

Linking Economic Development and Child Care Project 2007-08 Venture Grantees and Learning Partners

California

Linking Child Care and Transit Oriented Development

The Local Investment in Child Care (LINCC) Project

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LINCC has worked to capitalize on the land use and economic development trend of Transit Oriented Development (ToD) and to amplify efforts to link child care and transportation. This project builds on that work. The goal is to leverage new resources to support child care center development and internal operations as well as increase low-income and transit-dependent parent access to quality child care programs. Specific tasks include conducting an analysis of the barriers and opportunities for financing, siting, and designing child care at ToD; reaching out to key leaders in transportation and planning; and, sharing new finance strategies and lessons learned at national conferences and meetings.

Maine

Mid Coast Maine Child Care Cooperative

Family Focus

2 Davenport Circle, Bath, ME 04530

Contact Person: Laleah Parker (207) 386-1662 lee@familyfocusme.org

Family Focus, a multi-site child care business, will use Venture Grant funding to launch a new business model aimed at reaching the fiscal stability and economies of scale needed to offer high quality services in rural communities. The plan involves several steps, beginning with internal reorganization (that will separate current Family Focus child care programming from administrative and business functions), negotiating Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with each site, and transitioning to a new non-profit corporation, the Mid Coast Maine Child Care Cooperative (MCMC³) that will offer business/administrative services to a broad group of child care providers.

New York

Engaging local economic development, business and government leaders in tangible efforts to stabilize the child care sector

Pro Action, Inc./Steuben Child Care Project

117 E. Steuben Street, Bath, NY 14810

Contact Person: Carla Hibbard (607) 776-2126 hibbardc@proactioninc.com

The Steuben County Child Care Project will lead several engagement, research and planning efforts aimed at strengthening child care businesses. Proposed activities include, among others: negotiating a group Chamber of Commerce membership for child care providers; seeking funding for a dedicated child care community planner; seeking public and/or private investment source(s) to fund child care fee assistance as a workforce stability / development support for employed parents who are ineligible for low-income child care subsidies; and, exploring the feasibility of establishing a shared services, back-office solution for child care providers.

Oregon

Supporting the Child Care Needs of Migrant Workers: Forging Alliances with Growers

and Packers

Oregon Childcare Resource & Referral Network (OCCRRN)

805 Liberty Street NE, Salem, OR 97301

Contact Person: Stephen Guntli, (503)779-2544

sguntli@oregonchildcare.org

Oregon has many companies (such as Harry and David) that rely on migrant workers to stabilize and grow their businesses. This project seeks to involve these companies in addressing the child care needs of migrant workers. A pilot project that makes ECE available to the children of migrant workers will be planned. The plan will include: the rationale for why businesses, government, communities and private donors should support the pilot program; key action steps; and, a sustainability analysis. The goal is to identify ways that growers, packers and other employers can be strategic allies, donors and advocates. The Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC) and the Oregon Childcare Resource and Referral Network will serve as key partners.

Wisconsin

Increasing Family Child Care Provider Access to Health Insurance and Other Benefits

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

744 Williamson St. Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703

Contact Person: Ruth Schmidt (608) 240-9880 ext. 7242 ruschmidt@wecanaeyc.org

This project seeks to improve the job quality of family care providers by creating a practical (and potentially replicable) model for facilitating access to health insurance/health care services and other benefits. Specific tasks include: identifying best practices in other states and employment sectors; analyzing the feasibility of various approaches based on likely positive impact, cost and complexity of implementation and perceived desirability; preparing a business plan; identifying potential funding sources; exploring the potential for collaboration with the unions.

New Jersey

John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy of Thomas Edison State College

101 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608-1176

Contact Person: Ana I. Berdecia 609-777-4351 ext. 4290 aberdecia@tesc.edu

The New Jersey Child Care Economic Impact Council, staffed by the John S. Watson Institute, will partner with the New Jersey League of Municipalities to implement strategies that link child care and economic development. Specific activities include: convening mayors and other elected officials to discuss the economic impact of ECE; facilitating interaction between child care providers and the economic development community; and, hosting seminars for child care providers on economic development funding opportunities such as tax credits, grants/loans from the state economic development agency and Community Development Block Grant funding.

National

The American Planning Association

122 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60603

Contact Person: Carrie Fesperman 202-349-1009 cfesperman@planning.org

APA will conduct a range of activities aimed at: benchmarking planner's current thinking and practice on family friendly cities; assessing the need for tools and/or support to initiate policy change and move the family friendly agenda forward; strengthening the collaborative partnership between APA, economic developers, child care advocates, and other policy makers by providing a forum for discussion and learning; and, identifying best practices that can be shared with APA members and other community decision-makers. Specific activities include an online national

survey of APA members, publishing a white paper, developing web pages, and conducting a session on family-friendly cities at the national APA conference.

Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED)

1200 G Street, NW; Suite 400; Washington DC 20005

Contact Person: Gene Severens 202-207-0139 Eseverens@cfed.org

CFED's Self-Employment Tax Initiative is focused on using the tax code to deliver support (via collaboration with a national network of free tax preparation service providers) to millions of start-up and self-employed micro-businesses. In analyzing the results of the 2006 tax season, SETI learned that home-based child care businesses were the single largest business type served by these free tax preparation services. At some sites, home-based child care services represented well over 50% of the site's self-employed businesses seeking free tax preparation. Many of these home-based child care businesses kept poor business records and were unable to calculate basic business profits needed to compute their businesses' earned income (net profit) and claim the EITC. To strengthen child care business use of tax credits, CFED will use Venture Grant funding to: identify a "portfolio" of 3-5 community-based free tax preparation partners focused on the child care industry; convene two conference calls to assess issues and progress in providing tax preparation and related business training assistance to self-employed childcare providers; and, prepare an issue brief based on the findings from this project.

Aspen Institute

One Dupont Circle, N.W. Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20036-1133

Contact Person: Kirsten Moy (202) 736-5807 kirsten.moy@aspeninst.org

The Aspen Institute will convene a brain storming session on alternative approaches to finance and business development for the early care and education industry. The goal is to garner strategies and lessons learned from the community development field by inviting experienced community developers with a record of out-of-the-box thinking to identify and discuss potential new ideas, explore innovative strategies that link economic development and child care and to focus on products and outcome linkages.

Learning Partners:

Alabama

Alabama Partnership for Children

P.O. Box 230219 Montgomery, AL 36123-0219

Contact Person: Gail Piggott (334) 271-0304 gailapckidstuff@knology.net

Alabama Governor Riley has recently created a Small Business Advocacy Office to coordinate/streamline small businesses services and has developed a plan (called PLAN 2010) to better support small businesses in the State. The Alabama Partnership for Children is working to connect the small business components of PLAN 2010 to the needs of the child care industry and workforce as well as promote policies that increase the capacity of community-based child care programs to deliver high quality programming.

California

Low Income Investment Fund

100 Pine Street, Suite 1800 San Francisco, CA 94111

Contact Person: Marie Young 415-489-6120 myoung@liifund.org

LIIF is developing a shared services model that would reduce administrative costs as a percentage of direct service expenses; increase the financial expertise of the field; facilitate the growth of child care programs, allowing them to take on debt where appropriate; and, strengthen the infrastructure to enhance the stability of individual child care programs.

ZERO TO THREE Western Office

350 South Bixel Street, Suite 150 Los Angeles, CA 90017

Contact: Florence Nelson 202/638-1144 fnelson@zerotothree.org

Zero to Three's Western Office seeks to engage philanthropic leaders as partners in fashioning an early childhood policy agenda that integrates economic arguments and strategies into system-wide reform of the early childhood development profession in Los Angeles and also leads to creation of the Baby Futures Endowment Fund.

Mission Economic Development Agency

3505 20th Street San Francisco CA 94110

Contact Person: Luis Granados (415) 282-3334 ex.11 lgranados@medasf.org

MEDA is focused on increasing the financial sustainability of child care businesses and coordinating business development services to family child care providers as well as centers throughout the City of San Francisco.

Kentucky

Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)

54 First Street, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Contact Person: Kathy King (270) 360-9911 kathy.king@ky.gov

4-C seeks to support and expand the existing child care infrastructure and assist in enhancing their business management and operational practices. This includes working with local banks and area businesses to explore the future possibility of low interest loans and other private and public capital investments.

Maine

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

221 State Street, State House Station #11

Contact Person: Patti Woolley 207-287-5311 Patti.Woolley@maine.gov

Maine is working on an alternative finance systems change. The goal is to craft and test a new approach to child care subsidy that would incorporate both portable and direct payment methods and link to shared service platforms and administrative strategies.

Massachusetts

Child Care Resource Center, Inc. (CCRC)

130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139

Contact Person: Angela Conway 617-547-1063 x226 conwaya@ccrcinc.org

CCCRC seeks to inform child care center directors and family child care business owners about the Massachusetts Health Care Reform Act, their responsibilities as employers, and the financial impact that compliance or noncompliance will have on their businesses.

New Jersey

Agency Support Group, Inc.

744 Broad Street, 26th Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102

Contact Person: Fred Sambataro 201-341-3212 fredsambataro@comcast.net

ASG is in the second year of a project aimed at working on the development of financial intermediary services that will support child care organizations along with the nonprofit sector as a whole.

Ohio

Action for Children

78 Jefferson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Contact Person: Diane Bennett (614) 224-0222, ext. 149 diane.bennett@actionforchildren.org

Action for Children seeks to re-ignite national discussion about birth to three as part of child care and early learning system-building for children from birth to school age.

South Carolina

South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness

1300 Sumter Street, Suite 100, Columbia, SC 29201

Contact Person: Debbie Robertson 803-734-0479 [droberts@scfirststeps.org](mailto:droboterts@scfirststeps.org)

First Steps is working on a comprehensive approach to state tax incentives to support their new Quality Based Incentive System for the state's early care and education industry.

Vermont

Central Vermont Community Action Council

195 US Route 302—Berlin, Barre, VT 05641

Contact Person: Mary R. Niebling 802.479-1053 mniebling@cvcac.org

CVAC is working on a project to show how child care providers can increase their profitability by accessing federal and state Earned Income and other tax credits and to encourage family child care providers to use asset building devices such as Individual Development Accounts, retirement, and education savings accounts.