Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

November 13, 2014
Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approve 11-13-14 agenda
- Approve 8-21-14 minutes
Board Member Updates

Board members report on their recent DECAL-related activities in their districts.
Commissioner’s Update

Amy M. Jacobs
Interim Commissioner
Georgia’s Pre-K Week

- 202 visits completed
  - Visits by **30 Senators**
    - 54% of the Senate
    - 4 were new Pre-K Week participants
  - Visits by **83 Representatives**
    - 46% of the House
    - 23 were new Pre-K Week participants
- Over the last three years of Georgia’s Pre-K Week, 169 members of the current legislative body have visited a Pre-K classroom.
  - 72% of the current General Assembly
Georgia’s Pre-K Week
Georgia’s Pre-K Week
Georgia’s Pre-K Week
Georgia’s Pre-K Week
Georgia’s Pre-K Week
Georgia’s Pre-K Week
Miscellaneous Topics

- Pre-K Expansion Grant
- E³Z Signings
- Enforcement Task Force
- QR Campaign
- GEEARS Poll
Example of DECAL’s Special Work
Questions & Comments from Board
Finance & Legislative Update

Ray Higgins
Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
www.decal.ga.gov
# Finance Update

**FY 2015 as of September 30th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BY PROGRAMS</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditures*</th>
<th>Remaining Balance</th>
<th>% Remaining</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Services</td>
<td>$245,146,508.00</td>
<td>$79,753,009.99</td>
<td>$165,393,498.01</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-K + (HS)</td>
<td>$314,462,432.00</td>
<td>$61,499,083.25</td>
<td>$252,963,348.75</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Initiatives</td>
<td>$31,087,275.00</td>
<td>$18,703,499.59</td>
<td>$12,383,775.41</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>$125,550,000.00</td>
<td>$37,822,992.49</td>
<td>$87,727,007.51</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$716,246,215.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$197,778,585.32</strong></td>
<td><strong>$518,467,629.68</strong></td>
<td><strong>72%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BY FUNDING SOURCE</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State General</td>
<td>$55,493,488.00</td>
<td>$9,172,885.78</td>
<td>$46,320,602.22</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Lottery</td>
<td>$314,300,032.00</td>
<td>$61,463,097.68</td>
<td>$252,836,934.32</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$346,366,695.00</td>
<td>$127,096,651.68</td>
<td>$219,270,043.32</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$86,000.00</td>
<td>$45,950.18</td>
<td>$40,049.82</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funds</strong></td>
<td><strong>$716,246,215.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$197,778,585.32</strong></td>
<td><strong>$518,467,629.68</strong></td>
<td><strong>72%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes encumbrances.
Legislative Update
Programs Update

Keith D. Bostick, L.C.S.W.
Deputy Commissioner for Programs
Comments from Our Customers

“What Quality Means For My Earliest Learners: Conversations With The Family”

Guest Presenters
- Kids World Learning Center – Statesboro
- Kidazzle Child Care and Learning Center – Atlanta
- The Suzuki School – Atlanta
Child Care Services Update

Kristie Lewis
Assistant Commissioner for Child Care Services
## 2015 License Fee Renewal Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Description/ Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/1/2014</td>
<td>Generate 2015 license fee renewals; e-mail to all providers; start collecting fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/1/14</td>
<td>Due date for fees; start 30-day grace period; e-mail 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; overdue notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/31/14</td>
<td>30-day grace period ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/1/15</td>
<td>Generate late fees; e-mail 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; overdue notice &amp; citation for non-payment and/or missing verification of lawful presence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/1/15 – 2/28/15</td>
<td>Start revocation process for non-payment of fee and/or missing verification of lawful presence; begin delivering revocation notices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 days following delivery or receipt confirmation of revocation notice</td>
<td>Close facility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exempt Summer Day Camp Visit Project 2014
Overview

Potential site visit pool of 83 providers
- Exempt category #1- Public Sector = 42 sites
- Exempt category #7- Day Camp (5+)= 37 sites
- Exempt category #12- Non-profit= 4 sites

All potential sites had active CAPS certificates as of June 2014

Seventeen (17) CCS consultants visited potential sites between July 2-25, 2014 and evaluated health and safety standards using an abbreviated monitoring tool
Exempt Summer Day Camp
Visit Project 2014:
Potential Site Map
## Exempt Summer Day Camp Visit Project 2014 - Summary of Findings *(based on 67 visits)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Yes (Met)</th>
<th>No (Not Met)</th>
<th>Not Observed/ N/A</th>
<th>Not Reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Were staff:child ratios met?</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were CRC’s on file for staff?</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was adequate supervision maintained?</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5 (children not present during visit)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was playground enclosed?</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>11 (no playground on premises)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was playground free from hazards?</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11 (no playground on premises)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was facility premises free from hazards?</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transportation provided by 60 of 67 sites visited
  - Improper restraints reported at 3 sites (of those able to be observed)

Pool on premises at 31 of 67 sites
  - Not adequately fenced or secured at 3 of 31 sites

Discipline observed at 40 of 67 sites; inappropriate discipline reported at only 2 sites

Local approvals:
  - 13 sites did not have a certificate of occupancy
  - 11 sites did not have fire marshal approval
  - 19 sites did not have zoning approval
Enforcement Sanction Task Force
Conclusion

- Create a Violation Enforcement Chart
  - Transparent
  - Clear
  - Understandable to providers and parents
  - Regulatory best practice

Violation Enforcement Chart will help ensure consistent, fair, and progressive enforcement actions for all licensed child care facilities
Conclusions

- The Violation Enforcement Chart is aligned with Georgia Code and national best practice recommendations for enforcement.
- Using the Violation Enforcement Chart will increase fairness and consistency in applying enforcement actions.
- The Violation Enforcement Chart will allow child care programs and parents to predict enforcement action outcomes based on violations.
Federal Programs

Deidria W. Bolden
Assistant Commissioner for Federal Programs and Administration
Nutrition Services Updates

FY 2014 Participation

- Total Meals Served: 83.5 million
  - Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP): 78,951,595
  - Summer Food Service Program (SFSP): 4,609,155
- Total Facilities/Sites: 5,873
  - CACFP: 4,254
  - SFSP: 1,619
- Total Counties Served: 158*
  - *CACFP and/or SFSP participation in the county
  - County with no CACFP or SFSP meal service:
    - Webster
USDA Recognition

Georgia Summer Meal Services
- Statewide Meals Served: 8.6 million (DECAL & DOE)
  - 23% increase (DECAL)
  - 13% increase (DECAL & DOE)
  - 36.9% increase in child participation
  - DECAL’s average daily attendance: 98,006

Georgia CACFP
- At Risk After-School Meals Program
  - 12.3% increase in meals served

Noteworthy Initiative
- Public Awareness Campaign for CACFP/SFSP Programs
Nutrition Education

Nutrition Education Grant funded by USDA

FY 2015 *Farm 2 Preschool* Grant Program:

- Extension of the National *Farm 2 School* Initiative in public schools
- Goal: to influence the eating habits of children in care and to share information and resources with parents and families
- 27 Child Care awarded $2,000 mini grants
  - Attend training on developing/adopting wellness policies and programs in child care centers
  - Local food sourcing
  - Materials and supplies for nutrition education activities and urban gardens
CAPS Updates

- CAPS Task Force and Policy changes
  - Release December 2014

- DHS/DECAL CAPS Transition Plan Underway
  - Eligibility
  - Policy
  - Practice

- Customer Service Strategies
  - Dedicated customer service staff
  - Monthly meetings with DHS
  - New platform for call center by 12.20.14 (DHS)
## CAPS Statistics – Historical Comparison (Weekly)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>As of Date</th>
<th>Children Served</th>
<th>COMPASS Applications</th>
<th>Children Added</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 2014</td>
<td>55,059</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>5,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2014</td>
<td>55,187</td>
<td>2,302</td>
<td>5,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2013</td>
<td>55,783</td>
<td>2,193</td>
<td>5,595</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: MAXSTAR

Note: The “as of date” reflects data from the preceding Monday through the “as of date.”
BREAK

(10 minutes)
Head Start State Collaboration Update

Janice Haker
Head Start State Collaboration Director
50 Years of Innovation, Continuous Improvement, and High Quality
• January 1964: President Lyndon Johnson declared “War On Poverty”
• Goal: Eradicate the causes of poverty by creating job opportunities, increasing productivity, and enhancing the quality of life
• Led to Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 which enabled programs such as: Job Corps, Urban/Rural Community Action, VISTA, Project Head Start and others.
1966
- Funded as a primarily part-day, nine-month program
- No legislated “standards” established.

1967
- The Parent and Child Centers were established, first providing birth to three services (replaced by EHS in 1995)

1972
- Services to children with disabilities was first required – “at least 10%” of national enrollment would be set aside for these children
- T/TA system first established for services to children with disabilities.
- Home based services model was approved
Head Start: Through the Years

1973
• CDA program established. CDA’s in every classroom proposed for 1976
• National Head Start Association established

1975
• Performance Standards published; review process began.

1977
• First bicultural and bilingual programs began in 21 states

1990
• Largest increase approved for Head Start in its history. President and Congress promised “full funding.” Head Start Expansion and Quality Improvement Act passed
• Head Start/State Collaboration Projects began
• Child Care Block Grant passed
1995

- First Early Head Start programs funded.
- Head Start Performance Standards began to be developed.
- Head Start/Child Care partnership initiative underway.
- Required on-site peer reviews every three years enforced.
- Programs shut-down if deficiencies are not corrected within one year.

1996

- Performance Standards and CDA requirement instituted.
Head Start: Reauthorizations

1998

Reauthorization occurred with significant changes to HS, including:

- Purpose changed from developing social competence to promoting school readiness
- For profit organizations could compete for Head Start grants
- Focus on child and family literacy goals
- Required AA degrees for at least one teacher in each Head Start classroom

2007

- Sweeping changes to accountability, quality, and focus on cognitive development
Head Start Under Current Administration

- Obama campaigned on quadrupling infant-toddler services
- Doubled funding for EHS in ARRA
- Many requirements under 2007 reauthorization implemented (degree requirements, DRS, etc.)
- EHS-CC Partnership program created
- Initiated Pre-K for All
• Head Start: first system of early learning
• Head Start: significant bipartisan support since 1964
• Demonstration projects vital to development and success of Head Start (Follow Through, Parent & Child Centers, disabilities, bilingual services, Home Start, CDA, Child and Family Resource Program)
• Continuous improvement of Head Start crucial to success
• Parents: reason HS still exists today
• Head Start still seen more as educational program than social service or two-generation program
Georgia Head Start and Early Head Start

- 26,518 children enrolled in Head Start
  - 4,845 children in blended HS/Georgia’s Pre-K
- 3,111 children enrolled in Early Head Start
- 12,972 three year olds served
- 10,907 four year olds served
- 75% teachers met BS/BA degree
- 98% of assistant teachers have CDA or higher
- 97% classes met the AA credential
Georgia’s Pre-K Program & Instructional Support Update

Susan Adams
Assistant Commissioner for Pre-K & Instructional Support
## Pre-K Program Enrollment Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>September 2013</th>
<th>September 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providers</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites</td>
<td>1,806</td>
<td>1,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes</td>
<td>3,811</td>
<td>3,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slots Funded</td>
<td>84,000</td>
<td>84,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slots Allocated</td>
<td>83,842</td>
<td>84,392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>80,478</td>
<td>79,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Slots Filled</td>
<td>95.81%</td>
<td>95.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting List</td>
<td>7,393</td>
<td>5,477</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pre-K Program Enrollment Data
August 2013 – October 2014

New/ Expansion Classes Funded
Classes Closed
Preschool Expansion Grant

Federal grant opportunity jointly administered by departments of Education and Health and Human Services to support states to develop and expand high-quality preschool programs.

Funding priorities focus on increasing access to high quality preschool services by:

- Improving quality of existing Pre-K services
- Serving additional income eligible children in mixed income classrooms

Georgia is eligible for $20 million per year for four years

Awards announced: December 2014
Preschool Expansion Grant (continued)

Georgia’s grant proposal requested $32,488,818 over the four years.

Five targeted regions:
- **Metro** – DeKalb (30033, 30002, 30058, 30032, 30021, 30340)
- **Central** – Macon (31201, 31217, 31206)
- **North** – Hall (30501, 30507, 30542)
- **Southeast** – Liberty, Long, McIntosh
- **Southwest** – Crisp, Sumter, Macon

Total students to be served:
- School year: 1,044
- Summer Transition Program: 1,650
Georgia’s Pre-K Plus

In the targeted regions, Georgia’s Pre-K Plus will:

- Expand access to high quality services for eligible children (200% FPL) by increasing the number of slots in Georgia’s Pre-K Program and in Summer Transition Programs
- Raise the quality of existing Pre-K classrooms by reducing class size and staff-child ratios (1:10)
- Use a community-based, sustainable approach to create comprehensive service hubs to coordinate and align services
- Improve the outcomes of children with disabilities and English learners through:
  - Increasing access to Pre-K classrooms that are inclusive, culturally responsive, and meet the needs of all children
  - Offering evidence-based professional development to support teachers and programs in meeting their needs
System Reform Update

Kristin Bernhard
Deputy Commissioner for System Reform
Georgia’s Race to the Top: Early Learning Challenge Projects

1. Successful State Systems
   - Grant Management
   - Early Education
   - Empowerment Zones (E³Zs)

2. High Quality Accountable Programs
   - Quality Rated Access and Availability
   - Quality Rated Validation

3. Promoting Early Learning Outcomes
   - Early Learning and Development Standards
   - Statewide Family Engagement and Community Grants
   - Supporting Families

4. Building a Great Workforce
   - Workforce Knowledge and Competencies
   - Supporting Early Educators

5. Measuring Outcomes and Progress
   - Comprehensive Assessment System
   - Kindergarten Entry Assessment
   - Unified Data System
Early Education Empowerment Zones
Project Two
## Quality Rated Access & Availability

### Project Three

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Target (end of calendar year 2014)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/1/2013</td>
<td>(ELC Submission)</td>
<td>8/21/2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/4/2014</td>
<td>(August Board Meeting)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Number of Programs Participating</strong> in Quality Rated</td>
<td>1,126</td>
<td>1,299</td>
<td>1,525</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participating:** Registered for an account and completed a brief application on [https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/](https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/)
Quality Rated Participation By County
Quality Rated Marketing & Communication

Quality Rated Programs

- Augusta Tech Head Start Center, Augusta
- Childtime Childcare #1115, Kennesaw
- Discovery Point #33, Buford
- Discovery Point #63, Braselton
- Discovery Point Child Development Center #46, Acworth
- Johns Creek Academy, Suwanee
- KinderCare Learning Center #1572, Woodstock
- Noel K Weimer, Roswell
- Open Arms Christian Child Development Center, Kennesaw
- Quentin W Hilliard, Savannah
- Sabrina R Daniels, Atlanta
- Sheltering Arms - Stonewall Tell, College Park
- Statesboro Head Start, Statesboro
- Super Kids Child Care Center LLC, Statesboro
- Sylvania Head Start, Sylvania
- The Children’s Village at the Crossroads, Richmond Hill
- Warren County Head Start, Warrenton
- Wisdom World Care & Learning Facility, Hephzibah

Are you a Child Care or Early Learning Program?
Discover how you and the children in your program would benefit from becoming Quality Rated.
Learn More about Quality Rated...

Quality Rated is an initiative of Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Call Us Free: 1-855-300-QRIS
Follow us on Facebook
Lunch
(Served in Entry Area)

Committee Meetings

Programs – Hickory
Budget/Finance – Willow
System Reform – Cypress

(The public is welcome to attend/observe committee meetings but may not participate in the committee’s discussion.)
Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

Public Comments

November 13, 2014
Committee Reports

- Budget/Finance – Carlene Talton
- Programs – Sherron Murphy
- System Reform – Susan Harper
Board Meeting Dates 2015

February 19, 2015
May 14, 2015
August 20, 2015
November 12, 2015

To Members of the Board of Early Care and Learning:
Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.
We appreciate your continued support and guidance.

DECAL Staff