



Working Together: Increasing Early Childhood Education Services for Homeless Children

Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
June 27, 2013



Today's Webinar

- Today's webinar will last approximately 1 hour and is being recorded
- Recording on the OneCPD Resource Exchange Training and Events Page (<http://www.onecpd.info/training-events/>) and on ACF's Early Childhood Development Page (www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ecd)
- A brief feedback survey and instructions to get credit will be emailed following the webinar.



Today's Webinar

- You are in “listen only mode”
- There will be time reserved at the end of the webinar for Q&A
- Please use the Q&A Pod at the left of your screen to submit questions at any time during the webinar.
- Use the Q&A Pod to request assistance if you experience any technical difficulties.



Overview

- **SNAPS connection to Early Care and Education**
- **The value of early care and education**
- **Early childhood partners and what they do**
- **Partnership in Action--Champaign County, IL**
- **Federal Inter-agency efforts and National Resources**
- **Questions and Answers**



Panelists



- **Kiersten Beigel, ACF, Office of Head Start**

- **Minh Le, ACF, Office of Child Care**



- **Kathleen Liffick, Head Start Champaign County IL**

SNAPS Connection to Early Care and Education



Opening Doors

No one should experience homelessness and no one should be without a safe, stable place to call home.

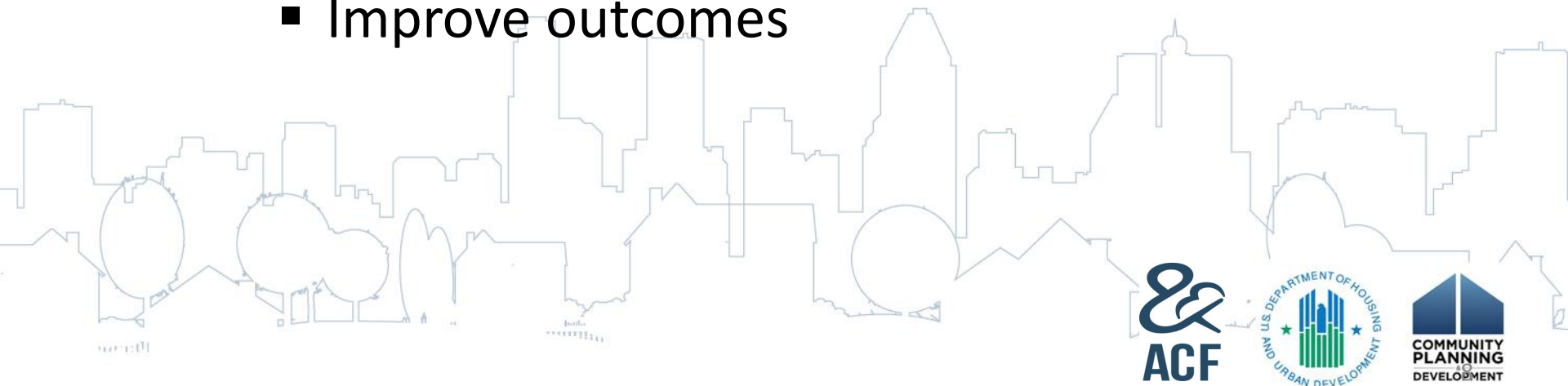
Goals

1. Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness by 2015
2. Prevent and end homelessness among Veterans by 2015
3. **Prevent and end homelessness for families, youth, and children by 2020**
4. Set a path to ending all types of homelessness



Continuum of Care Priorities

- Educational assurances
 - A statutory requirement
- Mainstream resources
 - More efficiently access services
 - Improve outcomes

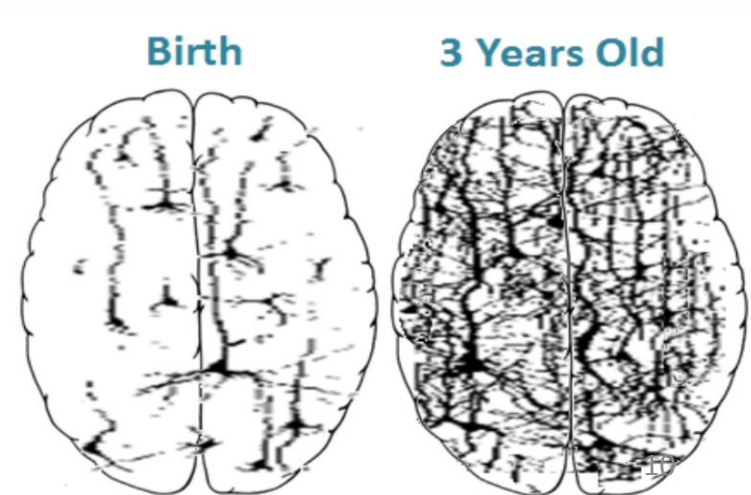
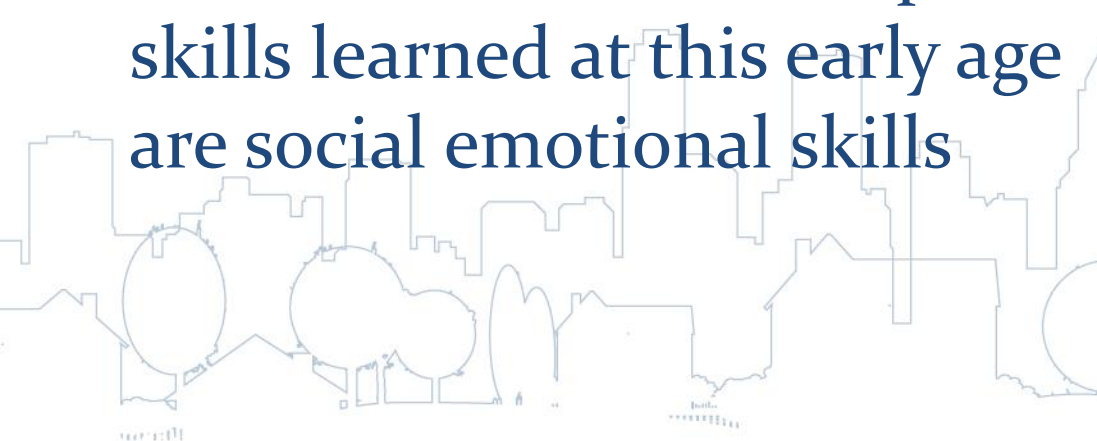


Early Care and Education



Why The First Five Years Matter

- ✓ Birth to Five is a time of unparalleled growth!
- ✓ During early childhood, the brain strengthens the connections that are being used, while pruning away those that are unengaged
- ✓ The most critical developmental skills learned at this early age are social emotional skills



The Burden of Risks



- ✓ Cumulative risk factors adversely affect children's health and development (toxic stress)
- ✓ Hardships experienced in the early years of life can have lasting effects
- ✓ The greatest achievement gap develops well before a child begins kindergarten.



Impacts of Homelessness on Young Children

- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ Health and Mental Health
- ✓ Mobility



Better Outcomes for Children



- Strengthening *relationships* for children
- Increasing *access to high-quality early care and education* with a quality parenting component
- Increase *continuity of care*
- Improved partnerships amongst those serving young children experiencing multiple stressors



Early Childhood Partners and What They Do



Head Start & Early Head Start

- Mission and Services
- Eligibility and Enrollment
- Locations
- Service Models



Comprehensive Services for Children



✓ Early care and education

✓ Nutrition

✓ Health and Mental Health

✓ Prenatal

✓ Disabilities



Two Generation Model



✓ Family Wellbeing

✓ Family Engagement

✓ Parent Leadership



Head Start Program Information Report

Homelessness Stats		
Category	2006-2007	2011-2012
# of homeless families	27,033	49,063
# of homeless children	30,479	54,355
# of families that found housing	16,379	17,731



Values and Beliefs Poll



Getting Started With Head Start

- Getting Together
- What to Keep in Mind
- The Possibilities

Google

Head Start Locator

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Distance

Type

[Advanced Search](#)





The Office of Child Care

- ✓ OCC/CCDF Overview
- ✓ CCDF: Children and Families Served
- ✓ How CCDF Can Serve the Homeless Population



OCC/CCDF Overview

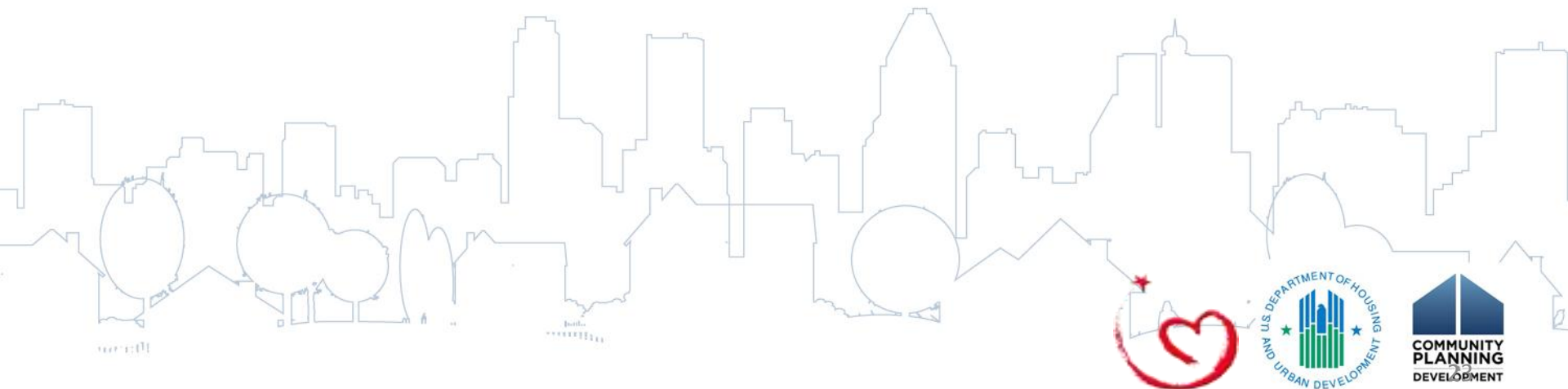
- ✓ OCC administers the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), which is a \$5 billion block grant program that provides funding to States, Territories, and Tribes.
- ✓ Primary Federal funding source devoted to providing access to child care services and improving quality of child care.



OCC/CCDF Overview

✓Twin goals:

- ✓ Promote self-sufficiency by making child care more affordable for low-income parents.
- ✓ Foster healthy child development and school success by improving the quality of child care.



CCDF: Children and Families Served

- ✓ Serves about 1.6 million children each month.
- ✓ Over 60% of families served are living at or below poverty; over 85% are low-income.
- ✓ 95% of families are working or in training or education.
- ✓ Not an entitlement: only an estimated 1 out of 6 (17%) federally-eligible children receive subsidies.



How CCDF Can Serve Homeless Families

States can choose to:

- ✓ Offer priority access
- ✓ Allow for a period of job search
- ✓ Waive co-payments for families at or below poverty level
- ✓ Exempt housing assistance from income determination
- ✓ Use grants or contracts to build supply for vulnerable populations



Partnership in Action: Champaign County, IL



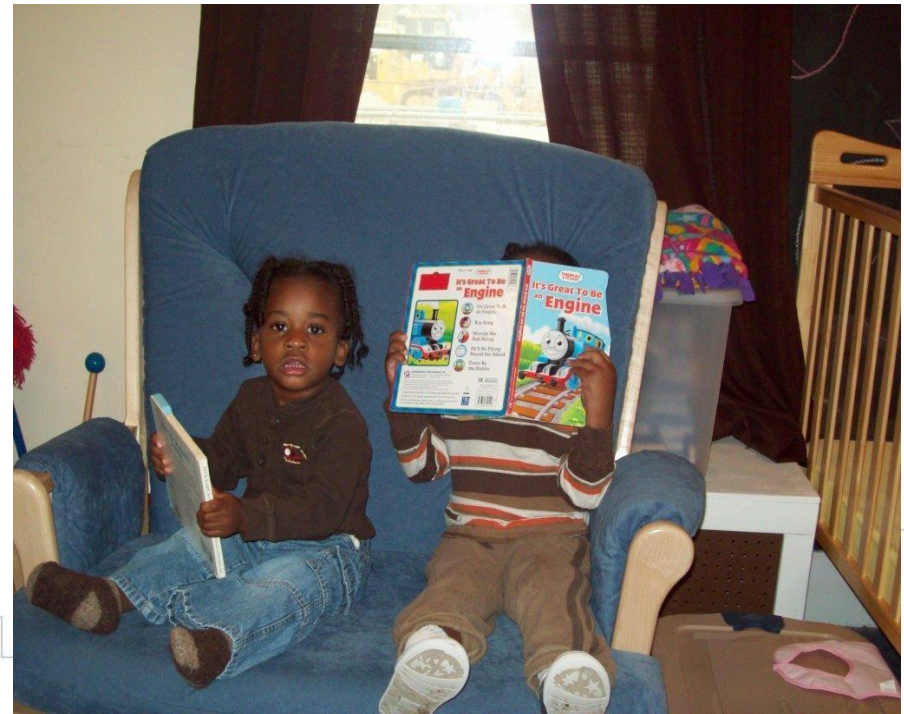
Head Start of Champaign County Center for Women in Transition

- ✓What We Do
- ✓Why We Prioritize
Homeless Families
with Young Children



Forming Our Partnership

- ✓ Coming Together Around Homeless Infants and Toddlers
- ✓ Shared Resources, Knowledge, and Effort



Partnership Benefits and Challenges

HS and CWIT

Benefits	Challenges
Serving the same population (both)	Meeting respective program accountability and reporting requirements and
Finding a great partner (both)	Dealing with needs for confidentiality for families
Built in Recruitment/Enrollment (HS)	Discussions about improving quality of spaces for young children
DV Training for all our staff (HS)	Constant enrollment and transition process is a lot of work
Providing more to their families (CWIT)	Dealing with different perspectives on rules, regulations and supporting families
Cost savings (both)	
HS improved CWIT's playground and play spaces; HS has a trusted referral and can maintain continuity should a family in another part of its program need shelter services	

Local Partnership Opportunities

Head Start

- ✓ Get their buy-in by knowing/learning about what HS/EHS does
- ✓ Invite HS/EHS to your CoC's
- ✓ Work with HS/EHS to set an annual goal around serving homeless children
- ✓ Keep in mind that homeless children are a priority for HS/EHS

Child Care

- ✓ Invite local providers into your CoC's
- ✓ Request training from CCR&Rs about child care benefits for families

State Pre-kindergarten Programs

- ✓ Find out if your state has state-funded pre-kindergarten programs
- ✓ If so, invite a local program to your council meetings



Inter-Agency Partnerships and Federal Resources



Partnership Opportunities ECE/Homelessness Providers

Local

- ✓ Engage in coordination amongst HS, LEA liaisons and HUD CoC's for a birth to 8 focus

State

- ✓ Head Start Collaboration Directors and State Homeless Education Coordinators
- ✓ Early Childhood State Advisory Councils and State Interagency Councils on Homelessness—joint representation

Federal

- ✓ Interagency Council on Family Homelessness
- ✓ Provide information through HUD to CoCs



Birth To Five Homelessness Resources

2013 ACF Policy Package-Increasing ECE Services for Homeless Children

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ecd/expanding-early-care-and-education-for-homeless-children>

Head Start Interactive Homelessness Lessons

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/>

Horizons for Homeless Children

<http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org/>

National Center on Family Homelessness

<http://www.familyhomelessness.org/>

Zero to Three

<http://www.zerotothree.org/>





Questions?



More Questions?

If you have more questions please contact our speakers:

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- Minh Le
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- Kathleen Liffick
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Federal websites:

- Head Start
<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc>
- Office of Child Care
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ>



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United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

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