



# Early Head Start Child Care Partnership

**Pre-bid Meeting**

**May 25, 2017**

**Kim Krzanowski, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning**  
**Christine Anderson, Education Associate, Office of Early Learning**



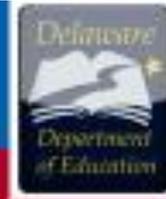
**Delaware**  
Department of Education

# Agenda

## Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of Head Start/Early Head Start/Early Head Start Child Care Partnership
- Overview of the Office of Early Learning
- Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership Process
- Questions and Responses

# History of Head Start



- Summer program “Project Head Start” began in 1965 as part of the War on Poverty.
- Head Start was designed to help break the cycle of poverty, providing preschool children of low-income families with a comprehensive program to meet their emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs.



# History of Head Start and Early Head Start

- In 1977, under the Carter administration, Head Start began bilingual and bicultural programs in about 21 states.
- In September of 1995, under the Clinton administration, the first Early Head Start grants were given.



# History of Head Start and Early Head Start

- Head Start was most recently reauthorized again in 2007, under the George W. Bush administration, with several provisions to strengthen Head Start quality.
- In 2009, under the Obama administration, the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act added more than 64,000 slots for Early Head Start and Head Start programs.



# History of Head Start and Early Head Start



- Head Start has served nearly 30 million children since 1965, growing from an eight-week demonstration project to include full day/year services and many program options.
- Currently, Head Start is administered by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in the Department of Health and Human Services.



# LBJ State of Union War on Poverty



# The Office of Early Learning

## VISION STRUCTURE PROGRAMS



# OEL Programs

- First Start Delaware Grant 1
- Early Childhood Assistance Program
- Parents as Teachers Home-visiting
- T.E.A.C.H.® Early Childhood Delaware
- WAGES\$
- Delaware First
- Delaware Stars for Success
- Tiered Reimbursement
- Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants
- Ages and Stages Screening
- Teaching Strategies Gold
- Professional Development via DIEEC

# First Start Delaware

- The State of Delaware is committed to providing comprehensive early childhood services to at-risk infants and toddlers who live in poverty, including services in support of their families.
- Through funding provided by the Office of the Administration of Children and Families, has established First Start Delaware Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership (FSD EHS-CCP) to support this effort.

# Benefits of EHS-CCP

- The EHS-CCP program brings together the strengths of child care and EHS programs.
- Child care centers and family child care providers respond to the needs of working families by offering flexible and convenient full-day/full-year services.
- EHS is a research-based program that emphasizes the importance of responsive and caring relationships to support the optimal development of infants and toddlers.
- EHS provides comprehensive family-centered services that adhere to the Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS) to support high-quality learning environments.

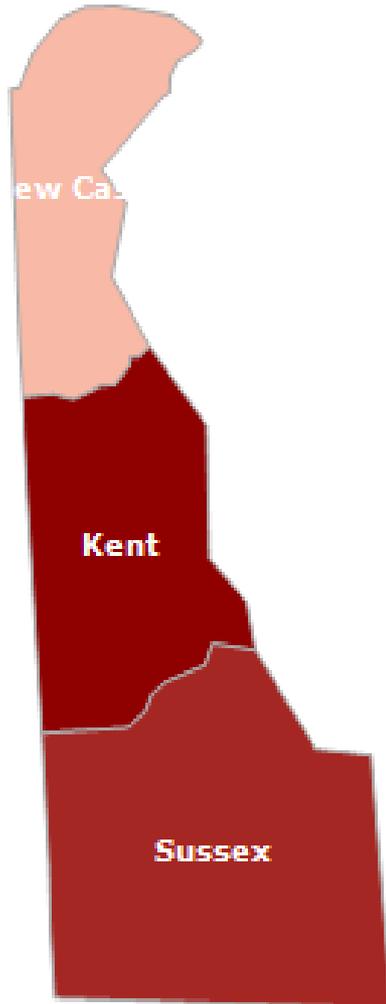
# Benefits of EHS-CCP

- Enhances and supports early learning settings to provide comprehensive and continuous services.
- Increases access to high-quality, full-day, full-year child care, including family child care, for low-income working families.
- Supports the development of infants and toddlers through strong relationship-based experiences and prepares them for the transition into Head Start and preschool.

# Benefits of EHS-CCP

- EHS-CCP children are eligible for direct family-specific benefits such as home visits, health tracking and follow-up, and individualized family support services.
- EHS-CCP programs operationalize services to ensure there is no segregation or stigmatization of EHS-CCP children due to the additional requirements or services.
- Brings together the best of EHS and child care through layering of funding.

# Service Areas: Kent and Sussex County



All of the zip codes in  
Kent and Sussex  
Counties are eligible.

# Application Timeline

The proposed schedule of events subject to the RFP is outlined below:

- Public Notice: **May 18, 2017**
- Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting: **May 25, 2017**
- Deadline for Questions: **June 8, 2017**
- Response to Questions Posted: **June 15, 2017**
- Deadline for Receipt of Proposals: **June 29, 2017 at 2:00 PM (EST)**
- Estimated Notification of Award: **July 2017**
- Services anticipated to begin: **October 1, 2017**

# Process

- Cost of Care Estimation
- Contracts over/under 50,000 annually
- Supports for providers to ensure the following through training and technical assistance and family engagement/support services

# EHS-Child Care Partnership Start-up Support

- Start up funds to enhance or improve:
  - Staff qualifications
  - Environments – Group Size and Ration
  - Health and Safety materials
  - Substitutes
  - Playgrounds
  - Parent engagement materials
  - Technology
  - Food Service

Will be added as a separate budget, NOT part of application

# EHS-Child Care Partnership Criteria

- Delaware Stars for Success
  - Targeting four and five star centers and family child care providers
- Participate in Layered Funding
  - Purchase of Care
  - Early Head Start Funding
  - CACFP
  - Tiered Reimbursement

# Group Size, Infant/Toddler-Teacher Ratios and Continuity of Care

- A minimum of 10 hours a day/max of 12 hours of day
- Ratio of 4 children to each staff
- Maximum group size of 8 children, regardless of the age of children grouped together.
- Continuity of Care
- Same core group of staff consistently work with the enrolled Early Head Start Children

*Note: Children can remain in Family Child Care Homes through age 4 years*

# Staffing Qualifications

- EHS centers use 2 primary staff positions, **both** teachers.
- **Center Based Teachers:**
  - Must have a minimum of an Infant -Toddler Child Development Associate (CDA) or a comparable credential or a preschool CDA (or comparable credential) with training in infant toddler development.
- **Family Child Care Teachers:**
  - Teachers must have previous early child care experience and, at a minimum, enroll in a Child Development Associate (CDA) program, an Associate's degree program, or Bachelor's degree program in child development within six months of beginning service.
  - Must acquire the credential or degree within two years of beginning service.
  - Staff must be paid a minimum of the federal minimum wage - \$10.10

# Professional Development

- All staff will have professional development plans that are updated annually.
- Staff will participate in annual professional development, provided by the grant.
- First Start Delaware staff will create a Training and Technical Assistance Plan to determine and provide ongoing support.

# Child Development

## Screening

- Screening for health, developmental, sensory, and behavioral concerns must occur in collaboration with each child's parent, and within 45 calendar days of the child's entry into the program.
- FSD has selected to use the Ages and Stages (SE) Questionnaire
- If needed, programs will receive guidance from a mental health or child development professional on how to use the screening results to address identified needs

# Child Development

## Child Assessment

- Programs will use Teaching Strategies GOLD as an assessment tool and to meet program reporting requirements
- Frequent and ongoing assessment is required to provide feedback to teachers and parents so they may adjust their practices and activities with children to meet their needs and fill developmental gaps
- Reporting progress through a formal method of child outcomes reporting must be conducted in accordance with the assessment protocol and begin at the time of the child's enrollment

# Child Development

## Curriculum

- Programs must use a curriculum that is research-based is aligned with the Delaware Early Learning Foundations and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework
- Implement a relationship based approach to child development that addresses the domains of cognitive, social-emotional, language, motor, and self-help skills.
- Support social-emotional development by establishing trusting relationships inclusive of children's cultural, and ethnic backgrounds.
- Include parents in program planning and provide them with opportunities to expand their knowledge and understanding of child development, observation, and assessment.

# Early Head Start Standards

- ERSEA
  - Prioritization of children/families
- Comprehensive services
  - Family Engagement
  - Health and Safety
  - Mental Health
  - Nutrition
  - Transition

# Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, Attendance

- FSD has developed a list of priorities for enrollment.
- Children are eligible up to their third birthday.
- Children may remain in the program through the end of the program year in which they turn three years of age or the time when their same aged peers would be enrolling in preschool programs.

# Eligibility

- Families must receive POC/Subsidy and meet the low income definition which is defined as 100% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines at the time of enrollment.
- Children who, over the course of the program year, lose their eligibility for POC/ Subsidy will be supported through the remainder of the program year through the FSD grant.
- Children must attend a minimum of 85% of the month
- Overall, 10% of the total number of FSD children statewide must have a diagnosed disability and/or and Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP)

# Family Engagement

- Family Engagement is a cornerstone of the Head Start framework, sometimes referred to as a two-generational approach.
- Family Engagement/Family Support services are provided to the FSD families through arrangements made by the Office of Early Learning
- Families are provided an opportunity to be an advocate for their children's development

# Safety

- Policies and procedures to respond to medical and dental emergencies.
- Daily site safety scan and ongoing site safety checklists, specific to the infant and toddler age group.
- Emergency plans, phone numbers, evacuation routes are developed and posted in the facility.
- Methods/systems of handling potential child abuse and neglect in accordance with federal, state and local laws.

# Health

- Enrolled families will be supported to be connected primary health care (medical home) for completion of routine health screenings, including vision, hearing, and lead toxicity screenings and an ongoing source of dental care (dental home).
- Follow up and documentation of medical and dental exams along with immunizations, treatments, referrals, etc. and tracking of services.
- Hand washing procedures in accordance with Head Start Performance Standards; AAP and Child care guidelines.
- Diapering procedures in accordance with the diaper changing instructions (as per the Caring for Our Children, 3rd Edition).

# Mental Health

Support of mental health services will be provided by FSD/OEL and/or its contractors to include:

- A regular schedule of on-site mental health consultation involving a mental health professional, staff, and parents.
- Responsive program practices to the identified behavioral and/or mental health concerns of individual or groups of children.
- Promote children's mental wellness through group and individual staff and parent education on mental health issues.
- Assistance for children with atypical behavior or development.
- Guidance in how to utilize community mental health resources.

# Nutrition

- No charges to the families for formula, meals or snacks, cereal and baby food provided (or diapers/wipes).
- Programs must participate in an USDA food reimbursement program. Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Full day settings must provide meals and snacks that provide at least 2/3 of the children's daily nutritional needs.
- Meals must be provided in a family-style setting and include staff and volunteers unless there are dietary restrictions.

# Nutrition

- Infants must be held during feeding. They must be fed “on demand” to the extent possible at regular intervals.
- Support will be provided through FSD/OEL and/or its contractors to provide a Nutrition Assessment for each family upon entering the program.
- Nutrition information will be provided to families in their primary language, to the extent possible.

# Transition

Programs must establish and maintain procedures to support successful transitions into and from Early Head Start into a preschool program, or other child care settings.

- Ensure that individual children's relevant records are transferred to the next placement
- Outreach to encourage communication between Early Head Start staff and their counterparts in the other child care settings to facilitate continuity of programming
- Initiating meetings involving teachers and parents to discuss the developmental progress and abilities of individual children
- Initiating joint transition-related training for Early Head Start staff and school or other child development staff

# EHS-CC Partnership Next Steps

## Next Steps:

- Your program is now invited to complete the RFP process.
- The DDOE's RFP review panel will determine eligibility for your program to begin negotiating a partnership.

# EHS-CC Partnership

Any and all addition questions after the conclusion of this pre-bid meeting must be addressed to Meaghan Brennan – contact information on the RFP.

For more information on the EHS-CC Partnerships please visit:

[Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center](#)

# EHS-CC Partnership Pre-bid Meeting Questions

## Pre-bid Meeting Questions