



CENTRO FAMILIA



EWA 62nd National Seminar,  
Washington DC | April 30-May 2

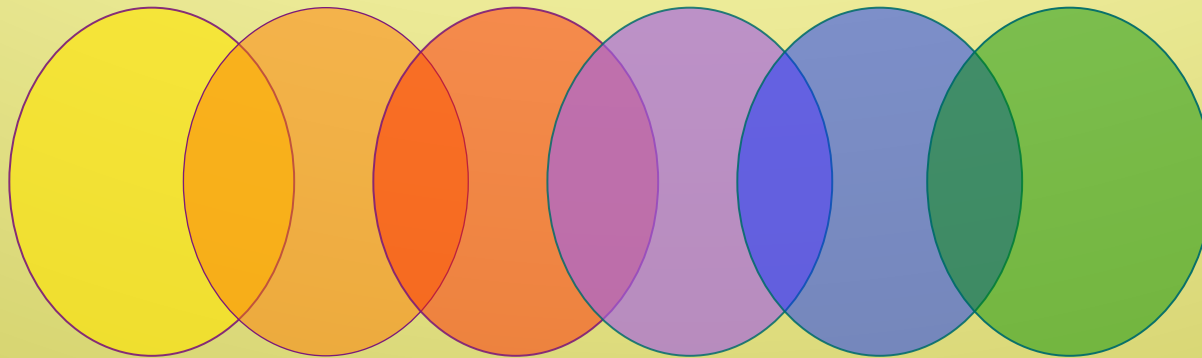
*Family Child Care:  
America's Home for Children*

Pilar Torres, MEd  
Centro Familia  
[ptorres@centro-familia.org](mailto:ptorres@centro-familia.org)

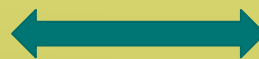


## CONTINUUM OF CHILDCARE CHOICES

Dr. Mon Cochran



Family Friends Neighbors Family Childcare Childcare Preschool



Unstructured

Low cost

Available

Culturally aligned

*Lower quality*

Structured

High cost

Unavailable

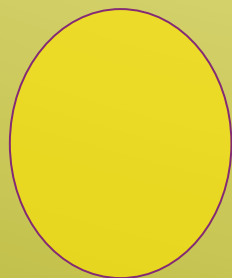
Culturally neutral

*High Quality*

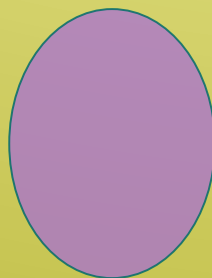


## Before entering kindergarten most low-income children

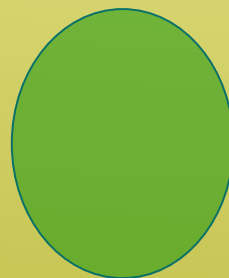
- ✓ Have been in more than one type of care since birth
- ✓ Have been more than one type of care at a given time



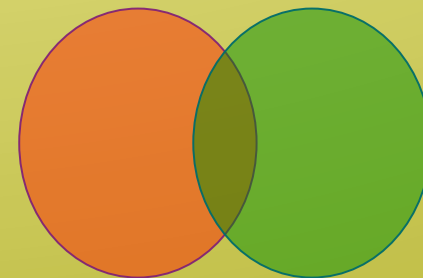
Family 0-1



FCC 1-4



Preschool 4-5



4 year old: Neighbor in the a.m. Preschool in the p.m.

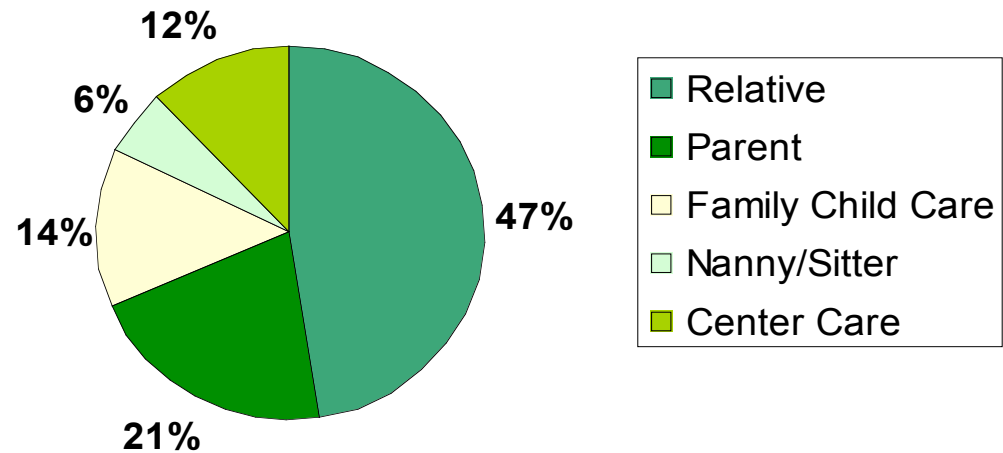


## Most low income, ELL (English Language Learner) families

- ✓ Prefer family relative care (even when you control for SES)
- ✓ Can only afford FFN
- ✓ Can only find FFN
- ✓ Place a very high value on preservation of home language and traditions
- ✓ Place a very high value on school readiness and learning English



## Primary Child Care for Latino Children Under Age 3 in Two Parent Families, Both Employed



Source: Capizzano, Jeffrey, Gina Adams, and Jason Ost, *Caring for Children of Color: The Child Care Patterns of White, Black, and Hispanic Children Under the Age of Five*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute, February 2006



## What is Family Childcare?

- ✓ Licensed/Regulated Home
  - Regulations vary from state-to-state
  - Differences can be dramatic
- ✓ Provides care for non-relatives
  - Most fcc providers take care of relatives as well
- ✓ Nationally, there are approximately 163,966 licensed family child care providers
- ✓ The gentlest way for children to be away from their families



## Families choose Family Child Care<sup>1</sup>

- Approximately 11-14 percent of children under 5 with employed mothers are in family child care.
- Approximately one-third (32%) of families receiving child care assistance use family child care (ages birth to 13)
- Family child care is often used to wraparound other forms of care (such as Head Start, school-based pre-k, etc.)

1. Center for Law and Social Policy



## Working Parents choose Family Child Care because<sup>2</sup>

- It is flexible
  - This is important for shift/night work
- It is a great alternative for children with special needs
  - Small groups
  - More individualized attention
  - Stronger bond/team between provider and parent
- It offers better continuity of care
  - Less changes in provider/child relationship
  - Siblings of different ages can be together
- It is definition is a cultural/linguistic transmitter/promoter
  - Particularly important to immigrant, ethnic families
  - Natural resources
  - FCC is a an important element of community building





## Weaknesses:

- ✓ Isolation
- ✓ Tend to have less education
- ✓ Low pay
- ✓ No benefits
- ✓ Lack of standards
- ✓ Differences in regulations across states



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# Strengthening Family Child Care

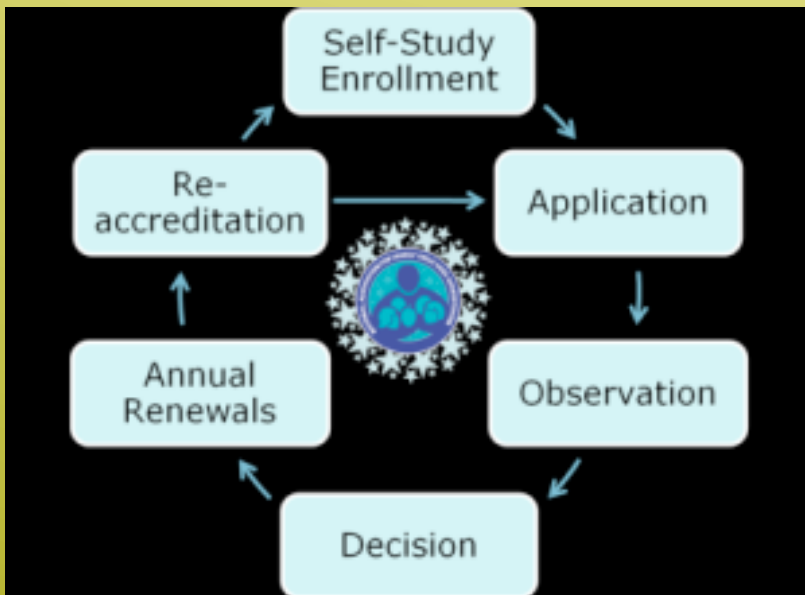


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NAFCC sponsors the only nationally recognized accreditation system, designed specifically for family child care providers. This system was designed by hundreds of providers, parents, and early care and education experts in an effort to create a quality indicator for family child care programs across the country.

Baltimore, Maryland June 25 - 27, 2009



NAFCC Accreditation is recognized as the highest indicator that a family child care program is a quality environment. In states where Quality Rating Systems have been implemented, NAFCC Accreditation is often the "top" level in the rating system.



## Traditional Definitions of Quality

Teacher qualifications  
Regulations (licensing)  
Curriculum  
Intensity & Duration  
OUTCOMES

## Alternative Definitions of Quality

Parental Involvement  
Culture and language  
Trust and community connections  
Intensity & Duration  
OUTCOMES

Family Child Care can integrate both





## Maryland Model 2008-2009 Relationship of Prior Care to School Readiness

### Composite Score % Seven Developmental Domains

	Full	Approaching	Developing
Child Care	77	21	2
Family Childcare	69	27	4
Head Start	64	32	4
Informal/Unregulated	63	32	6
Non public Nursery	86	14	1
Preschool	75	22	3



## Networks, Systems and Hubs <sup>3</sup>

**Network:** is a community-based group of family child care providers convened by a sponsoring agency for the purposes of peer support, sharing of resources, and enhancing their professionalism. The primary purpose of this kind of network is to support the family child care provider.

**System:** The primary purpose of a system/network is to serve the needs of parents and children in the program. A formal contractual relationship exists between a system/network and family child care providers that articulates roles and responsibilities. The sponsoring agency offers the providers opportunities for peer support, sharing of resources, and professional growth. They also end provider isolation, offer training and professional development opportunities, and offer business training. Providers may be independent contractors or employees of the family child care system.



## Hubs



Lab school, training, resources, field trips, transitions,  
mentoring, technical assistance



Systems are partnering with State Universal PreK programs <sup>4</sup>

✓California:

✓LAUP: LAUP has contracted with five "Hub" agencies to recruit and work with groups of individual FCC providers.

✓Chicago:

•2009 Erickson Institute: The Family Child Care Network Impact Study

✓Massachusetts:

•There are 75 systems in Massachusetts, which contract with approximately 2,500 family child care providers. It is estimated that these systems serve 12,500 children across the Commonwealth.

✓Maryland:

•Exploring FCC Systems as a UPK partner





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**NAFCC  
Accreditation Project**

**LEONAS**  
A Leadership and Community Involvement Program that trains our graduates to become Early Childhood Promotoras (Multipliers of information) and grass roots change agents.

**Family Child Care System**

Support and Assistance in the process of obtaining the NAFCC –Accreditation.

A Family Child Care management system, offering providers business development support, monitored safety and quality standards and link families to quality providers in their community.

**Child Development Associate**

**Listos Para La Escuela**

135 hours of Early Childhood Education. Plus technical assistance for the preparation of the Professional Resource File and the Evaluation.

**ESL English as a Second Language**

**En Familia**

A home based literacy curriculum program for FCC Providers, support with MD credentialing

A comprehensive and certified introductory childcare training program and technical assistance in Spanish for Potential Family Child Care Providers.

**Centro Familia's**  
Professional  
Development Ladder  
Latina Family Childcare Providers ©



## Family Child Care and Economic Stimulus Plan

- ✓ Shovel Ready
  - Perfect match for Early Head Start
- ✓ Promotes Community Development
- ✓ Micro-enterprise
- ✓ America works if childcare works
- ✓ Supports low-income women (providers and parents)
- ✓ Compelling human interest stories



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Pilar Torres, MEd  
[ptorres@centro-familia.org](mailto:ptorres@centro-familia.org)

10914 Georgia Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD 20902  
301-754-1801  
301-754-1803 fx  
[www.centro-familia.org](http://www.centro-familia.org)

