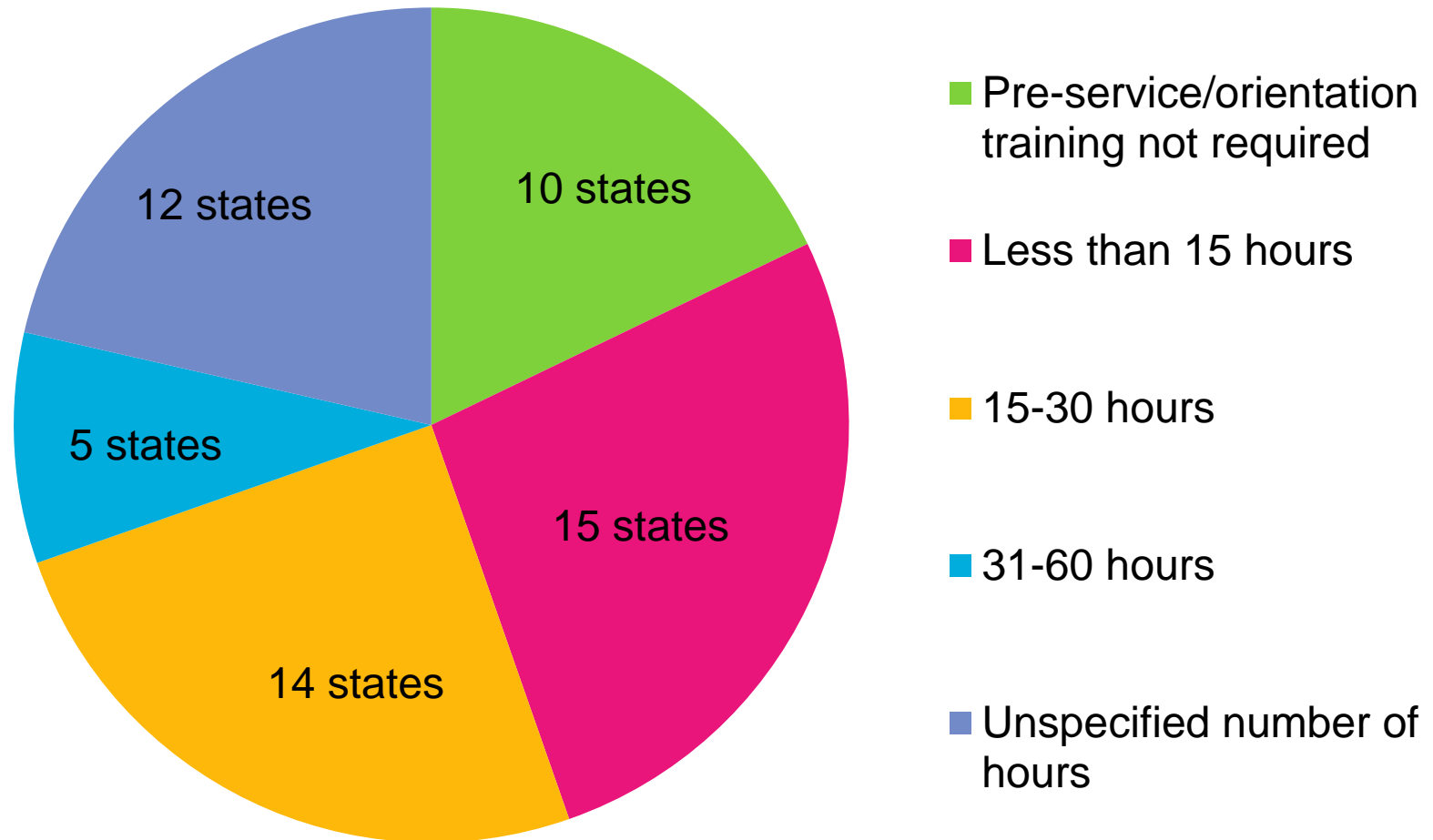
71% of States/Territories have the capacity to include FCC providers in their registry

- 3 states
- 2 states
- 5 states
- 6 states
- 40 states

Legend:
- Registry includes at least one FCC provider
- Registry participation is not tracked by provider type
- Registry implementation in progress
- No registry
- Registy does not include FCC participation
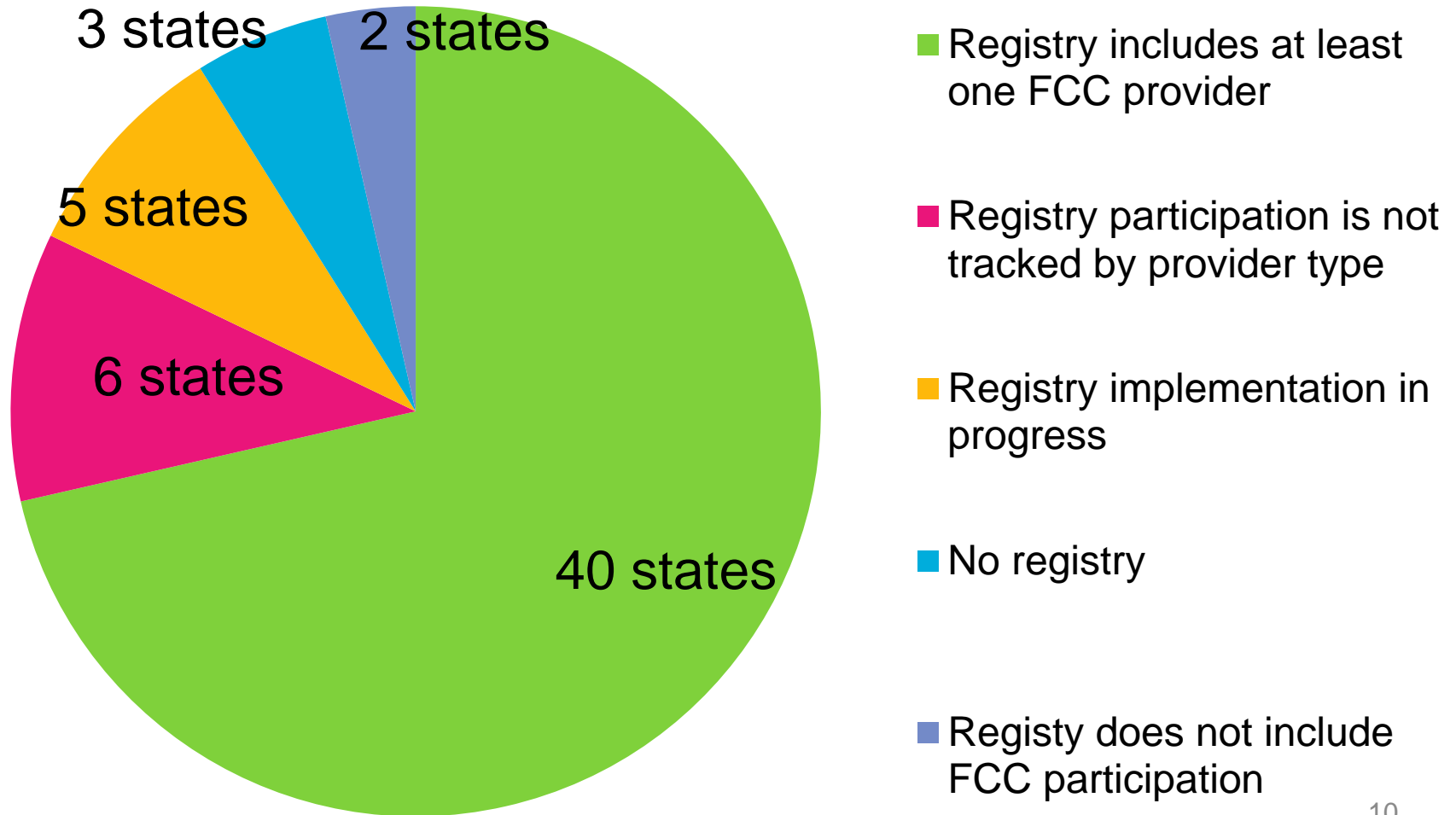
Summary

- States/Territories use a range of strategies, (e.g., FCC Networks) to build supply and quality.

- More information is needed to understand:
  - How States/Territories use these various strategies to support quality improvement for FCC providers
  - Which strategies are most effective at meeting the unique needs of FCC providers

- Findings suggest there are opportunities to help states bolster efforts to include FCC providers in registries.

THANK YOU

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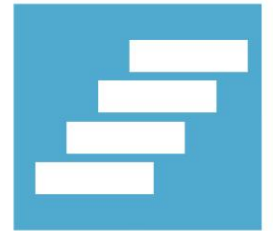
Building a Coordinated System of Support for Family Child Care:

Using Research to Inform Practice

Toni Porter and Juliet Bromer

Funded by the William Penn Foundation

CCEEPRC 2017 Annual Meeting

Impetus

- Two-year evaluation of a Philadelphia Family Child Care Network to identify future directions

- 2014 Child Care Development Block Grant re-authorization

- The supply of home-based child care in Philadelphia

Methods and Process

- Review of Philadelphia family child care licensing and QRIS data

- Family child care network evaluation

- Semi-structured interviews with Philadelphia child care agency stakeholders

- Two meetings of Philadelphia agency stakeholders that provide services to home-based child care providers

Meeting 1: Mapping Services

- Target population: FCC, FFN, QRIS, non-English-speakers

- Visits to providers' homes: pre-inspection, licensing, QRIS, Head Start/EHS, CCAFP, other

- Networking opportunities: peer support groups, cohorts

- Training and PD: workshops, CDA, scholarships

- Materials and Equipment

- Other: business supports, accreditation

Meeting 1: Mapping Services

	Agency	Agency
Target Population		
Licensed family child care		
Family, friend, & neighbor		
STARS providers		
Non-English speakers		
Inspection visits to provider homes (pre-licensing/ licensing renewal)		
Keystone STARS Coach visits		
Early Head Start/ Head Start visits		
Child Care & Adult Food Program visits		
Licensing/ Certification visits		
Other mentoring/coaching/ consultation visits		
Provider cohorts		
Peer support groups		
CDA for FCC		
One-time workshops		
Workshop / training series		
Scholarships, financial aid for training/education		
Health and safety equipment/materials		
Learning materials and equipment		
Mini grants		
Help with college degree attainment		
Accreditation support		
Referrals to other organizations		
Telephone assistance/ warm line		
Administrative help with regulatory systems and procedures		
Help with business practices and start up		
Mailings		
Website		

Meeting 1: Identifying Strengths

- Well-qualified staff with deep content expertise

- Stable fiscal management with efficient use of funding

- Track record of success

- Innovative program development and emerging efforts to support FFN caregivers

- Responsive policy environment

Meeting 1: Identifying Challenges

- Limited staff capacity and funding

- Building trust with providers

- Supports needed for non-English-speaking providers

- Clarifying initiative goals

- Lack of data sharing across agencies

Meeting 1:Collaboration Strategies

- Strategic partners to seek funding and collaborative funding strategies
- Cross-agency referrals to trainings & referrals for business start-up support
- Regular consistent gatherings of strategic partners
- Need to develop a continuum of services
- Help every organization become involved in advocacy efforts

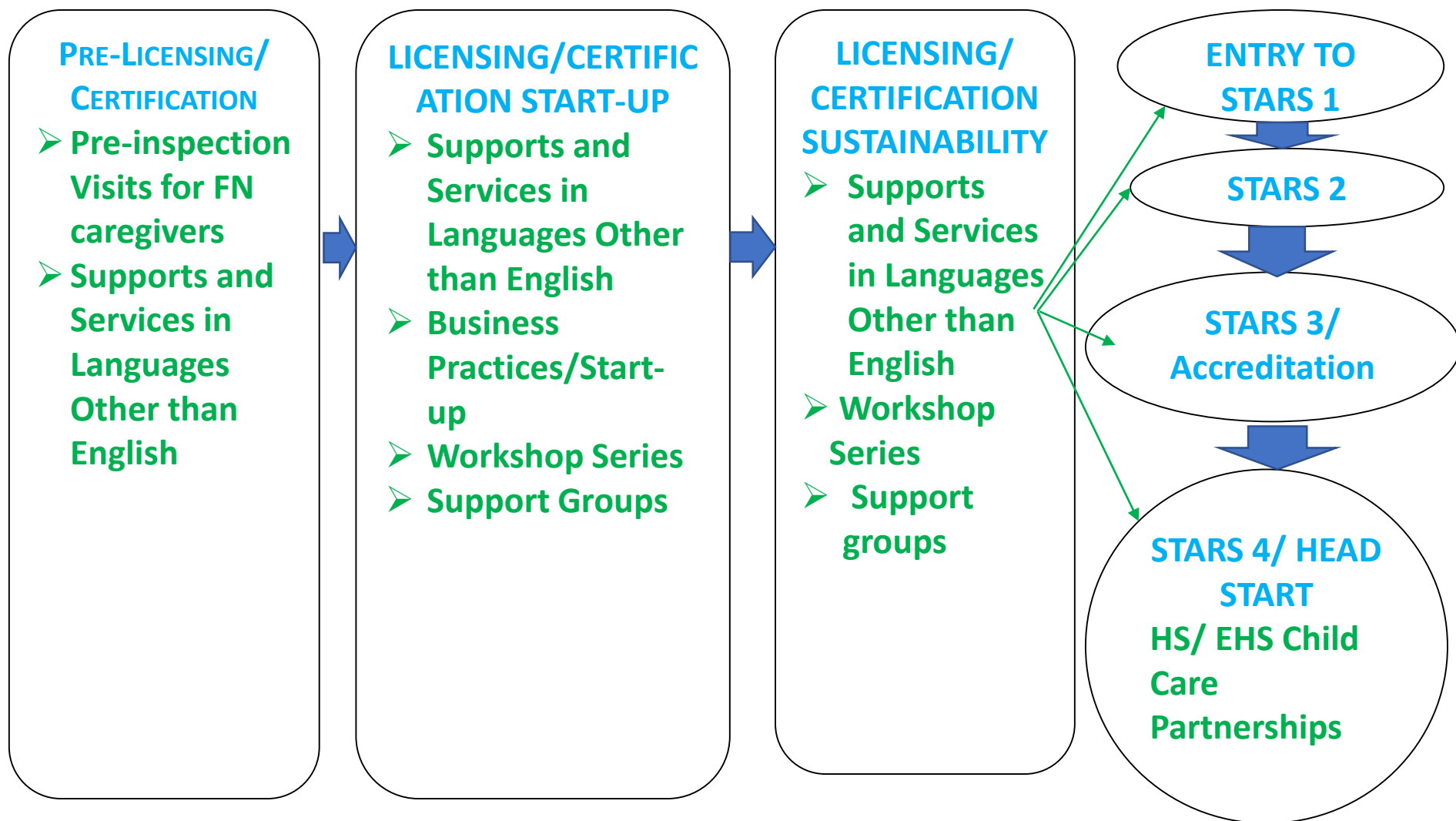# Meeting 2: Operationalizing Collaboration: The Referral Continuum: Existing Services

PRE-LICENSING/ CERTIFICATION

➤ **Screening for job fit (telephone pre-assessment)**

LICENSING/ CERTIFICATION START-UP

➤ **Government agencies:** health/fire safety visits, certification visits

➤ **Not-for-profits:** home visits, TA, start-up equipment and materials, CDA

➤ **Union:** required 6 training hours, CDA

➤ **Independent consultant:** training on licensing

LICENSING/ CERTIFICATION SUSTAINABILITY

Government: customized resource and referral/ home visits

CCR&R: tiered reimbursement

QRIS Level 1 "Move-Up Momentum"

QRIS Level 2 TA cohorts/ peer mentoring/ home visiting

QRIS Level 3 ACCREDITATION Support/ peer mentoring/ home visiting

QRIS Level 4/ HEAD START Mentor

Meeting 2: Operationalizing Collaboration: The Referral Continuum: Gaps in Services

PRE-LICENSING/ CERTIFICATION
- ➤ **Pre-inspection Visits for FN caregivers**
- ➤ **Supports and Services in Languages Other than English**

LICENSING/CERTIFICATION START-UP
- ➤ **Supports and Services in Languages Other than English**
- ➤ **Business Practices/Start-up**
- ➤ **Workshop Series**
- ➤ **Support Groups**

LICENSING/ CERTIFICATION SUSTAINABILITY
- ➤ **Supports and Services in Languages Other than English**
- ➤ **Workshop Series**
- ➤ **Support groups**

ENTRY TO STARS 1

STARS 2

STARS 3/ Accreditation

STARS 4/ HEAD START
HS/ EHS Child Care Partnerships

Implications

Research:

- Understanding the QI services landscape from a wide range of perspectives
  - Systems level
  - Agency level
  - Staff level
  - Provider level
- Identifying impetus for change

Implications

Practice:

- Providing opportunities for honest, open, safe shared understanding of service delivery among stakeholders (Joint Services Mapping)

- Viewing QI through the provider lens (The "Referral Continuum")

- Building a community-wide coordinated agency approach for supporting family child care as an alternative to a single-agency model (Joint Theory of Change logic model)

Discussion

Themes:

1. How *do* we, and how *should* we, think about strategies?

2. Need to define our terms

3. Need new models that expand how we measure QI strategies for FCC providers