



## ZERO TO THREE

**Moderator: (Kevin Booth)**  
**November 3, 2010**  
**2:00 pm CT**

Operator: Good day and welcome to today's demonstration project "Developing Early Head Start and Family Child Care Partnerships." Today's conference is being recorded.

### SLIDE 1

I would now like to turn the conference over to Mr. (Kevin Booth). Please go ahead, sir.

(Kevin Booth): Thank you, (Ben). I'll be the moderator for today's event. Several of us are going to be available to answer questions and to provide assistance with audio and signing in during the course of today's presentation. You will be able to chat with us via the bottom left-hand corner and the instructions posted in the text chat area. Click on the "Private" tab and then double-click "Leaders and Assistants."

Today's live event is being recorded and will be archived for later viewing on several Web sites, including ((inaudible)), EHS-NRC, and the Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center, also known as ECLKC. Regardless of whether you are participating with us live or accessing us as an archived event, we send you a warm welcome.

### SLIDE 2

Now to get today's webinar started, I'd like to pass the floor to one of your presenters for today Sherrie Rudick. Sherrie?

Sherrie Rudick: Thank you, (Kevin). Good afternoon everybody. I'm Sherrie Rudick and I'm Program Manager for the Early Head Start for Family Child Care Project. I really am happy to be with you here today to talk about this new project and very exciting project. I am also very excited to

welcome with me today a panel of four presenters who will join me in telling you about this project.

### **SLIDE 3**

I would like to introduce first (Angie Godfrey), the Infant-Toddler Program Specialist at the Office of Head Start, and (Dawn Ramsburg), the Child Care Specialist at the Office of Child Care.

Welcome to both of you. (Dawn) and (Angie) are the two federal project officers who are leading the way in this demonstration project.

We are also joined by (Ajay Tawdry) and (Calvin Moore). Both of them are joining us by phone. (Ajay) is calling in from Boston today, and (Calvin) usually finds himself in Birmingham, Alabama, but is today calling in from the NAUIC Conference in California. So welcome to both of you.

(Ajay) is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., and was formerly Director of its Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population. Prior to joining the Urban Institute, though, (Ajay) worked in New York City, and he helped to develop several models that integrated Child Care in Head Start, including working with several large family child care networks to develop this kind of partnership where early Head Start programs provide wraparound child care for early Head Starts.

And (Calvin Moore) is the President of the National Association for Family Child Care. But that's not his day job. In his day job, he is Director of Child Services for Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity Community Action Agency. It's kind of a mouthful. (Calvin) and (Ajay) both are huge advocates for high-quality family child care. So we are delighted to have this group with us today. We know now who the presenters are, and so we wanted to take a minute to see who you are.

### **SLIDE 4**

We know that, today, in our audience, we are joined by staff from (ARRA)-funded Early Head Start grantees across the country. We have federal staff child care and development fund

administrators, regional and state partners, TA providers, lots of people joining us on this webinar today. So please take a minute to complete the audience survey that you see on your screen, and let us know whether you are already implementing early Head Start as a Family Child Care option, you included it in your (ARRA)-funded expansion grant and have just begun implementing the option, or you are now considering implementing Family Child Care. And, of course, the last category is “other.” So let us know who you are, and we’ll tell you in just a second.

(Kavita): Okay, it looks like most of the people responded. A little under half are from the “other” category. A little bit over a quarter are considering the EHS Family Child Care option.

Sherrie Rudick: Okay, so why are we here today? The Early Head Start for Family Child Care Project is a new (ARRA)-funded demonstration project. It is really emblematic of a new era of partnership between the Office of Head Start and the Office of Child Care.

## **SLIDE 5**

And so this webinar is designed to do three things; to give you information about the project itself – so we’ll present an overview of the project and tell you the “why;” we’ll talk about the benefits of participating in this project, so we’ll talk about why you should apply; and then we’ll also describe the process and the timelines for applying. We’ll tell you how to apply.

We want to make sure that we provide enough information and that we answer your questions so that, by the end of the webinar, you will make the decision to apply to become part of the project. So I will say right at the top that this is unabashedly a recruitment webinar. We want you, and we are going to do everything that we can to convince you and help you to see the value of this project and hope that you will join us in working on this project over the next year.

So I am going to actually now invite (Angie Godfrey) to take the floor. (Angie), this is really a historic time for Family Child Care in Early Head Start and Head Start.

## **SLIDE 6**

(Angie Godfrey): Thank you, Sherrie. It truly is a historic time, and I am very excited to be here today and to talk to folks.

I agree with what you said, that this is recruitment. I think that one of the things that we know at the Office of Head Start and, as (John) can speak to; the Office of Child Care is that we really want to support this as a program option. Many Head Start and Early Head Start programs have been offering Family Child Care to families throughout the years. It has been informal. It has been a final rule only since December 2008, so we know that it is still very young, and we also know that it is an option that many families prefer.

Our goal today and through the life of this project, and hopefully beyond the project is to support successful implementation of Early Head Start and the Family Child Care option. One of the things that we have been fortunate enough to have happen to us is that (ARRA) funding for Early Head Start is the first funding for several years, and we know that, through this funding and through funding a variety of Early Head Start programs, it is a wonderful opportunity to look at what the Family Child Care Program option and to support it. So we really are hoping to support it at the local level.

One of the ways that we are hoping to do that is through a new level of partnership between the Office of Head Start and the Office of Child Care. As you said, Sherrie, this project is co-led – I am one of two leads on the project. I am from the Office of Head Start, and I would just like now to turn it over to my colleague ((inaudible)) (Dawn Ramsburg) from the Office of Child Care.

(Dawn Ramsburg): Thank you so much, (Angie).

## **SLIDE 7**

When you look on your screen and see the circle of hands, we are hoping that this conveys how (Angie) and I are working together and also how we see this project unfolding across the country. This really is about a new vision in looking at the partnership in looking between the Office of

Head Start and the Office of Child Care, and how we will be working together to support the implementation of Family Child Care within Early Head Start.

So the directors of both of our offices – (Shannon Rudisill) and (Yvette Sanchez Fuentes) – have come in together, and they really are looking from a visionary standpoint of how to turn some of our more traditional notions about how Child Care and Head Start work together, and how to turn those on their sides.

And so we are trying to use this demonstration project to really emphasize the partnership, talk about how the comprehensive services that are an integral part of Early Head Start can be blended with the Family Child Care that so many families use across the Country. And so they talk about this idea of wraparound care, so not so much as we always think about Child Care being wrapped onto Early Head Start, but they are looking at it more from a sideways point of view, of how do we build the capacity of providers to provide those comprehensive services that are in Early Head Start.

So we are trying to kind of turn some of our traditional or some of our historic ways that we may have thought in the past in trying to look at this in a new way, look at this in a new vision. And so, through this project, we really want to be able to learn more about what it really means to braid funds and blend children.

Sherrie Rudick: So we have been starting to think of Early Head Start and Child Care as going together like a horse and carriage, love and marriage, peanut butter and jelly. But as use those two words together, we wanted to sort of entice you to think about children served in Early Head Start and Child Care. So we have some facts about children served in both of these programs that might surprise you. And so we thought that we would present it to you as a little quiz, so answer “true” or “false” for the next four questions. I’m going to ask all four questions, and then our expert will answer all of them.

**SLIDE 8**

Question 1, true or false, more infants are served in Early Head Start than through Child Care and Development Funds?

**SLIDE 9**

Question 2, many children (that) enrolled in Early Head Start are eligible for CCDF subsidy funds.  
Vote now.

**SLIDE 10**

Question 3, CCDF funds support slots but not quality. True or false?

**SLIDE 11**

I hope that you voted yesterday in getting ready to vote today. Question 4, you can't use CCDF and EHS funds for the same children. True or false? With the answers is (Dawn Ramsburg).

(Dawn Ramsburg): So I tried to keep track of what people were saying, but I think that I didn't do a good job, so I'm just going to walk through each of our statements.

**SLIDE 8**

The first statement about more infants being served in Early Head Start than through CCDF, the answer is false. Early Head Start serves about 90,000 infants and toddlers living in poverty. Under the CCDF Program, which actually covers children from birth through age 13, when we look at who is served – overall, we serve like 1.6 million – out of that, 631,000 are low-income infants and toddlers. So over 600,000 children each day are served and, of those, over half are below the federal poverty level. So you have many of the same eligible children being served in Child Care that are eligible for Early Head Start.

**SLIDE 9**

The second question asked says that many children enrolled in Early Head Start are eligible for CCDF funds. That would be true. While under CCDF, States can set eligibility up to 85% of the state median income. Like I said, we know that over half of the children that are being served that are infants and toddlers are below the federal poverty limit. So even those States that have

flexibility to set their income higher in terms of the income levels of families being served, they are also at the federal poverty level.

**SLIDE 10**

Number 3's statement was about whether CCDF funds support slots but not quality. That is false. Through CCDF, there are two types of funds. You have the funds that are direct-service funds, so those are the subsidies – a term that many of you may be familiar with – or the voucher, which funds the slot and funds the child in terms of being served. But, through CCDF, there is also a pot of money that is quality funds, and those funds are how programs get touched by the CCDF. And so there are two pots of money. And so both slots and quality can be supported.

**SLIDE 11**

Finally, the last statement was that you cannot use CCDF and Early Head Start funds for the same children. That is false. As an absolute, that is definitely false. I will say that, because each state under CCDF has the flexibility to create its rules for its CCDF program within the federal regulations, that there may be some state practices that come into play that may make it difficult to serve.

But in terms of serving the same children, you can serve both; it's just that there may be some navigation that has to happen to make sure that it doesn't look like double dipping. And I know that States have been very creative about how they set the program up to make that happen.

So those are our questions.

**SLIDE 12**

(Angie Godfrey): This is (Angie). We are working as we go and figuring this out. I hope that you all are patient with us. There is a slide that you all received. Did you want me to go over this? I can't read it very well. For part of it, we have decided several times today that my eyesight is failing because I didn't even recognize a picture of (Dawn). But I do want to acknowledge slide 9, which you have and I think is a wonderful visual and graphic of the work that we are doing.

One of the things that we really are hoping in supporting your work is – I love when (Dawn) was talking about how States are working. I think that there are many things that we want for all of you to get out of this project, but we are hoping that one thing is how we all learn to work together better – federal, local, and state. So we are very excited about that.

But I also would like to refer you to the slide that shows red and blue makes purple. I think that it is a wonderful slide because it talks about the work that the Office of Head Start is doing, and it talks about the work of Office of Child Care and how, together, we will bring the work that we are doing. We serve 90,000 infants and toddlers. Head Start is federal-to-local. We provide materials and services, and we monitor.

Office of Child Care serves 631,220 low-income infants and toddlers, which is an amazing number. We know that many of those – the large majority – are also Early Head Start-eligible. Their funding is federal-to-state. And they administer block grants that provide child care subsidy and quality improvement. What we are hoping to do, in a broad sense and then very specifically through this project, is to reach this little purple place where more children are served, higher-quality care for all lower-income children is occurring throughout Early Head Start and Child Care, and greater efficiency.

By “greater efficiency,” we mean, certainly, the dollars, but we also mean that all of us and each of us are able to serve families with greater efficiency so that the children and families are the ones who will benefit the most from this partnership.

### **SLIDE 13**

If I can now move us to the next slide – which is the overall goal – it really is talking about building capacity with this project, within Early Head Start, particularly with Early Head Start-designated Family Child Care providers. And by building their capacity to provide sustainable quality comprehensive services for low-income children, one of the things that we know is that, if we can

improve quality with providers – and this is true across all program options – then we are improving quality of services for children and family.

And the goal – again, as (Dawn) mentioned – is that (Yvette Sanchez Fuentes) and (Shannon Rudisill), the directors of the Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care – they see this as the vision of early childhood education and care. They are not looking at it as Child Care and Head Start but as how do we begin to build seamless services for the most vulnerable children and families in the country.

So having kind of talked a lot about the goal and more things, Sherrie, I hope that you will sit back and enjoy the conversation today. Thank you.

#### **SLIDE 14**

Sherrie Rudick: Thank you both, (Angie) and (Dawn). I think that you can already see that this project has some big dreams and some big goals. I am going to lead us now to (Calvin Moore). (Calvin), I know that you have really thought a lot about the value of this kind of partnership to Early Head Start grantees, so I was wondering if you would be willing to talk about how children and families, specifically, may benefit from a partnership such as this.

(Calvin Moore): Yes, thank you, Sherrie. I do believe that Family Child Care is a perfect option for infants and toddlers, and particularly children with special needs and children who have temperaments that would benefit from a smaller group. I think that Family Child Care is uniquely situated to deal with some of those circumstances, and I think that we should tap into that as a benefit in moving this option forward.

As (Dawn) and (Angie) have already talked about, the other benefits would be that we are leveraging these resources as we expand programs to serve a larger number of children, that we are able to intervene early as we begin working with children or populations that we have not served before or areas of the Country where we have not served before.

I also believe that, because services will be better coordinated, we will also be able to intervene sooner, which is always a goal of those that are working in the early care and education community because we realize that the earlier that we intervene, the better child outcomes we can produce.

And finally, I would say that we are going to be raising the quality of Family Child Care in every one of these communities where we are partnering with the Office of Child Care. And I think that, as programs begin to look at this model to expand services to infants and toddlers, we will be raising the quality of those settings that we begin to serve children in.

Sherrie Rudick: (Calvin), can you talk a little bit also from the family's perspective about why families choose and love Family Child Care?

**SLIDE 15**

(Calvin Moore): Yes, I think that, from my background and my work in serving children in Head Start and Early Head Start Family Child Care settings, I find that families often like the multi-age group that this option offers them. They can keep siblings together.

They also prefer this language and culture stability that the provider can offer them through cultural competence. And because Family Child Care is a community-based program, I think that, oftentimes, you find that providers are more closely linked to families. And that is why certain families of different heritages would choose Family Child Care, is because the provider shares their value, their beliefs, their customs, their family celebrations, their language.

Finally, I would say that, oftentimes, it is very much like a home setting. Being a parent myself, I know that I was looking for that when I began to put my children in child care settings. I have an example that a friend of mine told me that she was sending some families to choose a Family Child Care provider.

You would think that a family would choose a provider that has a lot of experience or maybe had a higher degree of some sort, but this family chose a Family Child Care provider because they had the same couch in their Family Child Care homes that they had at their home. So you see how, sometimes, it is a family's choice because of that cultural piece that they are looking for.

Sherrie Rudick: Thanks. That is a great story. A couch? Who would have ever thought that couches and upholstery would be the deciding factor? But it really does show how people identify with things that are familiar and how children feel wonderful when surrounded by familiar things.

(Ajay), I know that you also have a lot of experience in using this type of partnership in New York City, and so I wondered if you would talk about what you see as benefits to grantees and providers.

**SLIDE 16**

(Ajay Tawdry): Yes, as (Calvin) said, I think that there are benefits to children and families, most importantly, and, therefore to grantees and providers because, first, together, Early Head Start and Family Child Care bring together a shared commitment that many families with infants and toddlers want and need – loving, faith-supportive care for their children, which Family Child Care subsidies can provide, especially when parents are working and want stable care for long hours.

Together with some of the development focus that is needed for children at the start of their lives to grow and be successful learners in life, it sort of brings together the things that parents most want for their kids through what both programs offer. So since it benefits kids and families, it therefore benefits programs and providers because programs and providers want to provide what kids and families need. That is why they are in this work. And some of what they can do is to provide really comprehensive services built around what the child and family need in terms of care and in terms of development.

So when Family Child Care and Early Head Start work together as two partners, they rely on one another and are able to provide professional support and value in order to provide holistic quality care across programs and settings.

Early Head Start can provide Family Child Care providers with greater access to professional developments that being a full-time Family Child Care provider without the Early Head Start wrap-around doesn't always permit them to do because they cannot take the time for professional development or have the access to those kinds of resources. By bringing together resources and braiding funding, programs can better meet children's and families' needs by providing a wider range of more seamless services for families in the communities, potentially serving children for longer times as they go through transitions because there are the resources of both programs.

More Early Head Start families who are working families can get their needs for care, the supports that work, and their school schedule. Their parents are also going to school, and those parents are sort of making transitions in jobs and work. This is sort of a stable combination of services that the families can rely on.

Finally, more infants and toddlers of Family Child Care get the quality, developmental focus, and comprehensive services that are offered through Early Head Start program models that have been shown to really provide great benefits to kids that last for many, many years. So it is, as (Calvin) said, a winning combination that both of us have seen on the ground with kids and families and with programs and providers. I really can't think of a time when a program has moved in this direction toward trying to integrate the two that it hasn't experienced the benefit.

**SLIDE 17**

Sherrie Rudick: Thank you. I feel like I am continuing on my love-and-marriage analogy the Family Child Care and Early Head Start partnerships are a marriage made in heaven. (Ajay), would you be willing to talk a little bit about some specific examples of what we can do when we braid those funds and blend those children without turning them into liquid mush?

(Ajay Tawdry): Right. I think that there are so many ways. I think that, when CCDF funds are being used to pay for extended hours of care in Early Head Start-designated Family Child Care homes, this means that Early Head Start funds can be used for the broader conceptualization of families' needs that, really, Early Head Start is trying to also provide, so to be able to hire staff that can serve as mentors or coaches for professional development for Family Child Care providers or to provide educational and professional development resources so that CCDF providers can get professional credentials.

Also, if they have a blended model, one of the programs that we work with in New York had brought its Family Child Care – they had a blended model where they had center-based Early Head Start, and family went to Family Child Care homes around the day, and they would rotate in the Family Child Care providers to work in the classroom 1 day a week. That was a really unique thing that a program decides to do.

And it sort of provided a lot of that sort of center-based experience that providers could take back to the home, so it's really an opportunity to – you also have the benefits for professional membership in both fields. There is a National Association for Family Child Care. The National Head Start Association has an annual meeting that provides opportunities for providers. So, really, you are doing very similar kind of work to expand their professional base.

Also, as (Dawn) mentioned, there is a quality set-aside in Family Child Care that can be used to provide services to infants and toddlers with disabilities that Head Start and Early Head Start have always had as one of their missions to serve special needs children. And if providers can get the opportunities for professional development to better meet the needs of special needs children, then it is, again, a win-win. I don't mean to sound like a cheerleader, but I think that (Calvin) and I are both cheerleaders for this effort, which is why we are on this call.

Was that helpful, Sherrie?

Sherrie Rudick: Thank you. And you know what? We like cheerleaders, so it's really okay. So, actually, we are also a little curious – and this is a little bit part of our recruitment strategy – because we know that a lot of you have already perhaps led some Family Child Care but maybe also, in Family Child Care, been braiding funds and blending those children, and so we have another polling question for you. For this one, we will actually share the results.

**SLIDE 18**

Please answer this question or respond to this poll only if you are a program – are you already braiding funding? Yes, we are already braiding funds with the Family Child Care Program option; that is choice A; choice B, yes, we are already braiding funds with other Early Head Start or Head Start Program options; choice C, not yet, but we are interested; or choice D, we tried it, but we found too many barriers.

It is calculating as we speak to tell us how you have responded to this poll.

(Dawn Ramsburg): Okay, it's still fluctuating a little bit, but it looks around 70 to 75% that are not yet braiding funds but are interested. A good quarter of you are already braiding funds with other Early Head Start or Head Start Program options. About 10% of you have tried it but are finding too many barriers. And it looks like about 5% are already braiding funds with the Family Child Care option. So there is a lot of room for growth there.

Sherrie Rudick: Actually, the correct answer to this is “C – not yet, but we are interested.” Obviously, there is no real correct answer, but we are kind of happy to hear that people might be interested in trying this. I was also pleased to see that, although a few people said that they had tried it but had found barriers, there wasn't a huge percentage of you that said that. That is really actually good news for us.

Now, we are going to move along, actually, from speaking generally about the benefits of this partnership and putting these two separate but equal blue and red arrows into a purple circle. Now, we are going to talk specifically about this (ARRA)-funded demonstration project called Early Head Start for Family Child Care.

**SLIDE 19**

In this project, we will be looking for 24 (ARRA)-funded Early Head Start programs that will develop and implement a work plan to actually do this, to create this partnership between Early Head Start and Child Care through the mechanism of Early Head Start Family Child Care option. So that is what this project is about.

**SLIDE 20**

Here is what the work of the project will be over the next about maybe 14 months, starting now and ending December 31, 2011. They will ask you first to identify a two-member project team. And, no surprise, one member of this project team will represent Early Head Start while the other member of this project team will represent child care in your community. We will ask you – and this is part of the application process, as well – to nominate three people who might serve as consultants. The consultant position is called Child Care Partnership Coordinator. We will be talking a little bit more about that position in relation to the application in a little while.

We will bring all of these team people together in January here in Washington, D.C., and Zero to Three will fund that meeting. During that meeting, you will create a work plan to create and implement this great partnership.

**SLIDE 21**

Then, after you come together, as we have already talked about developing that work plan, you will work with your Child Care Partnership Coordinator to implement that plan from January through actually December 2011. On an ongoing basis, you will keep in touch with Zero to Three, the Office of Child Care, and the Office of Head Start to help with lessons learned.

Ultimately, we are looking to be able to replicate this demonstration project throughout the Country. And so we will learn some lessons as we do this and share the lessons and our replicable framework with other people that will be interested in doing this.

Back to (Calvin) now, (Calvin), I know that you have also thought about why grantees should apply and how they can build on their program strengths through this project. I'm hoping that you are willing to talk about that now.

## **SLIDE 22**

(Calvin Moore): Yes, I have thought about this and do believe that programs that are considering applying for this project should also think about their strengths. Many programs and grantees across the Country have a long history of providing comprehensive services to children and families, and they can use those strengths as they engage in this partnership.

For example, they may be really good at providing services to children with disabilities, and they would naturally bring those strengths over as they perhaps serve these children in Family Child Care. They may have a really strong approach to program design and management, and so those strengths and those systems would also come over. For example, they may be really good at planning and thinking strategically about where they want to go next in providing services.

They also may have really strong community partnerships in establishing a new partnership like this with Family Child Care and maybe blending services with Child Care funds. I think that they could bring that strength over as they try to implement this new approach to serving families.

I was also thinking about the fact that they may have expertise embedded within their programs. They may have staff with very strong skills around training or implement curricula. They would be able to use those strengths and bring those skill sets to the table when they begin reaching out to Family Child Care providers. Those skills will be valuable resources as they move into this new arena, and they can tap into those strengths.

Sherrie Rudick: (Ajay), would you like to add any thoughts?

(Ajay Tawdry): Sure, I agree with (Calvin) that grantees can apply the many strengths that they have as Early Head Start grant programs in their current operations to project. It made me think of an example where I had worked with an Early Head Start Program many years ago, that was already working with many of its Family Child Care providers in the community because they just happened to be picking up the children from the Early Head Start Socialization Program. They met a few times a week, and it would be the Family Child Care provider that would pick up the children and provide wraparound services.

Over time, the staff of this program started referring other children that came into Early Head Start when their parents went to work to the same provider. And when Early Head Start allowed the program option for Family Child Care, they took advantage of this and actually brought this very provider and about a dozen other individual providers into their Early Head Start Program as staff in providing wraparound services to their Early Head Start children. They started providing ongoing professional development to Family Child Care providers and their center-based staff in tandem, which was really neat to see.

When I was thinking about when I saw the polls, and that there are some programs that have already been doing this and trying to do this, I was thinking that there is still probably room for even programs that have made initial efforts to think about ways in which, one, you can expand your efforts or, two, you could use CCDF (polls) to expand the reach of this really great professional development program that they developed for their providers.

This is because, as you know in many communities, Family Child Care providers have no time for professional development because they run a 5 day-a-week, 10 hour-a-day operations. So this

can have a huge impact, and I think that there are a lot of creative ways in which programs can build on their strengths.

Sherrie Rudick: Thanks. Yes, we wanted, really, to start a discussion to help you to think about a strength-based approach and how what you are already doing would lead you to applying to be part of this project.

### **SLIDE 23**

We also wanted to think a little bit about how you can tie this into your community assessments and how applying for this project can help you to possibly fill some of those gaps, those needs that maybe you have been wanting to find a creative way to fill for a long time. So, (Calvin), would you start the discussion off on this for us, as well, please?

(Calvin Moore): Sure. As you said, programs across the country all have to conduct a community assessment. And, as with most of our program directors, I have noticed gaps that needed to be filled. And Family Child Care is uniquely situated to help programs to fill those gaps.

For example, there are probably already a large number of Family Child Care providers that are providing high-quality services, as (Dawn) had said, in the community through Child Care dollars and other private dollars. So the grantee would be able to tap into the cadre of Family Child Care providers that already exist rather than looking for centers or building new buildings, and they could instead use that Family Child Care infrastructure that is already there.

Also, from time to time, we will notice in our community assessment that families move from one community to the next. We may have decided to build a center in one area of town, and the families are no longer there, and so Family Child Care could be used to fill that gap almost immediately as they think about using that program option.

I would also like to say that Family Child Care is uniquely situated to deal with emergencies in communities. I remember when Hurricane Katrina happened, and programs had to receive all of those families. I was able to tap into a waitlist of Family Child Care providers that I had in my area and almost immediately serve those families once I received funding to do so. If you are looking at center-based all of the time, then you may not be able to fill that need as readily as you would if you tap into the Family Child Care Program that already exists in most of our communities.

(Angie Godfrey): Thank you, (Calvin) and (Ajay). This is (Angie). I would just like to add that I think that all of these are great examples. I think that what was re-emphasized for me with these examples – and I hope for all of you – is a message that you want you to know, which is that you are all going to look different. We are not expecting programs and full partnerships to apply, or just those programs – we are not expecting just those that are thinking about it. I think that each of you are going to come at a different stage, those of you that apply to be a part of this, and that is the exciting part from us.

We will learn something different and, hopefully, will be able to provide resources that uniquely meet the need of each program as you are moving forward in this. The examples that (Calvin) and (Ajay) just gave reminded me of that again, that this is really open for all of you. And we hope that folks will seriously consider applying for this and thinking about what it is that you bring and how you can benefit from it. So that's just a little thought, Sherrie.

#### **SLIDE 24**

Sherrie Rudick: Thank you. That leads us back to the thought of benefits and the advantages of participating. One of them is that, if you are selected for this project, you will have your very own Child Care Partnership Coordinator. I mentioned the term "Child Care Partnership Coordinator," otherwise known as the CCPC, a little bit earlier. This will be a local consultant paid for by the demonstration project's funds for approximately 52 hours a month.

(Dawn) and (Angie), this is one of your favorite things, I think, about this project, as well. I know that you have thought a lot about the importance of this role and the qualities that will make a Child Care Partnership Coordinator effective. So (Dawn), do you want to start us off in thinking about the role of the CCPC?

(Dawn Ramsburg): Sure. As Sherrie mentioned, this was something that (Angie) and I felt really strongly about, that if we are going to ask for partnerships and want partnerships, then we know that it takes time, attention, and resources to make that happen. And so when we were working on the concept for this project, what was really important to us is that there is someone who would be available to both the Early Head Start Program and the Family Child Care providers in the community that would help on really building this partnership.

#### **SLIDE 25**

The CCPC will assist and develop the programs that are a part of the project in developing and implementing the work plan that they developed. And they will provide some individualized consultation under the contract with ZERO TO THREE. Again, we felt that, to make these partnerships happen, it needed to be someone local and needed to be someone in the community, not someone sitting here in Washington and just telling you to do it.

But you needed someone in your community that would help with that. And then that consultant, like I said, will get access to a set of resources, financial as well as project staff who will serve as a resource so that, as we are learning things across the country, resources like materials or things that might be necessary in one place maybe something that we want to take more broadly. And so there will be time and people and money available through the CCPC. That was something that we thought was especially important to happen through this project.

(Angie), do you want to talk a little bit more about the kinds of activities that you think? ...

#### **SLIDE 26**

(Angie Godfrey): Sorry, my mic wasn't on. One of the things that we know is that, to be an effective Child Care Partnership Coordinator, there are certain characteristics, expectations, certain things that we know through previous work and through research of how this person might work.

We know that it is important that the person be embedded in the community. Again, we thought a lot about this and, whether you're urban, rural, migrant, seasonal, or tribal, it really is important that the person who serves as your coordinator works closely with both Child Care and Early Head Start, and understands what is happening in the community. We're not looking for a program person, necessarily, but we are really looking for someone who has experience in building partnerships in the community and working in communities.

Also, we are looking for someone who is skilled in forming relationships and building partnerships. This person knows what it takes, knows how hard it is, and understands what the barriers are. We've talked a couple of times about barriers, and I think that we have a lot to learn from one another at the federal, state, and local levels about how to get beyond those. And I think that we are all hoping that each of you will find someone and will nominate, as Sherrie said earlier, up to three people that you believe could help you to build the partnership.

The other thing is also understanding how social service agencies work. Again, as I said earlier, the goal here is to support families across services, so it is important to understand what services that children and families need and then how to help them to access those services.

The other thing is that we really want folks who are knowledgeable about Family Child Care as well as Early Head Start, who believe in it and know its value for children, for families, and for the community. We know that many of you have been engaged in a partnership; some of you are just considering it. But I think that all of us are probably so aware of Family Child Care in our communities, what it looks like, and how we might want to tap into it.

Again, the CCPC will not be working directly with the programs on how to implement the Head Start-Family Child Care option. He or she would be working with providers around how to implement to Head Start Program performance standards and how to work with the providers to make sure that they implement those. And it is important to know that this is not a staff person, it's not an Early Head Start person, not a Child Care person, necessarily, but a consultant whose role it is to help to build the partnership with Child Care and Early Head Start.

Sherrie Rudick: I'm going to sneak in before I turn it over to (Dawn) because I actually think that this is a really interesting position. If I didn't have a full-time job, then I might be looking for 52 hours of work a month.

(Angie Godfrey): Me, too, Sherrie. I would like to do this.

#### **SLIDE 27**

Sherrie Rudick: The Child Care Partnerships Coordinator – so I wanted to talk about some specific things that that position might do because you will want to know this, actually, when you talk to, possibly, some of the people that you might want to nominate and some candidates for Child Care Partnership Coordinator.

They are going to possibly be information sharers, coordinating and sharing information about state and local professional development opportunities. They might work very closely with the Head Start State Collaboration Director and the State CCDF Administrator, so they may be helping to strengthen collaboration right at that state level, which could be really exciting and really influential, I think, in the long run.

They will be sharing resources to help both Child Care and Early Head Start to learn how to develop partnerships and support quality care. They might facilitate some kind of a meeting where they will share the Office of Head Start and the Office of Child Care policies and

procedures, and see how they line up or don't line up, and then see what they can do to bring those two things together.

It's a pretty high-level and pretty interesting position, so we are encouraging you to search in your communities to find those local people with the skills and the excitement about developing those partnerships.

Now, (Dawn), do you want to talk a little bit about the funding piece?

**SLIDE 28**

(Dawn Ramsburg): Sure, Sherrie. What is important for everyone to understand, and what (Angie) and I want to make sure that everyone is clear about is that anyone who applies to be part of this program, to be part of this project will not receive direct funding as a grantee, partially because the project is funded with (ARRA) dollars, the stimulus dollars, and so we cannot provide direct funding with the mechanism by which we receive that money to grantees.

So while you won't directly be applying for funds, there will be funds available in a few different ways. So while there is not direct funding, as Sherrie mentioned earlier when she was talking about the project activities, one of the things that we are expecting is that all 24 programs participating in the project will come to a 4-day meeting in January, so your travel funds to that meeting will be paid for by the project.

In addition, the CCPC that we were just talking about – the person who is going to be working as your local consultant – the project will be paying the funds for that person. So, as a grantee, you won't be responsible for supporting that person since the project will be doing that.

Likewise, once your work plan is developed – and so once you're working as your EHS and Child Care teams with your CCPC at the local level to implement your work plan, there will be funds available through the project to help you to implement that. So I think about things like, if you

realize that to really effectively do a partnership that you may need some training hours or things like that, then the project could assist with paying for those kinds of activities.

So we just want to be clear that people understand that you are not applying to receive an additional pot of money but that, as part of the project, there will be funds available to support the project activity. (Angie), do you want to talk a little bit more about who is eligible?

#### **SLIDE 29**

(Angie Godfrey): Sure, (Dawn), thank you. All of our funded Early Head Start grantees are eligible to apply. And, again, we are also sending this information to Child Care in all communities, too, throughout the Country because we want you to apply with your Child Care partner. But it is important to know that the funds that we are using for this project, as (Dawn) said, are Early Head Start (ARRA) funds. And so we will be sending the information to Early Head Start grantees that received our expansion funds.

Again, I think that it is important to state again that we will select grantees that might already be implementing the Family Child Care option and have successful partnerships, those that want to braid funding in order to enhance quality of services that they are providing, those who received (ARRA) expansion funds and have already begun to implement the Family Child Care option, and some who may not have considered the Family Child Care option previously but are rethinking.

So we wanted to be open, as I said earlier, so that we are all learning from what all of you need and what all of you are thinking about. Key in all three instances is the partnership with Child Care and then supporting the braided funding to serve children.

#### **SLIDE 30**

Then the questions are, "Should my grantee apply? Should I apply?" I would just say, "Yes." I will be like Sherrie and say without equivocation that, if you are thinking of doing this, then, yes, you should. This is a demonstration project and an opportunity to build partnerships with Early Head Start and Family Child Care in your local community. And remember that the purpose and

the goal are to strengthen the community of Early Head Start-designated Family Child Care providers and to enhance comprehensive services for all children and families.

The strongest applicants will identify ways that they will use this project to develop a partnership with Child Care and Early Head Start that can help to fulfill unmet needs identified in their community assessments. (Calvin) was talking earlier about gaps, and this is a possibility that you can bring in and strengthen your program services.

They will also describe how they use their strengths to implement the project. They will be able to nominate strong candidates to work as a Child Care Partnership coordinator. And they will also show how they can sustain the partnership. So, to all of you who are considering this, I would think that this would sound familiar and, hopefully, will resonate with you.

As was said earlier, we are selecting 24 grantees throughout the Country. We are looking at a variety of factors including: demographics such as program size, languages spoken; location – urban, rural, suburban, migrant, seasonal, American Indian and Alaska Native programs; the number of Family Child Care providers or potential Family Child Care providers that you will partner with; and – I'm sorry, I got lost.

### **SLIDE 31**

Sherrie Rudick: You know I was thinking that we have been doing the persuasion but we haven't bothered with the 'how'. And now I'm thinking that everybody is sort of sitting at the front of their seats, saying, "Okay, I'm convinced, but how do I do it?"

(Angie Godfrey): Oh, good, that's what I wanted.

Sherrie Rudick: So when your e-mail box got flooded this morning with information about this webinar, hopefully, you also got in your e-mail box the electronic application that went out at the end of the

day yesterday. It's your turn now to complete the application. I'll tell you a little bit about what you have to do in order to apply.

I alluded earlier to the fact that you are going to be choosing a team, somebody from an Early Head Start program and somebody from a Child Care partner. So we want you to first identify your two-person team and fill out the application as a team. So that is the first step.

You will need to obtain letters of support from your Early Head Start grantee as well as the director of the Child Care agency with which you are partnering. And you will have to identify three candidates to apply to be the Child Care Partnership Coordinator. And part of the application that we sent out includes an application that those three candidates will fill out. And we will ask you to send that back with their resumes and two professional references for each, so up to three candidates that you have identified in your community.

You can submit this application electronically. Some of it is writeable, savable. Other pieces of it are little essay questions that you will be saving and then attaching and sending back to us. The deadline is the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We want you to go off and have a good holiday and get it into us before then. So November 24 is the deadline.

We will have our internal review process coordinated through the Office of Child Care and the Office of Head Start. And those 24 grantees that are accepted into the project will be notified on December 10, 2010. So that is the timeline for that.

Now, I think that we have been wanting to see if there are some questions that people have. We have the "Leaders and Assistants" piece in the chat box. We are hoping that you have some questions now that we can clarify things that you would want to know in order to enable you to make that decision.

Do we have any questions?

(Kim): We do have a few questions. Here is our first – we are a home-based Early Head Start Program, and we received (ARRA) funding to expand our services. Many of our families need child care during the day, and we are thinking of partnering with Family Child Care, but we have never done it before. Should we apply for this project? And if we do, then who should we ask to be our partner on the team?”

(Angie Godfrey): Thank you, (Kim). I think that, yes, you certainly should apply for this project. Again, I would look for a Child Care partner.

A couple of things that I thought about as the person was asking it is that I think that it is important to explore what possibilities may be. I think that it is also important if you are an Early Head Start Program thinking of changing your option that you are communicating with your Federal Program Specialist because you would have to present the program option change to them. So I think that, for that reason, this might help you to think through it and help you in communicating and talking to the federal regional office about how you may do it.

The other reason why I think that it would be very important to do is the funding aspect. Some folks think that Family Child Care is not as expensive a program option at center-based, but it is, in fact, a program option that requires a solid budget to help to keep it successful. So there are many – it's not as simple as yes or no.

I would say, yes, apply because you will learn many things, and it will help you to understand if you really can do this and how you might do it. And it will also help to support your thinking with your Federal Program Specialist on how you might move forward with it.

(Dawn Ramsburg): This is (Dawn). I would add to that, as far as whom to ask to be your partner in terms of the Family Child Care, obviously, that is going to vary a little bit from community to community. And (Calvin) may expand on this a little bit more, but one resource to consider is that most States and most communities have access to local child care resource and referral agencies, and those agencies work a lot with child care provider communities within their localities, their States. So that is one entity to look at as far as better understanding what type of Family Child Care might be available and with whom to partner.

I think that another one is in touching base with the Family Child Care Association. So, (Calvin), you may want to expand either on that or on other ideas about how to find the Family Child Care partners.

(Calvin Moore): (Dawn), you were reading my mind about the local association. But my first suggestion would be to maybe look for the food nutrition sponsor for Family Child Care providers like, first, the MAs or the research and referrals. Most communities have a food nutrition program that handles that for Family Child Care providers, and they make good partners, as well, because they have a long history of working with Family Child Care providers and may be offering training and supports to them as they work with them on being their food sponsors. So I would look in that direction, as well.

(Dawn Ramsburg): That's great, yes.

(Kim): Okay, the next question – can you guide us as to whom we should with to navigate the process in which CCDF funds can be used, especially in states where we are told that this is not allowable. For example, whom should programs contact if they are told that they cannot utilize CCDF funds at the state level?

(Dawn Ramsburg): As I mentioned when I was talking about this earlier, from the federal level, there is not a prohibition. As a program, you can have Early Head Start money and CCDF money coming in. However, because Child Care money is flowing from federal to state to local – whereas Head Start is going just straight from federal to local – there is usually the state-level navigation that has to happen because States set their program rules, policies, and practices, like I said, within the broad federal parameters. And I think that a lot of the snags tend to happen in how some of those different policies and practices have become operationalized.

So as far as whom to contact, both the Office of Child Care and the Office of Head Start have federal staff in regional offices around the country, and so I think that both of us – I'll let (Angie) concur ...

(Angie Godfrey): I concur.

(Dawn Ramsburg): ...but I think that we would both encourage you as a local program to touch base with your regional office for your State because there is probably going to be a deeper conversation that has to happen. But it's not a federal roadblock, per se, but it's going to take some navigation at the local and state levels to figure out exactly how to make this work.

(Kim): Okay, the next question – we're an Early Head Start Program that has been providing services for 10 years, and we have partnered successfully with Family Child Care for the last 4 years. With our expansion funding, we are looking to add more slots in Family Child Care for our families in a new county. Our partnerships have done pretty well, and we have a pretty smooth system now. Should we apply? And what would we hope to gain from participating if things are already going pretty well between us and the Family Child Care providers?

(Angie Godfrey): First, yes, you should apply.

And, secondly, again, we talked about the many layers of this project. I think that programs that have been doing it are in a position to really help us to understand what the barriers were and what the challenges were, and how you manage to make it successful. And we know that, as (Dawn) just said, for some of you, one of the barriers and one of the challenges may be in learning how to work with state, federal, and local. And it sounds like this program may have done that.

So yes, because you have much to contribute, but yes also because I think that you can benefit from that, and it would be great to work with all of the applicants in understanding how this can become more replicable to support the Family Child Care option in Early Head Start.

(Calvin Moore): Yes, (Angie), I was thinking that very same thing, that programs like the person that asked the question would offer us so much information, if their system is working well, that we would want to know so that we could see how we can duplicate that across the country.

And then they will have this new coordinator – this CCPC – that they may not have had before, and they may be able to expand their services more easily or eliminate some of the barriers that they may have had. But I think that having that other person available to them might be another reason why they might want to participate.

(Kim): Our next question is, “Could you tell us exactly who is eligible to apply? And do you have to be an Early Head Start grantee?”

(Angie Godfrey): As we said earlier, because these are Early Head Start American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds, you do have to be an Early Head Start grantee to apply. But we are only considering those applicants that apply with a Child Care partner or a potential Child Care partner. I hope that clarifies it.

(Kim): The next question – “We are an Early Head Start Program that provides home-based care in one county, and we just received (ARRA) funding to start a center in another county. I realize that families in home-based care are using Family Child Care, so maybe we should try partnering with the Family Child Care providers. Since we would be partnering in the county that did not get the (ARRA) funds, then can we still apply?”

(Angie Godfrey): I think that is a trick question. The services would need to be with the site that received the (ARRA) funds. There could be benefits for the others and, much like we are hoping that everyone will benefit from this, these funds are specifically targeted for those programs serving in the services that are funded through (ARRA) funds.

(Kim): Next question, “After the demonstration grant is over, will there be funding for ongoing support?”

(Angie Godfrey): Again, this is a task order, and it has a limited life. And the funds that are going to support the work include both supporting programs at the local level as well as an evaluation piece that we have to do. So this has a short life. What we are hoping is that it is a short-term investment with long-term outcomes. But just like there isn’t specific funding that is going to programs during the project, there will not be specific funding afterward.

What we are hoping will happen is that those long-term relationships, those long-term partnerships will benefit families in both the Early Child Care and the Early Head Start programs and agencies in the community.

(Kim): We have a couple of questions about the resources available to the programs that are participating. The first is, “Would the project be able to support providers in completing college units toward a CBA credential?”

(Dawn Ramsburg): Yes. I think, without being too silly about it, it is whatever it takes. So as your three-person develops your work plan, the project funds can be used for whatever activities it takes to make that work plan happen. And so it will be critical to really assess what is needed and then to identify the resources for making that happen, but there is not a limitation on what kinds of activities that can be used for.

Sherrie Rudick: And (Dawn), isn't that also a way that they could tap into some of the quality funds and in braiding the funds?

(Dawn Ramsburg): That is absolutely correct. That is a really good – and I think that (Ajay) was giving some really good examples of how, in New York City, they did some of that. And so it's not just blending the funds from the child's point of view, but how do you blend the funds so that, as a program, as a provider, you are getting access to a more multi-layered set of resources.

Sherrie Rudick: Yes, I've heard that – and you can confirm this – States actually sometimes turn back quality funds. Is that true? Oh, she's shaking her head 'no', so that's a myth. We're back to the true-or-false. But my point was that we would never want a waste of quality dollars that are out there.

(Dawn Ramsburg): I think that, in this economy, there are not too many dollars that aren't being used.

(Kim): In a related question, if our plan identifies that the Family Child Care provider needs some outdoor equipment that is appropriate for infants and toddlers, will there be funding for that?

(Dawn Ramsburg): Again, yes.

Operator: Simple. Those were some great, easy questions. All right, easy yes and no. The next question, “Once the CCPC is in place and our plan has been accepted, when will children benefit from the braided funding?”

(Angie Godfrey): I think as soon as you begin services and begin to look at how to enhance those services. Like (Betsi Closter), who is a project director, just passed me a note, it said, “It is important to let folks know that there are not specific funds coming to programs through the project; the dollars are already there. And the goal of this project is to help to see how folks may partner using those.”

So while you may not currently be partnering with Child Care, at that point that you begin to partner and begin to serve children through braided funds, they would benefit. Some folks already engage in partnerships, as we heard from earlier questions, and already have those funds in place and are doing the work, and our goal is to help to support that.

So I do think that is a great clarification – that the dollars are there, and that what we are hoping to learn through this project is how to support the implementation of this partnership in serving children with both Early Head Start and Child Care dollars.

(Kim): Okay, we have another “should we apply” question. “We are a new (ARRA)-funded EHS program that has been serving families for about 6 months. We wrote our grant to serve ten pregnant women in home-based visits, eight infants, and eight toddlers in center-based care. Now, our women are having their babies, and we don’t know what to do with them.

We have been helping the new moms and their babies to transition to other agencies since we don’t have space for them, but could we consider moving some of those pregnant mom slots to Family Child Care? If we did this and decided to be part of this project, since we are so new, whom do you recommend that we contact to be part of our team?”

(Angie Godfrey): I would suggest, first of all, contacting your regional office. What we found is that services to pregnant women work best when there is 10% of the total numbers of infants and toddlers. That is a very unusual number, and I would, before answering that question, like to see the application. And I think that, because it is in their regional office, they might talk to them.

It looks like this is a program that is serving only 16 infants and toddlers, and serving 10 pregnant women, so I think that is a little larger a question that I could answer here, and I would really want to see that application. And, again, I'm not sure that I would consider applying for this until I have more – I'm not sure that I can answer that until I have more clarity. But I think that the regional office can. We sent the application and all of the information that we have been sending to the regional office, so that would be a good place to start.

(Kim): Okay, I have a few questions about the CCPCS, and I'll try to lump them together because we are running short on time. While programs will need to nominate three CCPC candidates, will there ultimately be only one CCPC per program? Will ZERO TO THREE make the final selection based on resumes or application information? And could we have multiple CCPCs if our (ARRA) sites are spread across multiple counties?

(Angie Godfrey): First of all, we suggested up to three so that you could look around and see what you're thinking that the decision will be made in conjunction with the program. Again, we are hoping that we can support you in making your decision. And the goal is really that you end up with someone that you believe really can work with the program. And we also want to support you in making sure that this is a person with strong community connection, community building.

I don't know, (Dawn), do you want to answer this, too? I think that, in terms of spread apart and...

(Dawn Ramsburg): I guess that's our thinking was that it would be one person. But I guess that, if you could make a very strong case for why more than one would be necessary, then I don't think that we eliminate that up front. But I think that, again, we think that a critical piece of this process is having some strong relationship building. It has to be something manageable, I think, in terms of all of the relationships.

(Kim): And, as a last point, we did have several participants say, "I did not receive the application. How can I find it?"

(Angie Godfrey): Again, you can certainly e-mail one of the main – I think that there are some e-mail addresses on the end. But what I want you to know is that it is on the ECLKC, which is the Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center through the Office of Head Start. And I believe that it is also going up on the ((inaudible)) site. (Dawn), is that true?

(Dawn Ramsburg): That's correct.

(Angie Godfrey): So there are ways in which you can download it. But be sure to e-mail up here, too, because they will send it out as many times as they need to, or to as many people that didn't get it as they need to.

Sherrie Rudick: I was listening to the responses to the questions, and I thought that we had a lot of "can I apply" or "should I apply" questions. I was sitting next to (Angie), and she kept saying, "Yes, yes, yes," and then I actually thought that she said, "Maybe" or "no" to one person. I was just a tad shocked.

(Angie Godfrey): No, I didn't say "no" that they shouldn't do it; I said "no" that I couldn't answer the question until I knew more about them. I would never say that anyone shouldn't do it, Sherrie.

**SLIDE 33**

Sherrie Rudick: Really, because the bottom line of this whole hour and a half that we have spent together is that we want you to be pioneers and want you to apply. So we've really thought that we have an unprecedented opportunity, all of us together, to create something new and exciting and to build partnerships that can really have a tremendous impact on the quality of care provided to infants, toddlers, and Family Child Care programs. So we are looking for 24 pioneers to apply to be part of the Early Head Start for Family Child Care Project, to help us to learn how to build partnerships.

Know the deadline – November 24, 2010. And, as we leave, we will leave you with our contact information. And, definitely, please contact us if you didn't get an application, and we will make sure that one gets to you immediately. But I'm going to have a final question, and then I am going to ask everybody to share some final thoughts.

#### **SLIDE 34**

This is your final answer. You, too, can be a millionaire by applying for this program. So will you apply? What is your final answer – yes, no, or maybe; we would still like to know more; we would apply, but we are not eligible because we are not an (ARRA)-funded Early Head Start grantee; or we can't, but we will tell all of our friends to apply? This will tell us whether we have to do another webinar.

How did we do, (Kavita)?

(Kavita): It looks like just about 50% of the people are currently in the "maybe" category and looking to know a little bit more about the program; about a quarter are going with the "no answer," so that is E, that they can't but will tell their friends to all; and just under a quarter that would but don't appear to be eligible. Sorry, I think that above a quarter is A, yes. My mistake, sorry.

Sherrie Rudick: Okay, I think that's 24 right there, so that's great. So, (Calvin) and (Ajay), final thoughts?

Then we'll let (Dawn) and (Angie) have the last word. (Calvin)? We might have lost (Calvin).

(Ajay), are you still there?

**SLIDE 35**

(Ajay Tawdry): Yes, I'm still here. I just want to leave everyone with the encouragement that this is a unique opportunity in a difficult time when you don't have many opportunities to enhance your services and your programs to do more to meet your community's and family's needs, and to build new partnerships. I think that this concept of a CCPC is really a terrific one. So you could bring in somebody that can both provide, potentially, expertise and also just new energy and another resource to bridge high-quality modalities of Early Head Start and Family Child Care. So again, just encouragement for people to move forward in thinking about what would work for their community.

Sherrie Rudick: (Ajay) – and (Calvin), if you're still there – thank you both for joining us today and audience ...

(Calvin Moore): I am here. Thank you, Sherrie. I lost the connection, but ...

Sherrie Rudick: We thought you were lost.

(Calvin Moore): I was lost, but I came back on. But thank you for the opportunity.

(Ajay Tawdry): Thank you.

(Calvin Moore): I would just echo what (Ajay) said.

(Angie Godfrey): (Calvin), this is (Angie). I do have a couple of final thoughts. There is also another resource. (Calvin), as Sherrie said, is President of the National Association of Family Child Care Providers, and that is a wonderful resource.

Some of you are wondering where you may find providers and how Family Child Care providers work. When I was at the conference last summer for the National Association of Family Child Care, it was wonderful to see all of the vendors there to support these folks as business people and their folks that are infant-toddler providers, or (birth-to-8), or school age. I do think that it is a wonderful business for folks to be in, and our goal is to support services to Early Head Start and Family Child Care.

Again, I thank everyone. I hope that you will apply. Again, if you have questions about whether you should apply, then contact the folks up here. I think that you are going to be hearing from some of the folks from this project. They certainly are available to answer your questions, as are the federal and regional office staffs.

Again, the goal is really to provide quality services to the most vulnerable children and families in communities. And we see this as another way to do it, and we really thank all of you for considering it and, hopefully, for applying.

(Dawn Ramsburg): This is (Dawn). I would definitely echo the things that (Angie) just said. I would like to thank everyone for being on this call. We have talked quite a bit about why you should apply. We have laid out a pretty ambitious timeline. As you know with (ARRA) dollars, those are time-limited dollars and so we have had to do things pretty fast.

I just wanted to take a second to reflect. We talked about why grantees should apply, but just from the benefit in terms of Child Care, I think that our goal is to see more low-income children in high-quality care, and we know that the fabric of that system exists in many communities. Family

Child Care brings so many strengths, and it is a desired setting that many families are looking for lots of reasons. And we know that Early Head Start has this history of building these comprehensive services and working at the community level, and so our vision is to take kind of those existing elements that are out there and really try and figure out what does it take to build these partnerships and what gets in the way because that is going to be the sustainable part. We are looking for sustainability in terms of your programs, but we are looking for sustainability at this national level of how can we help and not get in the way.

So I would thank everyone.

**SLIDE 36**

Sherrie Rudick: Thank you all for joining us today. We will leave our contact information up on the screen as we sign off. And all of the people whose names are on this last slide are available, interested, and willing to answer all of your questions.

Operator: Ladies and gentlemen, that does conclude today's conference. We thank you for your participation.

END