

# **Professional Development Strategies, Systems, and Measures**

**Professional Development Strategies  
that Support Outcomes for Families**

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# Why Focus on Family Outcomes?

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- **Increase access and choice for low-income families**
- **Support parents' employment and ability to balance work and family**
- **Provide parenting support and child development information**
- **Increase congruence between home and child care**

# What Requirements Are in Place to Support Family Outcomes?

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- **Quality Rating Systems**
- **Accreditation**
  - NAEYC
  - NAFCC
  - NAA
- **Head Start Program Performance Standards**

# What Supports Do Child Care Providers Offer to Families?

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- **Help with the subsidy system**
- **Parenting advice and child development information**
- **Referrals to other services and resources**
- **Flexible hours and logistical support**
- **Material goods for children and families**

# What Professional Development Strategies Are Available?

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## Professional Development Topics

- Communication with parents and relationship building
- Cultural competence in working with families
- Developing family partnerships
- Family support strategies
- Community resources

## Resources

- Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center  
<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc>
- National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center  
<http://www.nectac.org/topics/families/families.asp>
- State systems

# Questions and Next Steps

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- **Should our conceptualization of quality include support for parents?**
  - How comprehensive should child care be, especially for low-income families?
- **What are child care providers already doing for families?**
  - How does this differ across settings? Ages of children?
  - What are the implications for parent choice?
  - What are the benefits and burdens of providing support for parents from providers' perspectives?

# Questions and Next Steps

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- **What training, support, and resources do child care providers need to support parents?**
  - **What are the options for delivering this support? Subsidy system? QRIS systems?**
- **What partnerships might facilitate increased parent support?**
- **What outcomes would be expected for parents, children, providers?**