

Early Childhood Education and Development in the District of Columbia: A Resource Map



It is increasingly clear that access to quality programs promoting the health and education of very young children is critical to their success in school and to their ability to achieve their full potential as adults. The needs of young children are complex—including health care, nutrition, cognitive development, and social development. In addition to a child's family, programs and services that are part of the DC early childhood system can also play a significant role in shaping their healthy development. Some parents and children also need special support that only public programs can adequately provide. As a result, it is even more important for the District of Columbia to deliver high quality, coordinated services to support young children and their families.

The District has about 30 programs across six public agencies that deliver early childhood education and development services for young children and their families. To help families better understand this landscape, the DC Fiscal

Policy Institute examined public investment from federal and local funds in programs serving children from birth to age five for fiscal year 2011. Some programs work to provide safe and high quality early learning environments to help prepare children for school, others focus on early identification and intervention of children with special needs, and other resources are devoted to children's healthy development, nutrition, and family supports.

The enclosed "resource map" offers a snapshot of the District's early childhood education and development programs serving children from birth to age five. It shows what services are offered, the target population for each program, and how much is spent. The data for the resource map were collected directly from agency staff, as well as through budget documents and publicly released reports. Except where noted, fiscal year 2011 funding information is included.

Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), osse.dc.gov

OSSE is the District's state-level education agency. Its Division of Early Childhood Education focuses on ensuring that young children, from birth to start of kindergarten, have access to early childhood development programs and are well-prepared for school. The following OSSE programs offer early childhood services for DC residents:

Child Care Subsidy Program: The Child Care Subsidy Program helps low- and moderate-income families pay for child care, including before and after-school care, in licensed centers or family child care settings. In 2011, there were 193 licensed child development centers and 86 licensed homes providing services to subsidy-receiving families.¹

Child Care Licensing: This program ensures that all child development facilities operating in the District of Columbia comply with the established child care regulations.

Professional Development: OSSE provides resources to increase the capacity of professionals working in early childhood programs to improve their quality rating. These resources include monthly training sessions, conferences, higher education scholarships, technical assistance and quality improvement grants.

Quality Rating and Improvement System: "Going for the Gold" is DC's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) with three levels (Bronze, Silver, and Gold) built on licensing requirements. Every child development facility receives a rating based on its quality to help inform the public about their child care choices. As of September 2012, the District is in the process of revising its QRIS.

Family Engagement: DC Child Care Connections provides child care referral services that help families access early education programs. Home visitation programs send trained professionals into the homes of at-risk families to help parents learn about all aspects of child development and to provide access to community resources.

Pre-Kindergarten: Legislation adopted in 2008 set a goal of providing universal access to Pre-Kindergarten education for all 3- and 4-year-olds in DC. OSSE provides funding for Pre-Kindergarten classrooms that meet established quality standards. Pre-K is offered to families through DC Public Schools, DC Public Charter Schools and publicly-funded child development centers.

DC Early Intervention Program (DC EIP): DC's Early Intervention Program serves families who are concerned about possible developmental delays of their infants and toddlers. Under Part C the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), DC EIP is responsible for services to young children, birth to three years old. After a child is referred to the program and parental consent is given, staff members conduct an evaluation of the child's various skills and develop an individual plan for services to meet identified needs. Early intervention services may include occupational, physical and speech/language therapy, special instruction, vision, or hearing services in the child's home or child care setting. Families may also receive counseling, training, and home visits to help them support their child's development.

Child and Adult Care Food Program: This federally-funded program provides reimbursement for meals and snacks for infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers, and school-age children in child care settings and emergency shelters. (It also provides funding for facilities that serve adults.)

DC Public Schools (DCPS), dcps.dc.gov and DC Public Charter Schools

Both DCPS and DC Public Charter Schools help to administer many programs for young children, including Head Start and Pre-Kindergarten. They also play a key role in the early identification and evaluation of children with special needs before they are school-age.

Early Stages: Early Stages is a DCPS program for children between the ages of 2 years 8 months and 5 years 10 months. It helps families identify developmental delays that their child may have and provides an evaluation to address those delays. These services are available free to all District families, whether their child goes to public school, private school, is home-schooled or has not yet entered school.

Head Start and Early Head Start

Head Start is a federal program that promotes school readiness of pre-school-aged children from low-income families, by offering comprehensive educational, nutritional, health, social and other services. DC also provides Early Head Start, which serves low-income infants, toddlers, pregnant women and their families who have incomes below federal poverty level. Funding flows directly from the federal government to individual grantees, which can be child care centers. Grantees may contract services to other agencies, and these programs are referred to as "delegates." In 2011, the six Head Start grantees in DC were: Bright Beginnings (Homeless Program), El Centro de Rosemount, United Planning Organization, Edward C. Mazique Parent & Child Center, DCPS Head Start, and Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Institute. See here for a list of current grantees and delegates: http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hslc_grantee_directory.

DC Department of Health (DOH), doh.dc.gov

The Community Health Administration within the DC Department of Health (DOH) focuses on improving health outcomes for targeted populations. The following bureaus within the Community Health Administration provide key early childhood services:

Child Adolescent and School Health Bureau

Immunization Program/Vaccines for Children Program: This program is federally-funded and provides vaccines free of charge to children under age 19 who are either Medicaid eligible, uninsured, American Indian/Alaskan Native, or underinsured. The program conducts annual assessments to determine immunization compliance for Head Start centers, licensed child development centers and schools.

Oral Health Division: This program conducts oral health screenings/dental examinations, fluoride varnish and dental referrals to Head Start and early Head Start children. It also provides education and training on oral hygiene techniques. Services are conducted in DC Public Schools and DC Public Charter Schools.

^{1.} Child Trends. District of Columbia Early Childhood Risk and Reach Assessment. http://osse.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/osse/publication/attachments/ChildTrends_RiskReach_final%20%282%29.pdf

Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's **Health) Grant:** This is a five-year initiative that focuses on the wellness of young children (0–8 years) so they can thrive in safe, supportive environments and enter school ready to learn. The program brings local child-serving agencies together to coordinate policies and better serve the city's neediest families. The project incorporates five basic services to create more connected services: developmental assessments in a range of child-serving settings; integration of behavioral health programs and practices into primary care; home visiting programs; mental health consultations; and family strengthening and parent skills training. The program partners with other agencies including DOH, the Child and Family Services Administration, and DCPS' Early Stages to offer less fragmented service delivery. The program also provides workforce development for community-based organizations and has consultants in 12 child development centers. Funds were also used to pay for two consultants for the Healthy Futures program (see under DMH).

Project LAUNCH primarily serves communities in Wards 7 and 8 The DC Council on Young Child Wellness (DCCYCW) is the body that oversees all Project LAUNCH activities. Note that after fiscal year 2011, Project LAUNCH is shifting focus more towards workforce development and less on service delivery for home visitation.

Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant and Child Home Visitation Program: DC's home visiting program is intended to promote maternal, infant and early childhood health as well as the development of strong parent-child relationships. The program's key outcomes include prevention of child injuries or maltreatment; improvement in school readiness and achievement; and improvements in parenting skills. The DC Department of Health supports two evidence-based home visiting programs: Parents as Teachers (PAT) and the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY), within the high-need communities of Wards 5, 7, and 8.

No direct services were provided in FY 2011, but funding was provided in FY 2012 to two contractors to provide services—Mary's Center and Family Place.

Title V (Maternal and Child Health Block Grant): Title V, or the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, is focused on the continued improvement in the health, safety, and well-being of mothers and children. In DC, this funding goes to support a number of programs, including oral health, pre- and post-natal health, and special health care services. Two grantees in FY 2011 that used Title V funding for their programs serving children from birth to age five are:

• Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc. (AJE)/Parent Information Network: The DC Parent Information Network provides family support services for children with special needs, ages 0-22, and their families. AJE provides families and providers face to face and online training on topics related to health care. Their main purpose is to help families navigate through the DC health system, connect families to resources in their communities, and help families develop skills to work cooperatively and effectively in decision making and planning on health related issues.

• Mary's Center Mood Disorder Program: This community-based non-profit organization provides services to children with special health care needs (ages 2-22) with a focus on behavioral health, ADHD or other special health care needs, and dental services.

Nutrition and Physical Fitness Bureau

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): WIC is a federally funded nutrition program that provides nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, and a monthly set of foods to supplement the diets of pregnant women, new mothers, infants, and children up to age five.

Perinatal and Infant Health Bureau

Fetal Alcohol Awareness Syndrome Prevention Program: This program, which is incorporated into the Safe Cribs program, educates pregnant women, women of childbearing age, and others on the dangers of alcohol consumption prior to and during pregnancy.

Genetic and Metabolic Screening Services: This program ensures that all infants born in the District of Columbia are screened for genetic and metabolic disorders at birth. The screenings are performed by hospital staff and reimbursed through Medicaid. The DOH staff person assigned to the program provides follow-up services for infants with inconclusive or positive screening results, including counseling, clinical evaluation, and diagnostic procedures.

Safe Cribs Program: This program educates caregivers on the importance of providing a healthy sleeping environment for infants, and it provides a free "pack-n-play" (portable crib/playpen) to caregivers seeking one.

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program: This program works with hospitals, primary health care providers, public health workers and others to ensure that every newborn is screened for hearing loss. Infants who do not pass the screening are linked with medical services.

DC Healthy Start I and II: This program aims to identify and reduce behavioral and medical risk factors among pregnant and parenting women, and to improve access to healthcare for mothers and children. Services include: outreach, home visitation, health screening, referral and linkages to medical and other services, social support, and health education. Participants are screened for risk factors such as obesity, hypertension, and asthma, depression and other mental health disorders, substance abuse and domestic violence. The program targets women with infants under three months of age, but services are provided through the child's second birthday.

DC Linkage and Tracking System (DCLTS): This program works to identify children from birth to five years of age who are at risk for developmental delays and disabilities or who exhibit signs or symptoms of developmental disabilities through early identification, tracking and linkage with appropriate services.

DC Department of Mental Health (DMH), dmh.dc.gov

The Children and Youth Services Division within the Department of Mental Health works to develop a coordinated system of care for children, adolescents and their families. The division's efforts to promote early identification and prevention include the following initiatives:

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation/Healthy Futures:

Healthy Futures provides early childhood mental health consultation to 27 child development centers, to build the capacity of staff to promote positive social emotional development and reduce problem behaviors. The program also provides consultation to children and families who are having socio-emotional difficulties.

Parent Infant Early Childhood Enhancement (PIECE) Program:

The PIECE program primarily serves children six years of age and younger who are referred for behavioral therapy. The program involves play and art therapy, infant observation, and Parent Child Interaction Therapies, and supports parenting groups. Children can be referred through DCPS, public charter schools, Early Stages, Head Start, or self-referral.

Primary Project: This program provides screening and early intervention services for children identified with mild school adjustment issues in Pre-Kindergarten through third grade in 16 public schools and 14 Pre-K classrooms.

DC Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), dhcf.dc.gov

The Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) is the District of Columbia's state Medicaid agency. It works to improve health outcomes by providing access to comprehensive health care services for DC residents.

Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT): EPSDT entitles all Medicaid-enrolled children (birth – 21 years) to screenings, preventive health care, and medically necessary diagnosis and treatment. EPSDT mandates early and periodic preventive health services such as screening services, diagnostic services, and treatment or referrals to correct or improve health conditions. Anything identified for treatment is then paid separately with Medicaid funding, which is not included in this map. For more information on what types of services are provided at what stage, see the periodicity schedule at: http://dchealthcheck.net/resources/healthcheck/periodicity.html

DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), dpr.dc.gov

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) provides recreation and leisure services for residents and visitors to the District of Columbia. DPR supervises and maintains area parks, community

facilities, swimming pools, and neighborhood recreation centers, and also coordinates a variety of recreation programs.

Cooperative Play Preschool Program (Co-Op): Through Co-Op, children ages 18 months through 5 years old are introduced to a structured play setting with activities that engage children mentally, socially, physically, and emotionally to prepare them for school entry. Parents and guardians assist the site facilitator with the activities.

District Department of the Environment (DDOE), ddoe.dc.gov/service/lead-safe-and-healthy-homes

The Lead and Healthy Housing Division within the District Department of the Environment consists of two branches focused on lead-safe and healthy homes for children.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) and **Healthy Homes Program:** Pediatricians are required by law to test all District children for lead twice, at ages one and two. The CLPPP is responsible for the processing of all blood lead test results for children under six years of age who live in the District, for the maintenance of the city's database of these results, and for the analysis of blood lead test results. If a child has an "elevated" blood level (ten micrograms of lead and above, per deciliter of blood), program staff provide case management services for their families. CLPPP staff also conduct outreach and proactive measures to prevent lead exposure. The Healthy Homes program includes a public-private partnership with several DC agencies and major District medical providers to identify and eliminate a range of health risks in homes with young children. These organizations make referrals to the Healthy Homes Program for serious asthma cases for children under age 18 and for homes with children under age six that are identified as high-risk for environmental health threats. The Healthy Homes Program then sends specialists to the homes for comprehensive assessments and recommendations, including a Care Plan for the occupant families and a Technical Assistance Report for property owners. For more information on these programs, see www. dchealthyhomes.com and www.ddoe.dc.gov/twicebytwo.

Compliance and Enforcement: This branch ensures that property owners and contractors who work on older buildings are in compliance with the District's lead laws. It is also responsible for lead abatement permitting, lead training provider accreditation, and the certification and monitoring of lead professionals. When a child is identified with an elevated lead level, an inspector accompanies the case manager to the residence to provide a comprehensive risk assessment and make sure steps are taken to eliminate identified hazards in the home. Enforcement staff also respond to complaints about peeling paint and about unsafe work practices involving pre-1978 properties.





EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AND SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FY 2011

																																EVELANATION OF
Budget Cluster	PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM									HUMAN SUPPORT SERVICES															PUBLIC WORKS	EXPLANATION OF TERMS Cluster: Umbrella grouping of DC government agencies as						
DC Agency	Office of the State	Superintendent of Education	(SSE)					DC Public Schools			Is Not applicable—the District Government does not control Head Start or Early Head Start funds	DC Department of Health	(DOH)													DC Department of Mental	Health (DMH)		DC Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF)	DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)	District Department of the Environment	5 , 5
Division	Division of Early Lea	rning				Division of Special Education	tion Wellness and Nutritious Services Division					Community Health Administra and School Health Bureau							Community Health Administration, Nutrition and Physical Fitness Bureau	Community Health Admin	inistration, Perinatal and Infan	nt Health Bureau				Children and Youth Service	es Division				Lead and Healthy Housing Division	Division: Division within DC agency Program: Subdivision of department tasked with
Program	Child Care Subsidy P	rogram Child Care Licensing	Professional Development and Quality Improvement Resources	Family Engagement	Pre-Kindergarten	DC Early Intervention Program	Child and Adult Care Food Program	Early Stages	Pre-Kindergarten/ Head Start	Pre-Kindergarten	Head Start and Early Head Start	Immunization Program/ Vaccines for Children Program	Oral Health Division	Actions for Unmet Needs	Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program	y Families	Advocates for Justice and Education, Inc./Parent Information Network		Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	Fetal Alcohol Awareness Syndrome Prevention Program		Safe Cribs Program	Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program	DC Healthy Start I and II	DC Linkage and Tracking	Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation/ Healthy Futures	Parent Infant Early Childhood Enhancemen (PIECE) Program	Primary Project nt	Medicaid Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT)	Cooperative Play Preschool Program		Total Program Funding: Entirety of dollars spent for program
Total Program Funding (FY 2011)	\$79	1,960,579 \$	773,329 \$2,825,000	\$1,175,00	000 \$9,553,946 for Pre-K Expan- sion Grants; Per-pupil exper ditures from UPSFF: \$11,752 (PK3) and \$11,401 (PK4)	pen- 52	\$7,328,237	\$6,518,550		rom Per-pupil expenditures from UPSFF: \$11,752 (PK3) and \$11,401 (PK4)	\$26,000,000	\$2,718,433	\$132, 000	\$850,000	00 FY 10-12 \$614,44		\$250,000	\$245,357	2 \$14, 998,614	This awareness program falls within the Safe Cribs Program.		1 full-time salaried employee (amount not available)	\$300.0	00 DC Healthy Start I: \$2,350,000 and DC Healthy Start II: \$1,350,000	1	\$365,000	0 \$63	33,124 \$336,61	54 Not available. Note: About 90% of children are enrolled in managed care organizations who receive a capitation payment by DHCF. EPSDT costs are no broken out			Local Funding: Program dollars allocated by the mayor and DC Council from the General Fund Federal Funding:
Local Funding (FY 2011)	\$35	5,524,097 \$,773,329 \$1,565,000	00 \$575,00	000 \$9,553,9	946 \$	y - \$-	\$6,218,387	87 Per-pupil expenditures from UPSFF: \$11,752 (PK3) and \$11,401 (PK4)	rom Per-pupil expenditures: \$11,752 (PK3) and \$11,401 (PK4)	\$-	\$851,597	\$132, 00	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available	\$-	\$-	- NA		\$-	\$-	\$ -	\$- \$-	- \$-	\$175,00	0 \$540,971 from DMH \$92,153 from DOH	\$239,69	54 Data not available	\$227,897	\$600,000	Program dollars spent from federal grants and funds
Federal Funding (FY 2011)	\$6,828,3 \$37,608,178 Intradisti funding f	rict TANF	\$- \$1,260,000	\$600,00	00	\$- \$2,200,000	\$7,328,237	\$300,16?	63 Data not available	\$-		Program funded on a Calendar cycle - Total fund- ing - \$1,866,836	\$	\$- \$850,000	00 FY 10-12 \$614,446		000 \$250,000	\$245,35	\$14,998,614		\$- 1 full-time salaried employee	1 full-time salaried employee	\$300,0	00 DC Healthy Start I: \$2,350,000 and DC Healthy Start II: \$1,350,000	\$278,469	\$190,000	0 Not applicable	\$97,00	Data not available	Data not available		Federal Source: Specific federal funding sources; for example, CCDF (Child Care and Development
Federal Funding Agency	US Department of Hea and Human Services, Administration for Chi and Families		US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families	US Department of Health and Human Services	I Not applicable	US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs	n, US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service	US Department of Education	US Department of Health and Human Services		US Department of Health and Human Services	US Department of Health and Human Services	Not applicable	US Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)	US Department of Health h and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)	alth and Human Services, Health Resources and Services	US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)		Not applicable	US Department of Health and Human Services, Hea Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)	alth and Human Services, Hea	alth and Human Services, Heal	th and Human Services, Health Resources and Services			Not applicable	US Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)	and Human Services, Cente for Medicare and Medicaid Services	r	US Environmental Protection Agency; US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	
Federal Source	Child Care Developme and Temporary Assist Needy Families	nt Fund Not applicable ance for	Child Care Development Fund	Child Care Development Fund	Not applicable	IDEA Part C		IDEA Part B Special Education for ages 3-22	Head Start	Not applicable	Head Start, Early Head Start	Immunization Grant, Vaccines for Children	Not applicable	Project LAUNCH	Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program	'	Title V, Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant			Not applicable	Title V	Healthy Start	Universal Newborn Hearin Screening Program		(Intradistrict funds from DHCF) Medicaid	Project LAUNCH	Not applicable	Project LAUNCH	Medicaid EPSDT	Not applicable	CDC Healthy Homes Grant; Toxic Substances Control Act 404(g) Grant	that support early learning of children zero to five, including screening, assessment,
Target Population	in low- and moderate- families (under 250% who need child care to	income in licensed child care f poverty) and day care homes	age 13 Early childhood programs and staff	Families that may be eligible for early childhood services	le 3 and 4 year old children s	Children from birth to age 3 with a 50% developmental delay or a diagnosed condition known to result in a developmental delay	development center or adult day center may participate	d Children ages 2 years 8 months to 5 years 10 months	3 and 4 year old children attending DCPS schools		Children from birth to age 5 and their families who are below federal poverty level	,	participating in the Free or	in Wards 7 and 8			ents Children with special needs rds and their families, ages 0-22		Pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children under age 5 who meet income guidelines or medical risk	Women of childbearing ag	ge Infants	Families with infants unde 12 months	ler Infants	Pregnant and postpartum women with infants up to three months of age in Wards 5, 6, 7, and 8		Children birth-60 months served by licensed child development centers	Children six years of age younger who are referre for behavioral therapy		n children under age 21 en	c Children ages 18 months through 5 years old	Perinatal Health Bureau,	Nutrition): Comprehensive physical health services that promote the physical
Number Served in FY 2011	11,410 children (1,814 in 4,949 toddlers, 2,373 preschool, 2,274 schoo children)		tual 4,135 (trainings and scholarship participants only)		500 10,093 children (includes tho served in DCPS, DCPCS, and other pre-k classrooms)	d	467 158,929 children and adults (not separated by age range)		38 2,121 PK3 and 3,114 in PK4 (actual enrollment figures from audit)			Clinic, 3,388 individuals	475 children were treated clinically and another 750 were provided with oral health education)	No direct services were provided In FY 2011	264 families	1,587 children 0-22	141 children 2-22	16,537	8	844 14,	,599 1,	1,015 12,4	141 820) 133	1,28	6 135 referrals; 65 active o	cases 835 children screened; 428 screen positive; 323 screen for Primary Project, 198 treated based on 216 consents		20 131	Not available	well-being of children, including prenatal care, primary care, and nutrition services Family Support and Engagement: Initiatives that enable parents to nurture and support the healthy development of their children
Services																																Searly Identification and Intervention:
Early Learning and Development	•	▼	▼	▼	▼		▼	▼	▼	•	▼			▼	▼	▼	▼	▼								▼	•	▼		▼	▼	Services that focus on including and supporting children with special
Health (includes nutrition)	0					•	•				•	•	•	•	0	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•				•		•	needs
Family Support and Engagement	+			*	+	*			+	+	+			*	+	+	+		*					*			+					
Early Identification and Intervention					⇔	0		•	•	•	•			•		•	☆	☆			•		•		•	•	☆	•				

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