Alliance Partner Peek:
Child Care and Development Block Grant

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Agenda: It’s All About the Money

- The Past
  - How we got the $2.37 billion increase

- The Present
  - What we’re all doing now to keep it

- The Future
  - What needs to happen moving forward, in your states and in DC
The Past:

How We Got the Money
Senators Urge Colleagues to Expand Child Care Assistance to Working Families

Today, Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) outlined immediate federal spending priorities that would support hard-working families, including a nearly $3 billion increase in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to make child care more affordable. The federal government is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through December 8 for fiscal year 2018 (FY2018). Members of Congress are considering a short-term CR to give themselves additional time to negotiate a spending bill later this month that would fund the federal government for the remainder of FY2018 (through September 30, 2018).

A $3 billion increase in CCDBG for the balance of FY2018 would give states the resources they need to expand the reach of CCDBG to more than 200,000 additional children and implement bipartisan reforms to improve the health, safety, and quality of child care.

INCREASE FUNDING FOR CCDBG

As Congress debates its final budget, Senators Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren have called for a $3 billion increase in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). This critical increase in funding would:

- Double the current discretionary funding
- Give states the resources they need to expand the reach of CCDBG to more than 200,000 additional children and
- Help states implement bipartisan reforms to improve the health, safety, and quality of child care

(Not sure what CCDBG is and why it matters? We’ve got you covered with this NAEYC resource)

What can you do now?

- Send a tweet or make a call thanking Senator Warren and Senator Sanders
- Contact your own Senators and Representatives to urge them to support this significant increase in CCDBG
#DoubleCCDBG

Join @nwlc, @MomsRising, @NAEYC, @nafcc, @childcarelaw, @VotingforKids, @USACare, @ZEROtoTHREE, @CLASP_DC, and others for a twitter storm today at 4pm ET urging Congress to #DoubleCCDBG. bit.ly/2GNMSsq

Many moms are forced to leave the workforce when they cannot find affordable, high-quality child care. Not everyone has an Aunt Bee. #DoubleCCDBG

What are you doing on Mon, 2/5 at 4pm ET? Joining us, of course! We need all your voices (and your tweets!) to tell #Congress that it's time to raise spending caps & #DoubleCCDBG to help more children access high-quality childcare. @nwlc @MomsRising @ZEROtoTHREE @SupportEarlyEd

4:03 PM - 5 Feb 2018
Advocacy in Many Forms

Investing in the early care and learning of our children is a needed investment in America’s current workforce as well the future workforce of our country. By investing in child care, you are investing in working families, supporting businesses, and improving the potential for later success for millions of America’s children. We urge Congress to make this important commitment by doubling the funding for CCDBG for children birth to age five.

Sincerely,

Rick Santorum
Former U.S. Senator
Pennsylvania

George Miller
Former U.S. Representative
California

Thank you @SenWarren for your leadership and support of early education. Thank you for working to fulfill the promise to #DoubleCCDBG and provide an important first step toward making high quality early education accessible to ALL children.

#PPF2018 #ECEwins
In February 2018, in a sweeping bipartisan negotiation, Congress passed, and the President signed, a major budget deal to provide an additional $5.8 billion to the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) over two years—an increase of $2.9 billion per year. But the work wasn’t over yet…
Via email  
March 8, 2018

Dear Member of Congress,

We greatly appreciated the bipartisan endorsement of a significant increase in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) under the budget agreement passed by Congress and signed into law in February. We want to ensure that Congress follows through with its commitment to increase CCDBG funding by $5.8 billion over two years—$2.9 billion in additional funding in FY 2018 and in FY 2019. This funding is necessary to enable families to access the affordable, high-quality child care that parents need to work and children need for their healthy development. It is essential that Congress maintain the bipartisan budget deal that includes not restricting available funding and approve an allocation for the Labor, Health, and Human Services Committee that allows for the agreed-to funding increase for Child Care and Development Block Grant as well as support for other early learning programs.

In agreeing to a substantial funding increase of $5.8 billion for CCDBG, Congress demonstrated a recognition that child care is essential to the well-being of children, families, and our country. It is critical that Congress keep this commitment to families.

Sincerely,

Afterschool Alliance
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
Association of Child Development Specialists
Child Care Aware of America
Child Welfare League of America

Childcare Resources
Children's Defense Fund
CLASP
Children's Leadership Council
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)
Early Care and Education Consortium
Every Child Matters
Family Focused Treatment Association
First Five Years Fund
First Focus Campaign for Children
Forum for Youth Investment
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)
IFF
Jumpstart
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Low Income Investment Fund
MomsRising
National Association for Family Child Care
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)
National Council of Jewish Women
National Head Start Association
National Human Services Assembly
National Indian Child Care Association
National Migrant Seasonal Head Start Association
National Organization for Women

National Women's Law Center
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Parents as Teachers
People For the American Way
RESULTS
Save the Children Action Network
Service Employees International Union
SparkAction
Teaching Strategies
United Parent Leaders Action Network
United Way Worldwide
Voices for Progress
Wydadette Nation
YWCA USA
ZERO TO THREE
How did it end up?

- $2.4 billion increase: the largest in history
- $610 million increase for Head Start
- $299 million increase for Part B and C of IDEA
- $35 million increase for CCAMPIS to support child care for student parents
- Sustained funding for year-round Pell grants
- One-time fix to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program that expands eligibility to (some) additional borrowers
Celebrate Success!

What a day for children-over $3 billion investments in child care and early learning. It’s time to celebrate the lawmakers who led this effort and the advocates who made the case #Childcare4All #ChildCareNOW

3:03 PM - 23 Mar 2018
PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The agreement includes a $2,370,000,000 increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act. It is expected that this increase will support the full implementation of the CCDBG Act as reauthorized in 2014, including activities to improve the quality and safety of child care programs, increasing provider reimbursement rates, and ensuring health and safety standards are met. The Department should work with States to ensure they are fully in compliance with, and meeting the goals of, the CCDBG Act. Further, the Department should work with States to ensure they are aware of the availability of funds under current law to make minor improvements to facilities to bring them into compliance with health and safety requirements and improve professional development for the child care workforce. Finally, the Department should work with States to ensure they are meeting the needs of families with non-traditional work hours. The funding will also increase access to affordable, high-quality child care to more low-income, working families.
FY19: Kept the Promise…and the Money

- Advocacy push to say thank you & ask for sustained commitment
- CCDBG keeps the baseline increase from FY18 plus an additional $50 million
- Head Start programs increase by $200 million over FY18 increase of $610 million
- Preschool Development Grants and CCAMPIS maintain their investments at $250 million and $50 million respectively
- IDEA Part B Preschool Grants receive an additional $10 million, while Part C grants for infants and families are level funded
The Present

What we’re doing to keep the money
Increasing Equitable Access to High Quality Child Care

- In order to capitalize on the moment, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation chose to generously fund two national partnerships with access to state advocacy and outreach networks:
  - National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA), the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC), the Center for American Progress (CAP), and the First Five Years Fund (FFYF)
  - National Women’s Law Center (NWLC), Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) and the Partnership for America’s Children
Four Main Objectives:
A Multi-Pronged Approach

1. Help state and local advocates to influence state decision makers and the regulatory process in order to advance strategies for increasing child care utilization and eligibility.
2. Leverage federal relationships and influence to build bipartisan support for high impact strategies to increase eligibility for child care subsidies and expand access.
3. Elevate bipartisan policy discussions and commitments from state leaders to improving access to high-quality child care programs for vulnerable families.
4. Implement a sophisticated communications and public relations strategy to demonstrate demand for greater access to high-quality child care options.
We want to…

- Build a constituency for CCDBG and a high-profile demand for increased investment
- Expand and deepen our pool of advocates
- Bring our collective resources to bear on elevating data, policy ideas and promising practices
- Help states to identify their gaps and think bigger and bolder about solving them
  - Especially when it comes to increasing eligibility and helping more children equitably access high-quality programs that meet families’ needs.
All States

- Opportunities to participate in national-level and peer network technical assistance and support via conference calls, webinars, and convenings
  - NWLC & CLASP: State Learning Community Calls & State Administrators Calls and Meetings

- Access to toolkits, templates, and other communications materials

- State monitoring activities & feedback loops
Target States

- Receive intensive one-on-one TA and support
- Be part of a peer learning network
- Receive subgrant dollars
  - Primary areas include: mobilizing advocates; government affairs; and communications
    - i.e., advocacy trainings, press events with congressional delegations, discussions with state administrators, engagement with Governors’ policy advisors
  - Support could also be used to fund outreach strategies to geographically underserved areas, as well as providers and families where English is not the primary language
What States Are Doing With the Money So Far

- Waiting lists & payment rates

- 14 states have not yet determined how they will be using the funds (or have only made a partial determination)
What needs to happen moving forward

The Future
In Your States

- Governors
- New legislators
- Collecting stories
- Messaging ideas
In DC

- Raise the caps
- Close the loops
  - Make sure your federal legislators know how important the child care money is to your state
Table & Group Conversations

- How you are using the money
- What messages do you need to help convince your members to keep it?
- Have you seen any results yet?
- How does this work connect to your other state priorities?