



# Early Childhood 2011



**EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

***PROMOTING HAPPY, HEALTHY AND  
SUCCESSFUL CHILDREN, STRONG  
FAMILIES AND SUPPORTIVE  
COMMUNITIES***

# Working Together



## Programs

- Head Start
- Child Care
- Home Visiting (HRSA and ACF)



## Partnering with:

- Maternal and Child Health, SAMHSA, CMS, CDC
- US Department of Education
- The Children's Bureau/Child Welfare
- Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation
- DOD and other federal agencies
- State Early Childhood Advisory Councils, state agencies and local communities
- National Organizations

# Goal and Strategies



## Goal

- To ensure that more children and families have access to high quality early childhood development services

## Strategies

- Assuring sound program management and accountability
- Promoting quality, coordination and early childhood system reform
- Launching innovation
- Supporting research and evaluation

# Assuring Sound Program Management and Accountability



- Performance measures
- Program monitoring and improvements
- Technical assistance
- Fiscal integrity
- Policy innovation and reform
- Head Start redetermination policies
- Child Care state application and reporting improvements

# Promoting Quality, Coordination and Early Childhood System Reform



- Coordinated governance
- Program standards
- Early learning guidelines and assessment
- Early childhood workforce professional development
- Family engagement
- Health linkages
- Data systems
- Continuity prenatal through school age

# Coordinated Governance



- Coordinated planning across Child Care, Head Start and Home Visiting (leadership team, regional early childhood teams)
- Early Childhood Interagency Policy Board
- State Early Childhood Advisory Councils
- Early Learning Communities

# Program Standards



- Promoting quality rating and improvement systems
- Revising Head Start Program Performance Standards
- Planning TA to states on home visiting fidelity and standards

# Early Learning Guidelines and Assessment



- Promoting state early learning guidelines for children 0-5
- Revising Head Start Child Development and Learning Framework
- Planning training and TA for programs on the use of data to inform practice
- Developing a joint statement on assessment with the Department of Education

# Early Childhood Workforce Professional Development



- Planning to establish a center on early childhood workforce and professional development \*
- Establishing the National Center on Teaching and Learning
- Launching the NAS Study of the Early Childhood Workforce
- Planning TA to states on home visiting workforce capacity building

\* *Name pending*

# Family Engagement



- Establishing the National Center on Family Engagement
- Developing a joint statement on family engagement with the Department of Education
- Supporting Child Care Aware
- Creating linkages between ECD and child welfare

# Health and Mental Health Linkages



- Planning to establish a National Health, Oral Health, Mental Health and Nutrition Center  
(Screening and follow up, wellness promotion/healthy weight, asthma prevention, health literacy)
- Partnering with MCH and CDC on healthy child care, health and safety, integration of health in early childhood systems reform
- Partnering with Department of Agriculture on nutrition promotion and monitoring
- Partnering with SAMHSA on mental health promotion

# Data Systems



- Improving coordination across federal administrative data
- Promoting coordinated state data systems (learning communities across the states)
- Planning Early childhood.gov (joint HHS and ED)

# Continuity Prenatal through School Age



- Promoting Head Start school partnership agreements
- Supporting linkages between early childhood and after school
- Identifying Early Learning Communities 0-8

# Launching Innovation



- ASSET initiative
- Early Head Start Family Child Care Demo
- Teacher Mentoring Pilot
- Learning Labs-Head Start and State Early Learning Systems
- Tribal Early Learning Community Initiative

# Supporting Research and Evaluation



- **Describing the field**
  - **National Survey of Early Care and Education**
  - **FACES and BabyFACES**
- **Understanding quality**
  - **Quality Features, Dosage & Thresholds and Child Outcomes**
  - **QRS Compendium and Toolkit**
- **Using research to support practice**
  - **Secretary's Advisory Committee on Head Start Research**
  - **Research Connections**
- **Understanding special populations**
  - **Center for Early Care and Education for Dual Language Learners**
  - **Center for Early Care and Education in Tribal Settings**