## Information Is Key: Engaging Families by Supporting Decision-Making

Mandy Reeve & Kathy Hebbeler

June 8, 2023 – 12 PT / 3 ET SRI Early Childhood State Systems Building Webinar Series



**SRI** Education



### Welcome

- Share your name and role in the chat
- Share one thing you are hoping to learn today

## SRI Early Childhood State Systems Building Webinar Series

Wednesday, March 15, 2023; 9 AM – 10 AM PT: Part 1: Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning: What's Data Got to Do With It?

Tuesday, April 4, 2023; 11 AM – 12 PM PT: Part 2: Let's Work Together (to Make Families' Lives Easier)! How to Coordinate Eligibility and Enrollment to Increase Equitable Access to Services

Thursday, May 4, 2023; 11 AM – 12 PM PT: Part 3: Don't Do It Alone! Engage the Right Partners to Plan for Your ECIDS

Thursday, June 8, 2023; 12 PM – 1 PM PT: Part 4: Information Is Key: Engaging Families by Supporting Decision-Making

## SRI Early Childhood State Systems Building Webinar Series



A DIVISION OF SRI INTERNATIONAL

@SRI\_Education



Mandy Reeve SRI International

Part 4:
Information is Key:
Engaging Families
by Supporting
Decision-Making

Thursday, June 8, 2023

3 PM – 4 PM ET

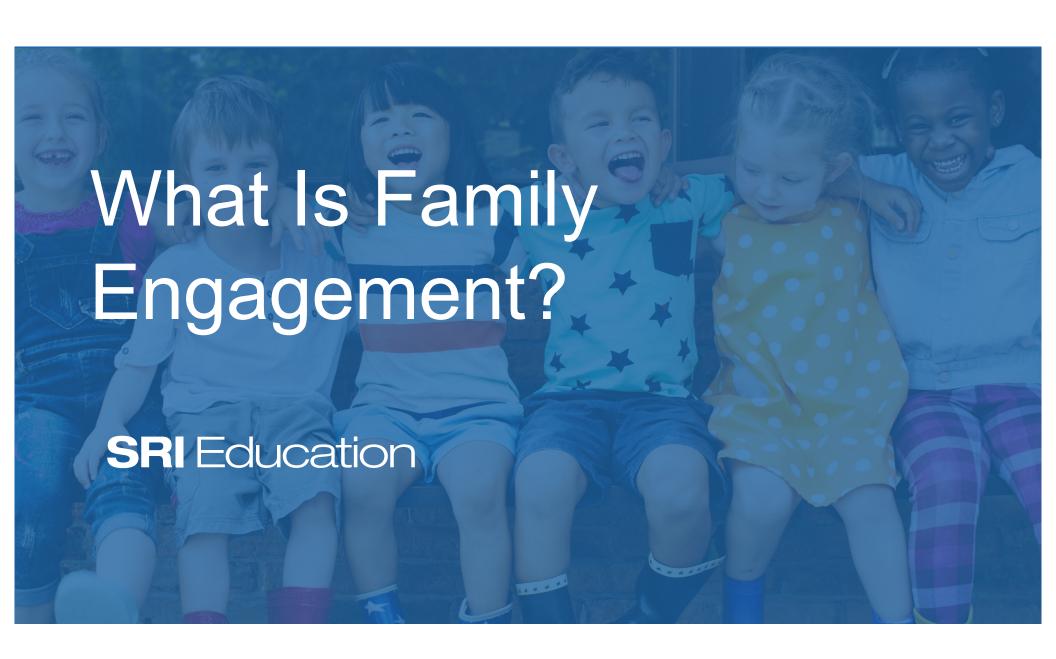


Kathy Hebbeler SRI International

## **Objectives**

- Support states in understanding how to document the ECCE offerings that are available around the state.
- Support states in building infrastructure to engage families in finding the ECCE they want.





## Family engagement is critical

Research on family engagement

"... consistently confirms that family engagement is one of the most powerful predictors of children's development, educational attainment, and success in school and life."

Joining Together to Create a Bold Vision for Next Generation Family Engagement: Engaging Families to Transform Education. Prepared by Global Family Research Project for Carnegie Corporation, October 2018

**SRI International®** 









# What is family engagement?

"Family engagement has many dimensions and is used interchangeably with parent engagement. It comprises the different ways parents are involved with their child's learning and academic life, as well as the ways parents communicate and collaborate with their child's teacher."

Educator's practice guide: Engaging families during the pre-K to kindergarten transition. Early Learning Network

### What is family engagement?



"Family engagement is an interactive process through which program staff and families, family members, and their children build positive and goal-oriented relationships. ... It also involves families and staff working toward goals to improve the program."

Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework

## What is family engagement?

"The term is intended to identify a collaborative and strengths-based process through which early childhood professionals, families, and children build positive and goal-oriented relationships. ... Family engagement also seeks ongoing opportunities to obtain parent perspective by involving parents and other family members in conversations, assessment, planning, and implementation in all areas impacting families."



Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5)
Renewal Grant

### So, family engagement is ...

- Family members interacting with the child
- Family members communicating/partnering with child's caregiver or teacher
- Family members contributing to decision-making at the program or in the community, at the state level, etc.

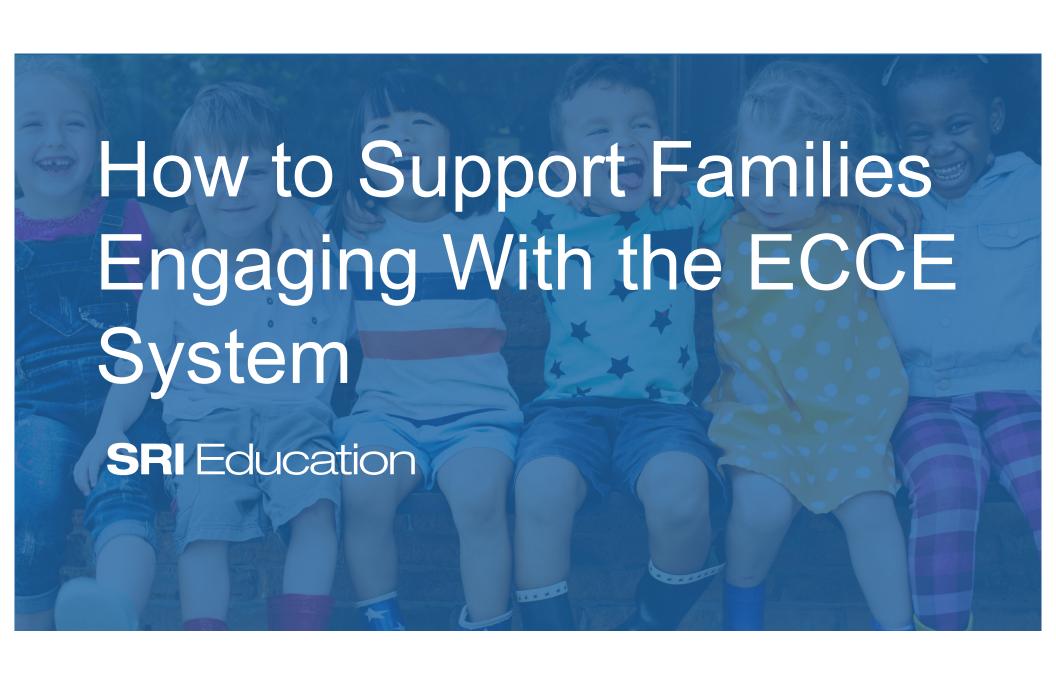
### So, family engagement is ...

- Family members interacting with the child
- Family members communicating/partnering with child's caregiver or teacher
- Family members contributing to decision-making at the program or in the community, at the state level, etc.

But supporting the family in any of these requires that ...

• Families successfully access one or more early care and education programs in their community.





## The early childhood care and education system is a mixed delivery system

• A mixed delivery system (MDS) is a system of early childhood care and education (ECCE) services that are delivered through a combination of programs, providers, and settings—including Head Start, licensed family and center-based child care programs, public schools, and community-based organizations—and is supported with a combination of public and private funds.

# The early childhood care and education system is large and complex

**Family** 

**State** 





## There are benefits and challenges for families and states to engage families in an ECCE MDS

#### **Benefits**

MDS improves access





 Large variety of programs and services to meet unique needs



#### Challenges

• Families still struggle to find care



 Fragmented or decentralized system





### Two sides of the story

#### Families need to know:

- Where to look for information on options
- What options are available to them
- Which options fit their specific needs



#### States need to know:

- What data is being collected by the various programs and services in the state
- How to integrate the data so it is useful for families
- How to share the information with families





### Consumer education (child care) websites

#### · State-level consumer information:

- Child care resource and referral agencies
- Licensing and monitoring process
- Contact information for lead agency
- Deaths in child care settings (aggregate data)
- Injuries in child care settings (aggregate data)
- Child abuse cases in child care settings (aggregate data on substantiated cases)

#### Provider-level consumer information:

- ZIP code search
- Monitoring reports
- Quality rating
- Three years of monitoring data
- Date of last inspection
- Corrective actions



## What else do families need to know?

- Types of programs available
- Hours, days, and months of operation
- Location
- Age groups served
- Waitlists/available slots
- Program quality and characteristics
- Cost to family

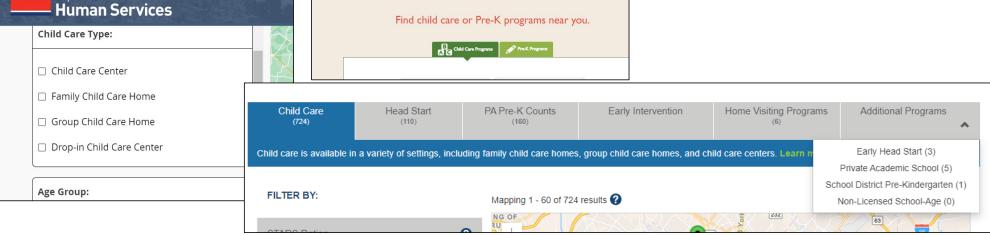


### Types of programs available

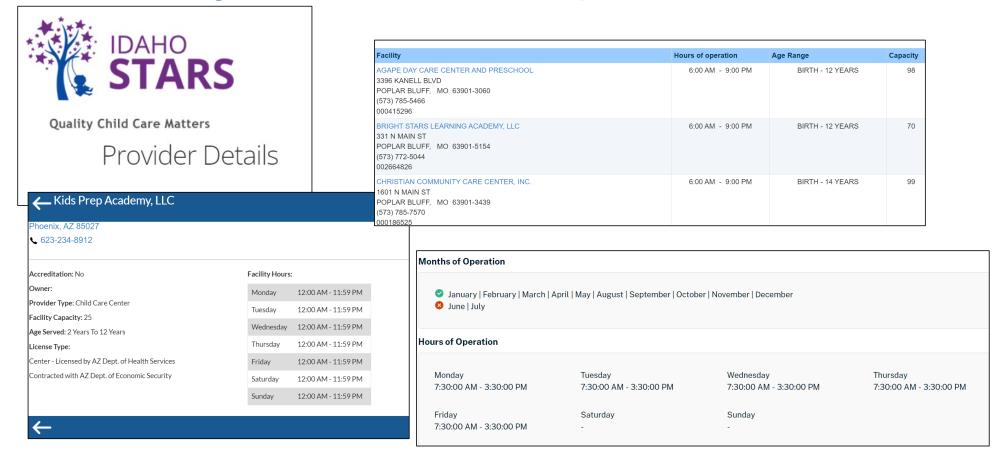




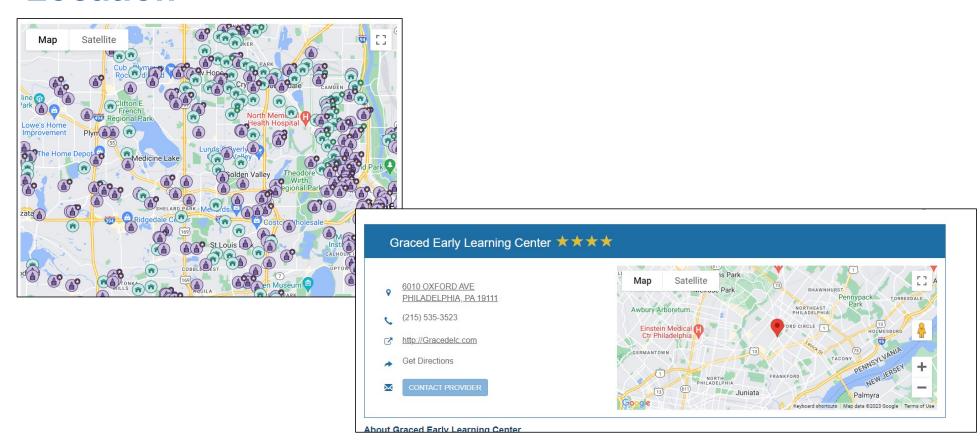




## Hours, days, and months of operation



### Location

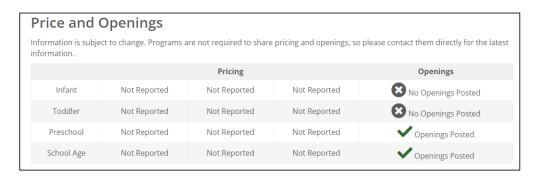


### Age groups served, waitlists, and slots available











## Program quality and characteristics

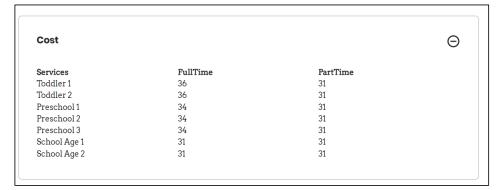






#### **Cost to families**

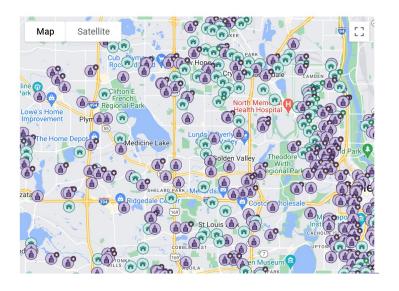
Age Group	HOURLY		DAILY		WEEKLY		MONTHLY		OTHER	
	Part	Full	Part	Full	Part	Full	Part	Full	Part	Fu
Infant								\$2215.00		
Preschool								\$1730.00		
Toddler								\$2005.00		





### Methods states use to encourage engagement

#### Maps



#### **Icons**







# Learn about your state

- Where is the state's consumer education website housed and what information does it provide?
- Is information on ECCE options available from multiple sources?
- What is it like for families with varying needs to find care?



# Take stock of the mixed delivery system

- What are the programs serving young children and their families?
- Who administers each program?
- What data do they collect that provide information to families?







#### **Get started!**

- Add a piece of information not already included to your consumer education website.
- Talk with the Child Care
   Resource & Referral agencies
   about collecting a new piece
   information.
- Reach out to a new program or agency.



#### **Contact us**

earlylearning@sri.com; mandy.reeve@sri.com; kathleen.hebbeler@sri.com



#### Amanda Reeve

Senior Education Researcher and Technical Assistance Specialist





#### Kathleen Hebbeler

Senior Principal Education Researcher at SRI International



## SRI Early Childhood State Systems Building Webinar Series

Wednesday, March 15, 2023; 9 AM – 10 AM PT: Part 1: Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning: What's Data Got to Do With It?

Tuesday, April 4, 2023; 11 AM – 12 PM PT: Part 2: Let's Work Together (to Make Families' Lives Easier)! How to Coordinate Eligibility and Enrollment to Increase Equitable Access to Services

Thursday, May 4, 2023; 11 AM – 12 PM PT: Part 3: Don't Do It Alone! Engage the Right Partners to Plan for Your ECIDS

Thursday, June 8, 2023; 12 PM – 1 PM PT: Part 4: Information Is Key: Engaging Families by Supporting Decision-Making

## **Closing poll**



#### Resources

- Childcare.gov
- A Catalogue and Comparison of Quality Improvement Systems (QIS)
- Educator Practice Guide: Engaging Families During the Pre-K to Kindergarten Transition. Early Learning Network
- Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Renewal Application
- Joining Together to Create a Bold Vision for Next Generation Family Engagement:
   Engaging Families to Transform Education. Prepared by Global Family Research
   Project for Carnegie Corporation, October 2018

#### Get the latest news from SRI Education

SRIEducationNews.org



CollegeCareerPathways.org



MultilingualLearner.org



StudentBehaviorBlog.org



Join our team!



View our open positions at **sri.com/careers** 

We are committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace and to creating equitable learning opportunities for all students.

Thank you **SRI** Education sri.com/education-learning



SRI Education