

Professional Development Strategies, Systems and Measures

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Supporting Providers

- Broad surveys of CCDF-quality initiatives
- Evaluations of results
- Research questions

National Studies

- *Assessing Child Care Development Fund Investments in Quality: A Study of Selected Initiatives (2002)*
- *Investing in Quality: A Survey of State Child Care and Development Fund Initiatives*
- *Supporting Family, Friend and Neighbor Caregivers: Findings from a Survey of State Policies*

Survey Findings

Objectives:

- Improving health and safety
- Stimulating materials and supplies
- Activities that support early learning
- Emotionally supportive and responsive caregiving
- Continuity in relationships with children
- Increased training
- Increased formal education
- Communication with parents
- Family supports

Outcomes:

- Improved environment (healthy, safe, stimulating, nurturing)
- Increased provider knowledge
- Improved provider practice
- Strengthened professionalism
- Increased economic well-being
- Improved psychological well-being

Survey Findings

- Professional development: most frequently identified primary objective (2005 study)
 - 16 % strengthening the system
 - 11% providing caregiver training
 - 8% providing formal education for caregivers
- Professional development and training: half of the initiatives for family, friend and neighbor caregivers (2004 study)
- Professional development : largest number of programs (2002 study)

Evaluations

Survey Findings

- Most commonly data collected by CCDF initiatives: number and characteristics of participants, changes in provider qualification
- Most common data collection design: implementation and tracking key indicators over time
- Most common data source: administrative records

Evaluations:

- Effects of training
- Effects of professional development
- Effects of home visiting

Questions to Consider

Evaluating Strategies

- Who are the providers?
- Who are the service delivery organizations?
- Who provides the training/ professional development/ home visiting?
- What does training/professional development/home visiting look like?
- What outcomes are assessed?
- What measures are used to assess training/professional development/home visiting?

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