



Arkansas Department of Human Services



Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
Office of the Director

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-140 Little Rock, AR 72203-1437 • 501-682-0494 • Fax: 501-683-6060 • TDD: 501-682-1550

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 25, 2008

TO: AECC COMMISSIONERS

FROM: TONYA RUSSELL, DCC&ECE

SUBJECT: SCHEDULED AECC MEETING –July 15, 2008

I am pleased to inform you of the scheduled meeting for the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission on Tuesday, July 15, 2008. This meeting will be held in Downtown Little Rock at 700 Main Street (Donaghey Plaza South). The parking deck is located on Main Street between 7th and 8th. Please use the public parking entrance and once you have received your parking ticket from the attendant see Licensing Unit to validate it. The meeting will be held on the 1st floor in conference room A at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served for all Commissioners.

The attachments items for the April meeting which includes the January minutes for your review are located on . Please print items and bring to meeting.

Please notify Tenesha Barnes if you will not be able to attend. The contact number is 501-682-0494.

Thank you for your time and attention.

TR/tb

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
Human Services
 Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

Vision	Arkansas citizens are healthy, safe and enjoy a high quality of life.
Mission	Together we improve the quality of life of all Arkansans by protecting the vulnerable, fostering independence and promoting better health.
Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Every person matters. ▪ Our job is to empower people to help themselves. ▪ Our focus is on our clients' success. ▪ People and their communities deserve good health and a clean and safe environment. ▪ We have a responsibility to provide knowledge and services that work. ▪ Partnering with communities is essential to the health and well-being of Arkansas.

AGENDA

Arkansas Early Childhood Commission

July 15, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.

Donaghey Plaza South, 700 Main Street, Conference Room A

I. Call to Order/Reading of Mission Statement

Debbie Malone

Mission Statement: As good stewards of the public trust, we will support and advise the Division by ensuring that all Arkansas children and their families have access to a safe, high-quality, developmentally appropriate, nurturing, learning environment and by educating and assisting parents, child care providers, and communities to prepare our children for future success. (Adopted October 1999)

II. Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2008 Meeting

Motion by _____, Seconded by _____

III. New Business

- Presentation of services offer to educational community/parents- Karen Walker
- Quality Work Group-Kathy Stegall

IV. Old Business

IV. Division Reports

- A. Staff Introductions
- B. Division Report
- C. Compliance Update
- D. Arkansas Better Chance
- E. Early Childhood Health
- F. Special Nutrition Update
- G. Family Support Update
- H. Program Support Update
- J. Licensing Update
- K. Finance Report

DCC Administrators
 Tonya Russell
 Paul Lazenby/
 Mike Saxby
 Jamie Morrison
 Martha Hiett
 Curtis Curry
 Ivory Daniels
 Kathy Stegall
 David Griffin
 Sam Lamey

VII. Information and Other Business

- Public Comments
- Next meeting: October 21, 2008

VII. Adjourn

Arkansas Early Childhood Commission

April 15, 2008

10:00 am

Minutes

Members Present: Debbie Malone, Janice Dancer, Debbie Mays, Jerry Hudlow, Suellen Ward, Tammy Cloyes (representing Dee Cox), Eleanor Coleman, Evelyn Bass, Bruce Cohen, Jeff Maneth, Jody Edrington, Dick Nugent, Mary Scott, Glenda Reeding, Missy Duke and Karen Marshall (representing Brian Faulkner).

Members Absent: Paul Human

I. Call to Order/Reading of Mission Statement

The April 2008 meeting of the AECC was called to order by Debbie Malone, Chair. A quorum of members was noted. The mission statement of the Commission was read. Debbie Malone introduced new commissioners who were not able to attend the January meeting; Glenda Redding and Mary Scott are both new to the AECC. Additionally it was noted that Tammy Cloyes was representing Dee Cox and Karen Marshall was representing Brian Faulkner.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the January 2008 meeting were reviewed. Mary Scott moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Suellen Ward. The motion carried.

III. New Business

Debbie Mays, Commissioner and Family Child Care/ABC provider shared information that further defined what family child care is all about. Debbie was appointed by Representative Mike Kenney. The presentation gave insight and a personal touch to explain quality care in a family home setting, how quality is evident in family child care and why many parents prefer family child care for their children.

Committee appointments were discussed. As new members have joined the Commission they were given the opportunity to volunteer to serve on the standing committees. The following committees and appointments were made:

- Nominations: Janice Dancer, Missy Duke and Evelyn Bass
- Finance: Suellen Ward, Jerry Hudlow and Barbara Gilkey
- Program: Mary Scott and Brian Faulkner
- Appeal Panel: Jeff Maneth

IV. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

V. Division Reports

A. Staff Introductions

Mike Saxby introduced a new employee in the Compliance Unit, Tanesha Ford. She will be working as a support staff for Compliance.

B. Director's Report

Tonya Russell presented information from the newly released NIEER report. Arkansas has been ranked 9 of 10 for quality indicators by the National Institute for Early Education Research. Arkansas has been ranked 4th in the nation for access to high quality programs for children three years of age and is ranked 15th in the nation for access for children 4 years of age.

Arkansas has been selected to participate in a National Governor's Association Symposium addressing current research and best practices related to children birth to five years. An eight member team will attend the sessions at Harvard in late June. Team members will represent the Governor's staff, legislators and community/economic development.

A preliminary report on the ABC Longitudinal Study will be released in the next two months. It will be available on the Division web site.

Based on the interest voiced by members of the Commission, information on Advocacy efforts related to early care and education issues will be invited to present at the July meeting. Presenters may include representatives from AR Advocates for Children and Families or the Invest Early Coalition.

An Interim Study Committee has been meeting to consider issues surrounding teacher licensure for persons working with children in early care and education. Currently the State Department of Education issues a P-4 teacher license. This Interim Study group has been considering recommendations for a process that would establish a credential or certification for teachers of children birth to five years. Initial discussions will be held with the Senate and House Education committee in May in preparation for the January 2009 Legislative session.

The Division will begin work on annual operating budgets and initial work on developing a biennial budget for July 09 through June of 2011. There have been discussions around the biennial budgets and state funding due to the current economic outlook. Because the Division has very little state general revenue the effect is projected to be minimal. The major issue facing

DCCECE is the continued flat line funding from the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) which directly affects the subsidy and quality initiatives through our Division.

C. Program Support-Kathy Stegall

Information on initiatives with the Program Support/Development unit was shared in the packets. This included an update on the work of the Governor's Task Force on Best Practices for School Age and Summer Programs, Town Hall type meetings being co-sponsored by the Division and the Child Care Referral and Resource agencies, Arkansas Children Week activities including Family Play Days, stats on web site usage and the new enhancement grant application.

A recommendation regarding the Outstanding Early Childhood Professionals of 2008 was presented. Suellen Ward, Missy Duke and Debbie Mays served as reviewers of the nominated OECP. Based on the reviews, the following were recommended: Dr. Belinda Shook, Superintendent of Beebe Public Schools; Kay Calvert, Instructor at Ouachita Baptist University; Kathi Bergman, Child Development Manager with the BRAD Head Start agency and Meredith O'Hara, Child Care Liaison with the United Methodist Church Arkansas Conference. Motion was made and carried to approve the recommendations of the Review committee. Notifications will be made.

D. Family Support-Ivory Daniels

Ivory Daniels reported that staff within the Family Support Unit have been reassigned and trained to serve specific county/areas and will be fully responsible for all types of child care vouchers in their assigned areas. Previously, eligibility staff had specialty areas, but with this adjustment they will be able to handle all vouchers in their assigned areas. There are currently over 5,000 children on the waiting list for services. The Division is reviewing recommendation for Child Care Development Fund funding to ensure that Arkansas is serving as many children /families as possible with limited funding.

E. Special Nutrition—Curtis Curry

Federal Reviews have been completed on the SNP program. The financial and ME reviews were smooth and an excellent report was received. The Summer Feeding Program staff has made over 500 contacts with schools, community based programs and faith based programs in preparation for the summer program. All SNP applications are now available on-line and 125 applications have entered the system and as of April 15, 10 have been approved.

F. Licensing Update—David Griffin

David reported a recent success for the Licensing and Accreditation unit. The joint application data design has taken two years to complete and the process for using tablets to go paperless will be complete by the end of May.

Challenges facing the unit include the process of revising the licensing standards to comply with legislative changes from the 2007 General Assembly. These changes include the Emergency Preparedness Act and the Clean Air Act. Once the revisions to meet law changes are implemented, a full review and revision process will begin.

G. Finance Report—Sam Lamey

Sam reported again the concerns on flat line funding for the CCDF program. The ABC Administration will be able to expend the full 2% administrative costs. Special Language is in place for a 7.5 million transfer from TANF to the Division, but there is no indication that the Division should place this in our July 08 operational budget.

Karen Marshall questioned that \$24-26 million is being spent on TEA/ESS child care subsidy and only 7.5 million was transferred to the Division. Sam responded that our expectation is that 7.5 million will be transferred.

H. Compliance Unit-Mike Saxby

The compliance unit continues to support all areas of the Division by ensuring swift action is taken when payment errors, billing errors and fraudulent activity is noted.

I. Early Childhood Health—Martha Hiett

The Immunization Registry operated by the Department of Health is operational and access is being made available for child care providers. FitKids Activity Kits were developed in a partnership with WIC. The Activity Kits are being used in family child care and child care centers to support fitness and nutrition for children and families. Health initiatives are being focused on system wide changes to include screening, EPSDT expansion, and the mental health needs for young children.

J. Arkansas Better Chance-Jamie Morrison

Jamie reported that currently there are two vacancies for ABC Program Specialists and interviews will begin. During the ABC grant application process, 315 new and existing applications were reviewed. Recommendations will be finalized by May 15, with State Board of Education review at their June meeting. The Rules and Regulations for ABC Program Operation were in a public comment period during March. They were presented to the April State Board of Education for approval with no written opposition during the hearing process. Review by Legislative Committees and Legislative Council will occur prior to final implementation.

VI. Information and Other Business

Karen Marshall asked if the cost of QRS implementation has been determined and what funding would support this program. The Division is working to

analyze necessary costs related to QRS and once an implementation plan is in place, this information will be shared. Even though funding is limited, the Division will continue to plan for improving quality.

The next meeting of the AECC is to be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2008.

VII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Jody Edrington and seconded by Mary Scott.

ARKANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMISSION

COMMITTEES

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1. JANICE DANCER
2. MISSY DUKE
3. EVELYN BASS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. SUELLEN WARD
2. JERRY HUDLOW
3. BABARA GILKEY

APPEAL COMMITTEE

1. JEFF MANETH
2. VACANT
3. VACANT

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

1. VACANT (Mary Scott)
2. VACANT (Brain Faulkner-term ended)

Licensed and Registered Sites

- **Purpose:** Provide an update on currently licensed and registered child care sites as of June 1, 2008
- **Background/Discussion:**
 - Licensed child care centers – 2087
 - Licensed child care family homes – 776
 - Registered child care family homes – 83
 - Total licensed and registered sites – 2946
 - Current child care center capacity – 162,314
 - Current child care family home capacity – 8,993
 - Current registered child care family home capacity – 432
 - Total licensed and registered capacity – 171,739
- **Current Status:**
 - Analysis ongoing and updated monthly

Technology

- **Purpose:** Provide an update on progress in the area of information/technology
- **Background/Discussion:**
 - Licensing computer system (CLEAN)
 - In July 2007, Licensing staff began working with Northrop Grumman (NG) to develop a new, enhanced licensing computer system that will be web based (expected completion for the project is January 2010)
 - A new user manual will be developed to reflect the changes in the system
 - In September 2007, Licensing staff and NG began work to develop a new computer system. The development phase was completed in February and the project is now in the programming phase. User testing will be the next phase.
 - Tablet computers
 - Licensing field staff are currently using the tablet computers to collect field data. Conversion to “paperless” monitoring began in May, 2008.
 - Updated tablets are being purchased to replace older equipment.
 - Quality Rating System (QRS)
 - Joint application and development (JAD) sessions have been completed and final development of the QRS computer system will be completed in conjunction with the completion of the changes in the Licensing computer system (CLEAN)
 - Options for economic incentives for the first three levels of quality contained within QRS are being explored
- **Current Status:**
 - Several committees are working concurrently to insure that each of these systems are efficient and compatible and that support pieces will be in place prior to deployment.

Quality Approved Sites

- **Purpose:** Provide an update on the current number of quality approved facilities as of January 2008
- **Background/Discussion:**
 - Quality approved child care centers – 537
 - Quality approved child care family homes – 26
 - Total quality approved sites – 563
 - New quality applications – 8
 - Percentage of quality approved child care centers – 26%
 - Number of children being served in quality approved centers – 39,255
 - Number of children being served in quality approved homes - 386
- **Current Status:**
 - Analysis ongoing and updated monthly

Critical Licensing Compliance

- **Purpose:** Provide an Update on the four areas of critical compliance as identified in the Strategic Plan for the month of May 2008
- **Background/Discussion:**
 - Staff/child ratio – met targeted benchmark
 - 42 deficiencies statewide (benchmark is 42)
 - Lack of supervision – met targeted benchmark
 - 10 deficiencies statewide (benchmark is 12)
 - Behavior guidance – met targeted benchmark
 - 7 deficiencies statewide (benchmark is 9)
 - Transportation – met targeted benchmark
 - 13 deficiencies statewide (benchmark is 27)
- **Current Status:**
 - Analysis ongoing – data used to develop staff and provider training/technical assistance

Family Support Briefing

Due to the federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will implement several changes to our Child Care Assistance program effective July 1, 2008.

- Income eligibility will return to 60% of the State Median Income
- The Division will implement a lifetime benefit limit of 60months of services per casehead for total services.
- Households above 40% of SMI will be assessed a co-pay for child care based on a sliding fee scale. In other words, clients who previously did not have a co-pay at 85% of SMI will now be assessed a co-pay at 60% SMI
- Clients receiving childcare assistance were notified regarding these changes to their case Providers were also notified of these changes via, internet and newsletter



Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education



IVORY DANIELS- PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-145 · Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
501-682-8947 · Fax: 501-683-0034 · TDD: 1-800-322-8176

June 16, 2008

Dear Providers

Due to the federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will implement several changes to our Child Care Assistance program effective July 1, 2008.

Income eligibility will return to 60% of the State Median Income (SMI). Previously the income limit was set at 85% SMI which means several families who were previously eligible will no longer be eligible for childcare assistance.

The Division will also implement a lifetime limit of five years per family for total services. DHS will calculate the total months of combined services of TEA, Extended Support Services (ESS), and Low income. If a casehead has reached a combined total of 60 months, he or she will no longer be eligible for low income childcare assistance.

Households above 40% of SMI will be assessed a co-pay for child care based on a sliding fee scale. Clients who previously did not have a co-pay could now be assessed a co-pay.

Clients receiving childcare assistance were notified regarding these changes to their case. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your case worker or visit our website at www.arkansas.gov/dhs. We apologize for any inconvenience and hope you all understand these changes are designed to allow continued service to as many Arkansas children as possible.

Sincerely,

Ivory Daniels, Program Administrator
Division of child Care and Early Education, Department of Human Services

DRAFT

Date

Dear Parent:

Due to federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will be implementing the following changes effective July 1, 2008:

- 1) Income eligibility will be returned to 60% of the State Median Income (SMI) (example: \$29,000 for a family of four)
- 2) Households above 40% of SMI will be assessed a co-pay for child care based on a sliding fee scale (see attached chart)
- 3) A lifetime limit of five years per family for low-income child care

If you are currently receiving child care assistance and you are affected by this change, you will be notified regarding the specific changes to your case. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your case worker or visit our website at www.arkansas.gov/dhs. We apologize for any inconvenience and hope you understand these changes are designed to allow continued service to as many Arkansas children as possible.

Sincerely,
Tonya Russell, Director
Division of Child Care and Early Education
Department of Human Services

DRAFT

Date

Dear Parent:

Due to federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will be implementing eligibility changes to the Low Income Child Care Assistance Program.

Based on the current information in your case file, your income exceeds the eligible limit. Beginning July 1st, 2008 you will no longer be eligible for this program.

We apologize for any inconvenience and hope you understand these changes are designed to allow continued service to as many Arkansas children as possible. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your case worker.

Sincerely,
Tonya Russell, Director
Division of Child Care and Early Education
Department of Human Services

DRAFT

Date

Dear Parent:

Due to federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will be implementing eligibility changes to the Low Income Child Care Assistance Program. Effective July 1st, 2008, all families will have a maximum lifetime benefit of 5 years from the date of enrollment in the Low Income Child Care Assistance Program.

Based on the current information in your case file, you will have exhausted ?? months of your lifetime benefit.

We apologize for any inconvenience and hope you understand these changes are designed to allow continued service to as many Arkansas children as possible. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your case worker.

Sincerely,
Tonya Russell, Director
Division of Child Care and Early Education
Department of Human Services

DRAFT

Date

Dear Parent:

Due to federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will be implementing eligibility changes to the Low Income Child Care Assistance Program. Effective July 1st, 2008, all families will have a maximum lifetime benefit of 5 years from the date of enrollment in the Low Income Child Care Assistance Program.

Based on the current information in your case file, you will have exhausted ?? months of your lifetime benefit.

We apologize for any inconvenience and hope you understand these changes are designed to allow continued service to as many Arkansas children as possible. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your case worker.

Sincerely,
Tonya Russell, Director
Division of Child Care and Early Education
Department of Human Services

DRAFT

Date

Dear Parent:

Due to federal funding constraints with the Child Care Development Funds, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will be implementing eligibility changes to the Low Income Child Care Assistance Program. Effective July 1st, 2008, families between 40%-60% of the State Median Income will have to pay a portion of their child's care based on income (see attached chart).

Beginning July 1st, 2008, your co-pay will be XXXX a week. Please pay this amount directly to your child care provider.

We apologize for any inconvenience and hope you understand these changes are designed to allow continued service to as many Arkansas children as possible. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact your case worker.

Sincerely,
Tonya Russell, Director
Division of Child Care and Early Education
Department of Human Services

Arkansas Out of School Network

The AOSN continues to prepare briefings for the Governor's Task Force on School age and Summer Programs in the following topic areas:

- Professional Development and Core Competencies for persons working with School-age children and youth.
 - Quality Standards
 - QRS standards for School-age providers
 - Communications/Framing the Message (staffed by Clinton School students)
 - Revenue and Financing
-
- A TA conference call for all School-Age programs in Arkansas was held in June with a representative from the AR Game and Fish Commission sharing numerous programs available for teacher training/professional development related to outdoor activities and school age care. Approximately 20 participated.

Arkansas Out of School Network

- The Governor's Task Force on Best Practices for Afterschool and Summer programs continues to work on recommendations for the Governor.
- Final recommendations for the Governor are expected by July/August of 2008.
- The AOSN has submitted a grant proposal to the Mott Foundation for an innovation project to support local community development surrounding issues related to out of school time in several communities in our state.

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

- CCR&R's assisted the Division in co-sponsoring Roundtable Discussions on the Key Content Areas and Core Competencies for early care professionals. These Key Content areas were developed by the TAPP Spectrum committee.
- The “town meetings” are an excellent method of bringing the Divisions message to the field. We plan to continue to work with the CCR&R's and offer Roundtables on different topics.
- ACQUIRE (our newest CCR&R) is sponsoring a Train the Trainers session on Emergency Preparedness for child care programs in August. The trainer will be Cathy Grace of the Center for the Study of Rural Early Childhood Learning Initiatives. Dr. Grace was a co-author of the emergency preparedness training materials developed by NACCRRA.

Grants/Scholarships

July 1, 2007-May 31, 2008

• GRANTS	YTD	\$ YTD
• Enhancement	284	\$414,170
• Quality	472	\$479,200
• CPR/First Aid	887	\$ 75,914
• CDA Scholarships	350	\$258,455
• CDA Assessments	564	\$ 156,300

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Support to Child Care Providers

- **Arkansas Economic Development Grants Completed.** There were 5 applicants. Two were recommended to AEDC as viable for construction grant funding for a day care center in their area to serve low-income, at-risk children: They are:
 - City of Midway/Hot Spring County for \$320,000
 - Phillips County for \$325,000
- **Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies**
- Contacts with early care provider 1753
- **Professional Development Opportunities**
- April 2008 102 Workshops
- April 2008 1,759 Participants
- 2008 ytd 921 Workshops
- 2008 ytd 19,711 Participants

Support to Families

Child Care Resource and Referral agencies

•			
•		May 2008	ytd
•	NW AR Child Care R and R	367	3355
•	CHILDREN of NC AR	965	1934
•	ACCQUIRE/Childhood Services	147	37**
•	Child Care Connections	104	1157
•	Jefferson Comprehensive CCR&R	100	1003
•	DCCECE	70	567
•	# Resource Center sign-ins	31	466
•	Web results for child care search		
•	Website Hits (May 1 - 31)		
•	Search for Child Care Page	2,294	
•	Total Website Hits	3,600	

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

Clinton School of Public Service



The Demand for After-School Programs in Arkansas

Jose Guzzardi, Marquita Little, and James Mitchell
Clinton School of Public Service, University of Arkansas

Prepared for the
Governor's Taskforce on Best Practices for After-School and Summer Programs

May 2008

Acknowledgements

This project would not have been possible without the support of many people. We would like to thank the Governor's Office and the Governor's Taskforce on Best Practices for After-School and Summer Programs for their sponsorship and interest in the project.

We would like to thank our project advisors, Dr. Jay Barth, Hendrix College, and Dr. Keith Nitta, University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, for their constant feedback and guidance. We would also like to thank Dr. Sharon Wrobel, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, for her technical guidance.

Also, thanks to Paul Kelly and the Arkansas Out of School Network, Dee Cox and the Arkansas Department of Education and Kathy Stegall and the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services for their support and providing background information for the research.

Special thanks to the Arkansas school district superintendents, assistant superintendents and principals for their approval and participation. This project and report would not have been possible without their active collaboration.

Finally, we would like to thank the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service staff, faculty, students and volunteers for all of their assistance and support.

The Demand for After-School Programs in Arkansas

Executive Summary

In August 2007, the Clinton School of Public Service and Governor's Taskforce on Best Practices for After-School and Summer Programs partnered to investigate the demand for after-school programs in the state of Arkansas. The goal of the project was to develop and conduct a statewide after-school demand study to assess the value, need and availability of after-school programs within the state.

STUDY METHODOLOGY

Approximately 3,700 middle and high school students were administered surveys in public schools throughout Arkansas between January and April 2008. In addition, the Clinton School team administered surveys to school principals and conducted focus groups with parents. Surveys and focus groups were administered in public schools because they could provide greater access to a diverse group of students and parents, as well as allowing contact with school principals.

Participating schools were selected within each of the state's four congressional districts to achieve a geographically representative sample. Two schools from each of the four districts were randomly selected, resulting in a total of 16 schools participating in the study. Principal data was collected in 12 out of the 16 participating schools. At least one parent focus group was conducted in each congressional district.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1) Almost half of students are unsupervised after school on a regular basis. Regardless of gender, race or grade level, a large proportion of students are unsupervised after school, and this is more likely with older students.
- 2) The majority of students in every geographic region reported they would consider attending an after-school program if their school offered one.
- 3) Students who do not know if their school offers an after-school program are the most likely to be home alone on a regular basis. Student and parent knowledge of after-school programs appears to decrease the likelihood that students will be left unsupervised after school.

- 4) Hispanic students are the least likely to currently be enrolled in an after-school program even though they are most likely to report they would consider participating if one were available.
- 5) Students attending schools in central Arkansas have the least unmet demand for after-school programs, as their knowledge of the availability of programs and the number of schools offering after-school programs is higher than in any other geographic region. Students in northwestern Arkansas demonstrate the greatest unmet demand.
- 6) Current after-school programs focus on offering additional academic services, which creates a gap between what parents and students desire and what is actually available. Students and parents are not interested in after-school programs that are an extension of the classroom. Students are more interested in recreational activities, and parents would like recreational activities and life skills lessons.
- 7) Middle school students demonstrate greater demand for after-school programs than high school students.
- 8) Students that attend after-school programs are most likely to attend a program at their school.
- 9) According to parents and students, providing after-school programs at the schools reduces problems with student transportation to the after-school program. Parents cited transportation to and from after-school programs as a key factor in participation.
- 10) According to parents, the affordability of after-school programs is the most important factor for participation, even more than location. Most schools are currently offering free programs, but school principals are concerned about securing adequate funding to operate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Existing and newly created programs should work to lessen the gap between what types of after-school activities parents and students are interested in and what is actually offered. After-school programs should be developed to cater to students' recreational and social needs. However, offering homework assistance should remain a key component of programs.
- 2) The state of Arkansas should examine marketing efforts to increase student and parent awareness of the availability of after-school programs in their communities.
- 3) Low-cost after-school programs should be developed within schools, as students usually attend programs at their schools and transportation and cost are frequently cited as parental concerns.

- 4) The state should develop recruitment methods to attract Hispanic students, as they are the least likely to participate yet demonstrate a significant interest in after-school programs.
- 5) Emphasis should be placed on the northwestern region of the state as a priority area for encouraging more programs and awareness of after-school programs.
- 6) Focus should be placed on meeting the demand at the middle school level, as middle school students are the group expressing the most interest in attending after-school programs.
- 7) The state should concentrate efforts on making sure after-school providers have funding sources in order to ensure that parents and children have access to affordable after-school programs.

From: Kathy Stegall

Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2008 12:49 PM

To: 'Mwynn@jtlshop.jonesnet.org'; 'cthorno@jtlshop.jonesnet.org'; 'Kristen Black'; Terrie Baker; 'Elaine Davis'; 'Debbie Webb'; 'Debbie Mize'; Dee Walker; Brinda Burr; Nikki Caton; David Griffin; Ratha Tracy; Kathy Mackay

Cc: Curtis Curry; Ivory Daniels; Jamie Morrison; Tonya Russell; Donna Alliston; 'Josephine Battle'

Subject: FW: Disaster Training for Trainers and you are invited!

Our newest CCR&R-- ACQUIRE (@ ASU Childhood Services) will be sponsoring a Train the Trainers session on August 12 from 9am-2pm in Jonesboro using the NACCRRRA Disaster Preparedness training products for Family Child Care and Child Care Centers. The Center for Study of Rural Early Childhood Learning Initiatives (<http://www.earlychildhood.msstate.edu>) in Columbus, Mississippi assisted in development of the NACCRRRA material and Cathy Grace, Director will be conducting the Train the Trainers session.

Jo Ann Nalley and Jo Battle have offered an invitation to all CCR&R agencies and for 4 from the Division to participate. The Disaster Training is designed for use by Child Care Resource and Referral agencies and Licensing in training child care providers both center-based and family child care. It is designed to ensure that child care programs are prepared to respond to disasters and to continue to serve the children and families that need child care.

NACCRRRA released the publication:

Nationwide Child Care Disaster Planning Initiative - Is Child Care Ready?

and you can view it on their web site at

<http://www.naccrra.org/disaster/>

Resources include:

[Is Child Care Ready?: A Disaster-Planning Guide for Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies](#)

http://www.naccrra.org/disaster/docs/Disaster_Guide_MECH.pdf

[Disaster Preparation: A Training for Child Care Centers](#)

http://www.naccrra.org/disaster/docs/naccrra_ccc_081506.pdf

[Disaster Preparation: A Training for Family Child Care Providers](#)

http://www.naccrra.org/disaster/docs/naccrra_fc_081506.pdf

and for parents:

[What's the Plan?: Ask Your Child Care Provider Before A Disaster](#)

<http://www.naccrra.org/disaster/docs/ParentBroch.pdf>

For CCR&R's we would ask that if you choose to go thru the training you would agree to conduct at least two sessions (per county) within your area for child care/family child care providers. Based on population, some counties may be combined or you may need to offer 4-6 in a metro area, the commitment would be to share the training with the providers in your area.

For agency staff, we have asked for a few spaces, so check with me if you are interested in attending.

Jo Battle, ACQUIRE Director can answer additional questions; you can reach her at 870-972-3055 or jbattle@astate.edu. Reservations are necessary and must be made no later than July 30, 2008.

This is another great opportunity to serve the providers and families in your community.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Coloring Book

Helping Children Cope with Disaster



FEMA



American Red Cross

Agency on the same as the



Ready
Emergency Supply List

Homeland Security



06/16/2008

School-Age Programs Matter

If you want your eggs hatched, sit on them yourself.

Haitian Proverb

Disadvantaged students who regularly attend top-notch school-age care programs end up, after two years, academically far ahead of their peers who spend more out-of-school time in unsupervised activities according to findings of an eight state school-age study. The Promising Afterschool Programs study, reported in **Education Week** (November 28, 2007; www.edweek.org), examined 35 programs, selected for their record of success, serving 2,914 students in 14 communities stretching from Bridgeport, Connecticut to Seaside, California. Education Week described how the study worked...

"...Researchers divided students into three groups: a 'program only' group of students who attended their afterschool program two or three times a week and did nothing else outside the school; a 'program plus' group who visited the afterschool programs two or three times a week and also took part in sports, church programs, music lessons, or other extracurricular activities; and a 'low supervision' group who dropped in on a mix of afterschool activities from one to three days a week. The researchers found, over the course of the three-year project, that the more engaged students were in supervised afterschool activities, the better they did on a range of academic, social, and behavioral outcomes. For instance, 3rd and 4th graders in the 'program plus' group tallied gains on standardized mathematics tests that were 20 percentile points higher than those of children who rarely went. The frequent attenders also made more progress in developing sound work habits, task persistence, and better social skills, and in

From: WOODIE SUE HERLEIN [WHERLEIN@astate.edu]

Sent: Friday, June 06, 2008 11:57 AM

To: JO ANN NALLEY; Kathy Stegall; Dee Cox (ADE); Tammie Cloyes (ADE); Mike Vogler; Laveta Wills-Hale; Connie Phelps; mwperry@newfuturesforyouth.org; djbebee@cji.edu; studycircles@arsba.org; ann@arheadstart.org Contact

Cc: Jennifer Harris; Paul Kelly

Subject: Forum for Youth Investment and The Center for Youth Program Quality (High Scope)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Details to follow. . . .

- Confirmation of dates

Quality Matters Thursday, August 21, 2008

A Center for Youth Program Quality Specialist will come and present to decision-makers about building a quality improvement system.

Youth Program Quality Assessment Thursday, September 18, 2008

Participants attend one day a Youth POA Basics Training to prepare for self assessment

External Assessor Workshop Tuesday & Wednesday, October 7 & 8, 2008

Planning With Date Monday, November 17, 2008

Participants attend workshop

Woodie Sue Herlein, MSE

Woodie Sue Herlein, Network Lead

Arkansas Out of School Network

&

Program Coordinator

Arkansas School Age Quality Initiative Project

&

Instructor, School Age Specialist On Line

ASU/Childhood Services

P.O. Box 808

State University, AR 72467

1-888-429-1585

Fax: 870-972-3556

wherlein@astate.edu

FACILITY	DIRECTOR	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP	COUNTY	TIN#/SSN#	LIC CAP	LIC #	REASON	REC	REQ	DNY	APR/DNY	APR	RCPT RCD	EXPLANATION FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL
Adventureland Academy	Dr. Jerrold Robison	1015 Autumn Road	Little Rock AR 72211	Pulaski	204011060	186	23950	AQ	03/18/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 100.00		Items needed for Quality Approval.
ASU - ABC Holy Cross	Terry White	209 Park	West Memphis AR 72301	Crittenden	716000556	94	10755	MQ	03/07/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 400.00		Improve playground.
CADC Malvern Head Start	Annetta Summerville	1735 E Sullenberger	Malvern AR 72104	Hot Springs	710388673	197	21773	AQ	01/11/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 100.00		Materials needed for Quality Approval.
First School	Cathy Hairston	695 Calvin Street	Fayetteville AR 72703	Washington	710276885	120	11977	MQ	03/10/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 400.00		Indoor/outdoor equipment.
FUMC Early Childhood Center	Patricia Burris	1610 Prince Street	Conway AR 72034	Faulkner	710249439	91	11151	MQ	03/05/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 400.00		Cots.
Jacksonville Baptist Temple DC	Martina Patterson	520 Marshall Road	Jacksonville AR 72076	Pulaski	710785959	74	14835	LD	02/06/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	3 000.00		Fall zone and gate.
Kids 1st Inc	Lorene White	1400 Reeves Street	Mena AR 71953	Polk	71817677		12568	AQ	07/18/2007	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	3 800.00		Indoor/outdoor equipment.
Kids First	Sharron Emery	221 Lindley Lane	Newport AR 72112	Jackson	716046242	69	24554	AQ	03/17/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 100.00		Play equipment.
Mena Child Development	Toni Tilotta	606 Pine Box 13	Mena AR 71953	Polk	710632084	99	5533	MQ	02/08/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 400.00		Books and classroom items.
Morrilton Child Development	Zelda Vernon Beard	906 West Rock	Morrilton AR 72110	Conway	710632084	159	324	MQ	02/13/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 400.00		Assist with bathroom.
Mrs. Neecys Childrens Center	Helen Littrell	PO Box 735	Pea Ridge AR 72751	Benton	202579480	73	23537	AQ	02/13/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 100.00	5/8/08	Materials needed for Quality Approval.
New Horizons Daycare Inc	Rebecca B Dixon	2008 Killian Street	Mountain View AR 72560	Stone	582007310	75	7929	AQ	03/10/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 100.00		Materials needed for Quality Approval.
Pediatric Specialty Care	Charlotte Middlebrook	1510 Byrum Road	Blytheville AR 72315	Mississippi	205099728	102	24386	LD	02/11/2008	967.00	A	04/04/08	950.00		Mats rugs and changing mat.
The High-Five Zone	Charlotte Mason	2963 Airport Road	Hot Springs AR 71913	Garland	710548785	120	14887	AQ	03/21/2008	3 664.32	A	04/04/08	3 600.00		Materials needed for Quality Approval.
The Learning Tree Preschool	Doug Bradberry	112 Audubon Dr	Maumelle AR 72113	Pulaski	050613550	104	23180	AQ	03/24/2008	5 000.00	A	04/04/08	4 100.00		Materials needed for Quality Approval.
YMCA Afterschool Hillcrest	Jennifer Sanders	1421 W Nettleton	Jonesboro AR 72401	Craighead	710260184	90	8449	LD	03/24/2008	2 395.46	A	04/04/08	2 300.00		Storage 1st aid equipment and toys.
(16) APPROVAL TOTAL -										72,026.78			60,250.00		
AR State University CDC	Amy Ferguson	2606 Caddo	Jonesboro AR 72401	Craighead	71600556	136	25268	AQ	03/03/2008	5 000.00	D	04/04/08	0.00		Immunizations are not current.
Elizabeth Richardson Center Inc	William Bowen	1760 N Woodland Ave	Fayetteville AR 72703	Washington	710355090	87	6851	AQ	03/20/2008	5 000.00	D	04/04/08	0.00		Immunizations not sent correctly.
Living Water Children's Center	Daniel Ridge	221 S Broadview	Greenbrier AR 72058	Faulkner	331181998	125	25440	AQ	02/20/2008	5 000.00	D	04/04/08	0.00		No initial QA papers sent.
Open Arms Day Care	Paula Burris	PO Box 232	Redfield AR 72132	Arkansas		66	24703		02/29/2008	5 000.00	D	04/04/08	0.00		No QA or LD papers.
(4) DENIAL TOTAL -										20,000.00			0.00		
(20) TOTAL REQUESTED - 03/20/08=										92,026.78					

FACILITY	DIRECTOR	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP	COUNTY	TIN#/SSN#	LIC CAP	LIC #	REASON	REC	REQ	DNY	APR/DNY	APR	EXPLANATION FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL
ABC Learning Tree	Ginger Sidler	1508 Princeton Drive	Ft Smith AR 72908	Sebastian	429656151	10	24635	AQ	04/11/2008	1500.00	A	05/01/08	1500.00	Items needed for Quality Approval.
First Steps Home Daycare	Phyllis Diana Lockhart	PO Box 117	Turrell AR 72384	Crittenden	260816903	16	25563	LD	03/13/2008	1500.00	A	05/01/08	260.00	Smoke detectors.
Julie's Childcare	Julia Patton	10508 Brown Rd	Mabelvale AR 72103	Saline	362042465	10	25695	LD	04/16/2008	1249.92	A	05/01/08	1100.00	Outside play equipment.
Little Angel Child Care	Tina Tenner	372 Winchester Road	Monticello AR 71655	Drew	430158177	10	25598	LD	01/23/2008	1120.41	A	05/01/08	500.00	Outdoor play equipment.
Little Angels Daycare	Tasha McSpadden	PO Box 2666	Mtn View AR 72560	Stone	261473651	16	25555	LD	04/03/2008	1500.00	A	05/01/08	1300.00	Playground equipment and cots.
Little Dumplings	Bridgett Asbury	8 South 45th Street	Van Buren AR 72956	Crawford	585632963	5	25664	LD	03/20/2008	1169.94	A	05/01/08	1100.00	Indoor/outdoor play equipment.
Robinson Child Care & Development Ctr	Wilma Robinson	1102 W 21st Street	Little Rock AR 72206	Pulaski	320186419	10	24656	LD	04/18/2008	1500.00	A	05/01/08	200.00	Fall zone.
Small World Family Daycare	David Coleman	212 So 16th St	Arkadelphia AR 71923	Clark	710853701	16	21418	LD	04/21/2008	1500.00	A	05/01/08	1400.00	Replace defective equipment and ind/out equipment.
(8) APPROVAL TOTAL -										11,040.27			7,360.00	
Allens Day Care	Martha Allen	109 West Tenn Ave	Forrest City AR 72335	St Francis	432238183	14	25600	MQ	04/18/2008	1500.00	D	05/01/08	0.00	Immunizations are not current.
Little Angels Childcare & Lrng Ctr	Vickie Scott	1002 Thomas Street	Stamps AR 71860	Lafayette	204431221	15	24441		04/22/2008	1500.00	D	05/01/08	0.00	No 521 or QA forms.
Miss Tina's Home Daycare	Tina Claybaugh	23519 Hwy 71	Huntington AR 72940	Sebastian	430675947	10	25483		02/05/2008	1500.00	D	05/01/08	0.00	No 521 or QA forms.
Mothers Helpers	Pauline Smith	7417 S Graphic Dr	Alma AR 72921	Crawford	520484660	10	25634		03/20/2008	1500.00	D	05/01/08	0.00	No 521 or QA forms.
(4) DENIAL TOTAL -										6,000.00				
(12) TOTAL REQUESTED - 04/20/08=										17,040.27				

FACILITY	DIRECTOR	ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP	COUNTY	TIN#/SSN#	LIC CAP	LIC #	REASON	REC	REQ	DNY	APR/DNY	APR	EXPLANATION FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL
Appleton Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	20189 SR 124	Atkins AR 72823	Pope	710632084	32	553	MQ	39 576.00	\$3 000.00	A	06/05/08	2 500.00	Indoor/outdoor equipment.
Children's Garden	Brandy Hansberry	13000 W Baseline Rd	Little Rock AR 72210	Pulaski	710311104	50	12002	AQ	05/21/2008	\$3 000.00	A	06/05/08	2 900.00	Items needed for Quality.
Explore and Discover Preschool	Beth Haney	201 Northwest 2nd Street	Bentonville AR 72712	Benton	710707279	24	6238	AQ	05/21/2008	\$2 975.00	A	06/05/08	2 900.00	Items needed for Quality.
From the Beginning	Sherry Bunch	401 South Main	Cave City AR 72501	Independence	900103378	49	21947	MQ	04/18/2008	\$3 000.00	A	06/05/08	2 900.00	Indoor/outdoor equipment.
Guardian Angels Daycare	Cindy Hines	606 N 2nd	Cabot AR 72023	Lonoke	710745461	37	10546	LD	04/22/2008	\$1 113.82	A	06/05/08	1 000.00	Flooring.
Highland Wee Care Child Enrichment	Jennie Lee Stobaugh	PO Box 356	Ash Flat AR 72513	Sharp	710457356	59	16234	MQ	04/23/2008	\$2 974.03	A	06/05/08	2 900.00	Outdoor equipment.
Highland Wee Care Day Care	Jennie Lee Stobaugh	PO Box 356	Ash Flat AR 72513	Sharp	710457356	56	15922	MQ	04/23/2008	\$2 980.00	A	06/05/08	2 900.00	Mulch.
Kydz "R" the Future	Adrienne Love-O'Neal	5717 W 12th Street	Little Rock AR 72204	Pulaski	205068003	30	24346	LD	02/25/2008	\$3 000.00	A	06/05/08	2 300.00	Sink counter door ground cover fence & alarm.
Little Scholars Academy	Michael Johnson	501 Millwood Suite A	Maumelle AR 72115	Pulaski	450580935	44	25733	AQ	05/21/2008	\$3 000.00	A	06/05/08	2 900.00	Items needed for Quality.
Parkhill Preschool DeQueen Even Start	Erica Cartwright	916 E Vandervoort	DeQueen AR 71832	Sevier	716020580	40	21130	LD	04/16/2008	\$3 000.00	A	06/05/08	2 400.00	Cots.
St Paul Catholic Pre-K	Catherine Sewell	311 Cedar Street	Pocahontas AR 72455	Randolph	710251085	15	23566	AQ	05/05/2008	\$2 664.00	A	06/05/08	2 500.00	Items needed for Quality.
Wobblers' At Play	Lavonda Estep	2760 N Central Ave	Batesville AR 72501	Independence	262187646	30	25713	LD	04/15/2008	\$2 591.35	A	06/05/08	2 500.00	Items needed to correct deficiencies.
(12) APPROVAL TOTAL -										\$33,298 20			\$30,600.00	
Cabot Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	1701 S 2nd Street	Cabot AR 72023	Lonoke	710632084	43	15749	MQ	04/21/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations sent incorrectly.
Cossatot Child Development Center	Maurice Higginbotham	PO Box 960	DeQueen AR 71822	Little River	710445507	52	25458	AQ	05/21/2008	\$2 500.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	No 521 or QA visit form.
Crawford Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	1116 North Parker	Russellville AR 72801	Pope	710632084	46	1864	MQ	05/01/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations sent incorrectly.
First Place Academy	Dianna Elkins	1121 East Main Street	Van Buren AR 72956	Crawford	710261087	50	15428	AQ	04/14/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	No 521 or QA visit form.
Hatfield Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	119 Cemetery Road	Hatfield AR 71945	Polk	710632084	31	12215	MQ	04/30/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations sent incorrectly.
Precious Ones Christian Learning Ctr	Jo Ann King	1602 Garland Avenue	Texarkana AR 71854	Miller	450272277	37	24040		04/30/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations not current/No 521 or QA form.
Sandi Land Childcare Center	Brenda Hobbs	5050 Hwy 135 N	Paragould AR 72450	Greene	861138439	47	23289	LD	05/07/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations are not current.
Snow's Academy of Faith Dev Center	Consuela Wilson	200 S 1st Street	Blytheville AR 72315	Mississippi		30	24195	AQ	04/03/2008	\$2 500.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations are not current.
Star City Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	901 Drew Street	Star City AR 71667	Lincoln	710632084	30	739	MQ	04/29/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations sent incorrectly.
The Pumpkin Patch PS and Childcare	Carla Williams	401 W Hale Ave	Osceola AR 72370	Mississippi	142009355	30	25473	LD	04/28/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	No 521 or QA visit form.
Viola Montessori Preschool Center	Rebecca Gains	PO Box 268	Viola AR 72583	Fulton	450571873	25	25654	AQ	05/20/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Not open and operating.
Waldron Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	PO Box 1980	Waldron AR 72958	Scott	710632084	47	6485	MQ	05/12/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations sent incorrectly.
Wickes Child Development	Jo Ann Williams	104 South 1st	Wickes AR 72973	Polk	710632084	40	1007	MQ	05/12/2008	\$3 000.00	D	06/05/08	0.00	Immunizations sent incorrectly.
(13) DENIAL TOTAL -										\$38,000.00			0.00	
(25) TOTAL REQUESTED - 05/20/08=										\$71,298 20				

The Expanded Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit in the Family Tax Relief Act of 2008 Would Help Make Child Care More Affordable for Millions of Families

The federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit helps parents afford the child care they need to be productive at work while their children develop the skills they need to succeed in school. In 2006, the credit provided \$3.5 billion in child care assistance to 6.5 million families.¹ Although paying for child care takes a larger bite out of the budget of lower-income families than higher-income families,² millions of lower-income families can receive little or no benefit from the current credit because of some of its features. In 2006, only 17% of the credit's tax benefits went to the 49% of tax filers with adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$30,000 or less, while 24% of the tax benefits went to the 12% of tax filers with AGI above \$100,000.³

The federal Child and Dependent Care Credit is designed to offset a percentage of a family's eligible employment-related child and dependent care costs. Expenses are limited to \$3,000 for one, and \$6,000 for two or more, children or dependents. The credit has a sliding income scale: lower-income families can claim a higher percentage of expenses than higher-income families. Families with AGI of \$15,000 or less can claim 35% of eligible expenses, for a maximum potential credit of \$2,100. The percentage phases down as AGI increases to the minimum 20% of expenses for families with AGI above \$43,000, for a maximum credit of \$1,200. But, because the credit is non-refundable, it is not available to families who do not have federal income tax liability.⁴ Therefore, lower-income families, who in theory are eligible for the largest credit, may receive little or none of its benefit, as Table 1 illustrates. In addition, the credit's expense limits and sliding income scale are not indexed for inflation, so the real value of the credit, especially for lower-income households, erodes over time.⁵

The Family Tax Relief Act of 2008, S. 3079, sponsored by Senators Gordon Smith (R-OR) and Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), would improve the federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for millions of families, especially the low- and moderate-income families who most need help obtaining affordable, high-quality child care. Under S. 3079:

- **The credit would be fully refundable.** This change would enable *over 1.6 million additional families* to claim the credit for the first time⁶ and increase benefits for many others who currently receive only partial benefits, as Table 1 illustrates.
- **The percentage of expenses that could be claimed would increase for low- and moderate-income families.** The maximum percentage of expenses would increase to 50%. The percentage would not start to decrease until AGI exceeded \$30,000, and would phase down to 20% for families with AGI above \$59,000. This would allow families with AGI of \$59,000 or less to claim a higher percentage of expenses than under current law.
- **Expense limits would be increased.** Expense limits would be increased to \$5,000 for one, and \$10,000 for two or more, children or dependents, which would cover or closely approximate the average cost of care for preschoolers in almost half the states.⁷ This would benefit families at all income levels whose expenses exceed the current limits.

➤ **The expense limits and sliding income scale would be adjusted for inflation.** Indexing the expense limits is important because child care costs have been rising faster than overall inflation.⁸ Indexing the sliding income scale preserves the targeting of the credit to lower-income families.

➤ **Table 1: Effect of Expanded Child and Dependent Care Credit on Sample Families, 2008**

Adjusted Gross Income	Current	Current	S. ____	Current	Current	S. ____
	law – potential	law – actual		law – potential	law – actual	
	<i>Head of household, one child</i>			<i>Head of household, two children</i>		
\$15,000	\$1,050	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,100	\$0	\$3,750
\$30,000	\$810	\$810	\$2,500	\$1,620	\$1,153	\$5,000
\$60,000	\$600	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,000
	<i>Married, one child</i>			<i>Married, two children</i>		
\$15,000	\$1,050	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,100	\$0	\$3,750
\$30,000	\$810	\$810	\$2,500	\$1,620	\$510	\$5,000
\$60,000	\$600	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$2,000

Assumptions:

1. All income is from earnings
2. Families incur the maximum amount of allowed child care expenses, not exceeding 50% of their income
3. For married couples, earnings are divided equally between spouses
4. All families claim the standard deduction, Child Tax Credit, and Earned Income Tax Credit if eligible
5. Tax filers are not subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax

¹ Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income, Preliminary Data for Tax Year 2006, Table 1: Individual Income Tax Returns, Selected Income and Tax Items by Size of Adjusted Gross Income, available at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/06in01pl.xls> (last visited 5/29/08)[IRS Statistics of Income].

² Families with incomes below the poverty line who pay for child care spend, on average, 29% of their incomes on child care, compared to 14% percent for families with incomes between 100% and 200% of poverty, and 6% for families with incomes at or above 200% of poverty. U.S. Census Bureau, “Who’s Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Spring 2005, Detailed Tables,” Table 6: Average Weekly Child Care Expenditures of Families with Employed Mothers that Make Payments, by Age Groups and Selected Characteristics: Spring 2005, available online at <http://www.census.gov/population/socdemo/child/ppl-2005/tab06.xls> (last visited 5/29/08).

³ Calculations by NWLC from IRS Statistics of Income, Table 1, *supra* note 1.

⁴ The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act (EGTRRA) of 2001 adjusted several parameters of the credit for the first time in 20 years. It raised the expense limits from \$2,400 for one, and \$4,800 for two or more children or dependents to \$3,000 and \$6,000 respectively; increased the maximum percentage of eligible expenses from 30% to 35%; and raised the income level for the maximum credit from \$10,000 to \$15,000. But it did not make the credit refundable or index the expense limits and sliding scale. The EGTRRA changes took effect in tax year 2003 and will expire after tax year 2010 unless extended.

⁵ Without indexing, a family whose income has risen by no more than inflation could find that both the value and percentage of expenses they can claim credit has declined, even though their income has not risen in real terms.

⁶ Jeffrey Rohaly, Tax Policy Center, “Reforming the Child and Dependent Care Credit,” June 2007, available at http://www.taxpolicycenter.org/UploadedPDF/411474_child_tax.pdf (last visited May 28, 2008)(estimating that an additional 1.6 million households would have been able to claim the credit if it had been made refundable in 2006).

⁷ NACCRRRA, “Parents and the High Cost of Child Care: 2007Update,” at Detail Table 1, available at http://www.naccrra.org/docs/press/price_report.pdf (last visited May 28, 2008).

⁸ Between 2002 and 2007, child care costs grew 25%. NWLC calculations using the CPI-U. Overall inflation rate was 17%.

CFO REPORT AECC JANUARY 2008 BOARD MEETING

Available Budget

Current data (01/02/2008 13 29 17)

Fiscal Year: 2008

Fund/Appropriation	Type of Expenditure	Original B	Blocks	Adjustment	Adj. Appr.	Commitment	Expense	Available	
ARK /FWF3000 /890	Special Nutrition Grants	36,550,000.00	0	4,000,000 00	40,550,000.00	0	39,897,396.72	652,603.28	
ARK /FWF6900 /320	CCDF Fed Discretionary & Quality	35,741,878.00	6,105,116.00	5,309,162 00	34,945,924.00	177,295.14	32,691,833 01	2,076,795.85	
ARK /NHS0110 /929	Guaranteed Loan	100,000.00	0	0	100,000.00	0	0	100,000.00	
ARK /PWE9300 /898	CCDF Federal & State	30,884,892.00		0	29,682,857.00	371,764.89	29,363,790 28	1,504,311.99	
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Regular Salaries	501:00:00	5,614,522.00	111,284.00	0	5,503,238.00	0	5,503,066.72	171.28
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Extra Help	501:00:01	153,795.00	0	0	153,795.00	0	129,371.20	24,423.80
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Matching/Benefits	501 00:03	1,878,818.00	10,019.00	0	1,868,799.00	0	1,832,148 87	36,650.13
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Other Salaries	501:00:06	5,000.00	0	0	5,000.00	0	0	5,000.00
Subtotal	ARK /PWP3000 /896 /SALARYRELATED		7,652,135.00	121,303.00	0	7,530,832.00	0	7,464,586.79	66,245.21
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Operating Expenses	502 00:02	3,156,804.00	0	0	3,156,804.00	70,030.59	2,469,127 68	617,645.73
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Conf Fees & Travel	505:00:09	50,000.00	0	0	50,000.00	114 5	45,326.05	4,559.45
ARK /PWP3000 /896	Prof Svcs Contracts	506:00:10	5,538,907.00	0	0	5,538,907.00	180,967.07	3,844,176 83	1,513,763.10
Subtotal	ARK /PWP3000 /896 /MAINT-OPERATIONS		8,745,711.00	0	0	8,745,711.00	251,112.16	6,358,630 56	2,135,968.28
Subtotal	ARK /PWP3000 /896 TOTAL SALARIES & OPERATING EXPENSES		16,397,846.00	121,303.00	0	16,276,543.00	251,112.16	13,823,217.35	2,202,213.49
Total			119,674,616.00	6,226,419.00	9,309,162.00	122,757,359.00	445,197.03	115,776,237.36	6,535,924.61