Strengthening Vulnerable Families Through Early Care and Education

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Overview

- Federal role
- National evaluation findings
- Arkansas experience’s in system building
- New Hampshire’s experience
- Question and answer
Research Findings on Comprehensive Systems

- Keys to successful collaborations
  - Alignment of vision and goals
  - Good communication
  - Processes and systems to support coordination
  - Continuous improvement processes
Federal Perspective

• The Child Care Bureau and the Children's Bureau share similar goals
  • To promote optimal child development and strong, healthy families
  • Key to these goals is the provision of training and technical assistance and research-based policy and practice
Federal Perspective

- The Child Care Bureau supports coordination and system integration that increases access to a range of high quality early care and education settings.

  - A priority of *Good Start, Grow Smart* is to facilitate access to services through collaborative efforts across early childhood programs and funding streams.

  - State, Territory and Tribal administrators are partnering with many entities—at the local, state, and national levels, in the public and private sector, to meet the needs of children and families.
Strengthening Families Initiative

• 23 States are currently involved with the Strengthening Families Initiative and a growing number will access the resources or become part of the Learning Network.

• AR and NH are examples of States that have integrated the principles of SFI—to strengthen family protective factors and children’s social-emotional health—into training and other mechanisms to improve the quality of child care, particularly for low-income families.