

DD Council's Child Care Recommendations and Collaborative Action Plan October 16, 2014

Additional funding is needed to fully implement Act 3

- Department of Education (LDE) will inform the Council of their funding request to fully implement Act 3 (upon submission of the LDE budget to the Division of Administration)
- Council and other advocates will consider supporting this request

Data is needed regarding children with disabilities and early childhood.

- Human Development Center (HDC) will determine what data from LDE is needed (by early November 2014)
- HDC will assist by obtaining data from Early Head Start and Head Start (by mid November 2014)
- LDE and HDC will analyze cost of serving children with varying needs (by early December 2014)

Child care centers need higher rates to serve children with disabilities and clarity in determining which children are eligible for higher rates.

- Inclusion Work Group will continue advocating for a higher rate to serve children with disabilities and appropriate language in policy regarding eligibility for the higher rate.
- This higher rate should not be limited to the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). Other agencies should consider contributing to the additional cost.

Medicaid funds supporting children in Pediatric Day Health Care Centers should be used to support children in inclusive settings.

- Council will write letter to the Department of Health and Hospitals with this recommendation. (by mid November 2014)

[DD Council's Letter to DHH with Child Care Recommendations](#) October 27, 2014

Publicly funded educational settings should receive additional funding to serve children with disabilities.

- Council will write letter to LDE and Early Childhood Advisory Council with this recommendation. (by mid November 2014)

[DD Council's Letter to LDOE with Child Care Recommendations](#) October 27, 2014

[LDOE's Response to DD Council's Child Care Recommendations](#) November 3, 2014

A complaint process is needed for parents not able to access an appropriate early childhood/child care setting.

- Council will write letter to LDE and Early Childhood Advisory Council with this recommendation. (by mid November 2014)

[DD Council's Letter to LDOE with Child Care Recommendations](#) October 27, 2014

Training and technical assistance must be provided for early childhood/child care programs to serve children with disabilities.

- Council will write letter to LDE and Early Childhood Advisory Council with recommendation to expand the Early Learning for All Inclusion Grant to all areas of the state. (by mid November 2014)
[DD Council's Letter to LDOE with Child Care Recommendations](#) October 27, 2014
- The Inclusion Work Group will monitor the availability of training and technical assistance and inform the Council of additional needs and/or issues. (ongoing)
- The Office of Public Health/Children's Special Health Services will explore opening up their care coordination training resources to EarlySteps Family Support Coordinators and providers. (by end of January 2015)