Response, Recovery, and Partnership: Meeting Emergent Needs in Child Care

January 20, 2021

Division of Child Care Services
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Agenda

• The impact of COVID-19 on Child Care

• New York State’s Actions in Support of Families & Providers
  o Children and Family Services Plan (CFSP) and District Waivers
  o Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan and Federal Waivers

• The CARES Act: Implementation Activities

• Updates-present and future
COVID-19: The Impact on Child Care
Closure Analysis & Drop-in Care

COVID-19:

OCFS Day Cares by County:

27% Closed (4,251) as of 1/14/2021 6:04:42 AM (updated daily)

Please Note: CCFS data is subject to change.
Statewide Supports

Families

Providers

Coordination between OCFS and CCRRs

• Allowed regulatory flexibility
• Supplies
• CARES
Supplies for Providers

OCFS and CCR&Rs

...partnered to deliver supplies

Photos courtesy: Early Care and Learning Council
In early October, OCFS regional staff contacted more than 13,400 providers and were able to connect with almost 10,000.

Of those, 7,847 (86%) were open.

Of those open, 653 had 0 children in child care.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row Labels</th>
<th>Kids in Care to Enrollment</th>
<th>Kids in Care to Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DCC</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDC</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GFDC</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SACC</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This chart is the percentage of kids in care compared to their current enrollment, and the percentage of kids in care compared to their licensed capacity.
More than 8,000 providers responded to the question asking about their biggest concern (some providers had multiple biggest concerns).

The most common concerns were low enrollment, staffing, supplies, and generalized concerns over COVID.
OCFS Webcast Training in English & Spanish

This training provided information on ways providers can support children and families as programs re-open or continue to provide child care during the COVID-19 emergency.

“Supporting Children in Child Care during the COVID-19 Emergency”/ “Apoyando a los niños en el cuidado infantil durante la emergencia COVID-19”

- Two English sessions held on October 21
- Two Spanish sessions held on October 22

The recorded sessions can be found at: https://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/
Support for Families and Providers – District Level

District Level Waivers

• Waived family share for families affected by COVID-19
• Expanded subsidy eligibility up to 85% of the state median income
• Expanded the definition of a child needing protective services
• Extended the eligibility period for child care
• Expanded the number of paid child absence days
• Expanded the number of paid program closure days
District Waivers

47 out of 58 districts have had 1 or more waivers

- the average number of waiver periods = 7.2 (out of 10 max; median=8)
- the average number of waivers = 4.1 (out of 6 max; median=4)

The most popular waivers:

- Absences
- Family share
District Waivers (cont’d.)

# of counties by type of waiver

# of districts

Waiver Period
CCDF Plan and Federal COVID-19 Waivers

• On 6/8/2020, the Office of Child Care approved waivers for the following requirements for one year, not to exceed 3/17/2021:
  o In-state criminal registry or repository checks with fingerprints requirements
  o National FBI criminal fingerprint search requirements
  o Interstate criminal registry, sex offender registry and child abuse and neglect registry check requirements (including in any other state where the individual has resided in the past 5 years)
  o Family co-payments
  o Pre-service or orientation training requirements
  o Inspections for licensed CCDF providers
CCDF Plan and Federal Waivers (cont’d.)

• On 11/24/2020, the Office of Child Care approved waivers for the following requirements thru 9/30/2021:
  o National Crime Information Center (NCIC) National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) checks
  o Provisional hires
  o In-state check of sex offender and child abuse/maltreatment registry for existing staff
  o Posting monitoring and inspection reports
  o Posting aggregate data on serious injuries, deaths, and substantiated cases of child abuse
  o Graduated phase-out of assistance
  o 12-month eligibility
  o Option to discontinue assistance during the 12-month eligibility period
  o Change reporting during the 12-month eligibility period

• On 1/5/2021, OCFS requested waiver extensions going thru 9/30/2021, for all requirements that have waivers expiring in March 2021. The status of this request is pending. If approved, all the current waivers will expire on 10/1/2021
CARES Act

CARES Act Funding to NYS: $163.6 Million

CARES 1

• $20 million for scholarships for essential workers
• $10 million in supplies

CARES 2

• $5 million in re-opening/restructuring grants to support supplies and materials needed to support social distancing (PPE, room dividers, individual art kits)
• $45 million in temporary operating support to support program bringing classrooms/groups online
CARES Act (cont’d.)

CARES Act Funding to NYS: $163.6 Million

CARES 3

• $20 million essential worker scholarship (up to 300% of poverty)
• $20 million temporary rental assistance for displaced school-based programs
• $22.6 million for another round of temporary operating support
New Funding

• The FFY 2021 appropriation of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) discretionary money includes an $85 million increase nationwide in discretionary funds over FFY 2020.
• On 12/27/20, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, was signed into law.
  • It contained a $900 billion Coronavirus Relief package, which included $10 billion for child care.
• New York State stands to receive an estimated $465 million for child care.
Local District Allocations

- In response to COVID uncertainties, OCFS kept allocations flat in SFY 2020-21
- We are concerned about the high level of rollover we’re seeing
- 55 districts rolled over child care funds from FFY 2018-19 into FFY 2019-20
What To Look For In 2021

• Continuation of Waivers
• Evaluation of Family Share
• Additional funding to support providers and families
• OCFS virtual inspections pilot
• Virtual training and conference opportunities
• CCDF Plan FY 2022-2024
CCDF Plan FY 2022-2024 Timeline

• Final template will be issued by the Office of Child Care this Spring
• New York’s draft Plan will be posted on the OCFS website mid to late-April: http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/childcare/stateplan/default.asp
• Public hearings will be held virtually late April or early-May (tentative)
• Deadline for the FY 2022–2024 CCDF Plan is June 30, 2021
• Plan will be effective September 1, 2021 to September 30, 2024
Thank you