## Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

November 17, 2022



## DECAL Board Meeting: Webinar 101

#### For Board Members joining virtually:

- Board meeting is audio only.
- You can mute and unmute yourselves.
- Report any sound or technology issues using the chat box, and a DECAL staff member will assist you.

#### For general public joining virtually:

- You will remain muted.
- The agenda does not include a Q&A session; this is standard for board meetings.
- The agenda does include a public comment period. Public may type comments in the chat box. Public comments will be shared with the Board.
- Minutes will be posted at a later date. Board Summary will be posted within two business days.
- PowerPoint presentation will also be posted.

## Board Meeting Welcome

Debra Brock, Vice Board Chair



## Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approve 11/17/22 agenda
- Approve 08/25/22 minutes



# Inspiration Kristin Morrissey



## Board Member Updates



## Commissioner's Updates

Amy M. Jacobs, Commissioner



## Quality Rated's 10th Anniversary



## We're Celebrating!

The First 10 Years of Quality Rated Child Care: A Decade of Stars

#DecadeOfStars



Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning

RIGHT FROM THE START

## Quality Rated Anniversary Activities



Kick off with Quality Rated Day at the Braves



"Class of 2012" regional visits and celebrations



Toddler book and teacher toolbox



New Quality Rated signs

Plus more interactive activities coming in 2023!



## **Quality Rated Day at the Braves**







## **Dalton Regional Visit**Whitfield Dalton Day Care







Dalton Regional Visit
Friendship House









### **Dalton Celebration**







## Georgia's Pre-K Teachers of the Year



Shannon Gibson Baldwin Elementary School - Baldwin



Alaina Jones Akers Academy - Cumming



## TOTY Surprise Announcements – 9/23/2022







## Georgia's Early Childhood Educators of the Year



DiAnne Coggins
Infant
The Learning Village, LLC
College Park, GA



Mary Williams
Infant
Kid's Express Learning Center, Inc.
Hawkinsville, GA



Janet Thomas
Toddler
The Right Start Early Learning Center II
Palmetto, GA



Elianne Aguilera Toddler Eli's Academy Lawrenceville, GA



Tierra Faulcon
Preschool
Faulcon Prep Academy
Smyrna, GA



Ashley Langley
Preschool
The Waseca School
Athens, GA











# BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF GEORGIA'S INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE TO SUPPORT THE WELLNESS OF YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES!

# Finance, Administration, & Nutrition Updates

Rian Ringsrud, Deputy Commissioner for Finance & Administration



#### **Budget Comparison** Data as of % Remaining Expenditures\* Budget Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Balance Remaining By Program Child Care Services \$1,239,255,007 \$315,255,894 \$923,999,113 75% Nutrition \$148,000,000 \$40,117,086 \$107,882,914 73% \$401,075,881 \$76,095,731 \$324,980,150 Pre-K + (HS)81% \$47,372,971 \$14,041,851 **Quality Initiatives** \$61,414,822 77% \$445,510,561 \$1,404,235,149 76% Total \$1,849,745,710

By Fund Source				
State General	\$61,436,817	\$13,984,847	\$47,451,970	77%
State Lottery	\$400,900,881	\$76,053,861	\$324,847,020	81%
Federal	\$1,386,908,512	\$355,457,582	\$1,031,450,930	74%
Other	\$499,500	\$14,270	\$485,230	97%
Total	\$1,849,745,710	\$445,510,561	\$1,404,235,149	76%

<sup>\*</sup> Includes encumbrances.

### Finance Update

### FY 2023 Q1 Budget Summary





## Fiscal Year 2022\* Wrap-Up



- Served **2,833,818** Meals
- 875 Meal Sites
- 63 Sponsors
- 86 GA Counties



- Served **64,940,227** Meals
- 3,601 Centers & Sites
- 584 Sponsors & Institutions
- 156 GA Counties





## Happy Helpings Start-up Grants



Georgia's Summer Food Service Program

- \$300K in Start-up grants offered to expand access to meals in unserved or underserved areas
- Nearly 30,000 Meals were served at 27 additional meal sites.
- Meals made available in 13 unique counties not previously served by Happy Helpings including Atkinson, Baker, Clarke, Early, Echols, Grady, Jasper, Lamar, Madison, Pike, Polk, Sumter & Upson.



## Start-up Grant Enabled Purchases such as:



Freezer purchased by Rock of Salvation

Insulated Milk Box & Food Delivery Bag purchased by GNSI



Vehicle purchased by New Visions







purchased by Dream it Forward

## Georgia's Pre-K and Instructional Supports Updates

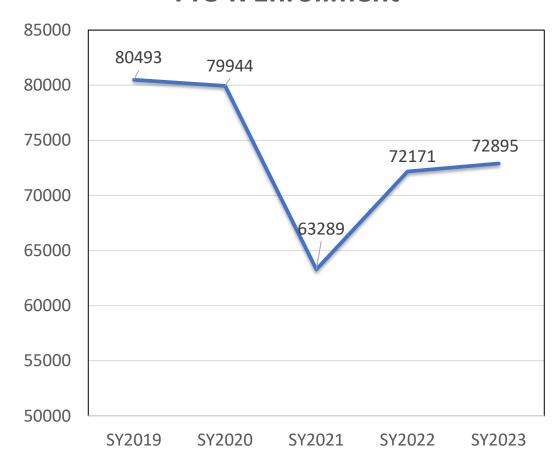
Susan Adams, Deputy Commissioner for Georgia's Pre-K and Instructional Supports



## Pre-K Update: Enrollment



#### **Pre-K Enrollment**



### Slight Increase in Pre-K Enrollment for SY 2023

% of Four-Year-Old Population Served:

SY2019: 60%

SY2020: 60%

SY2021: 46%

SY2022: 53%

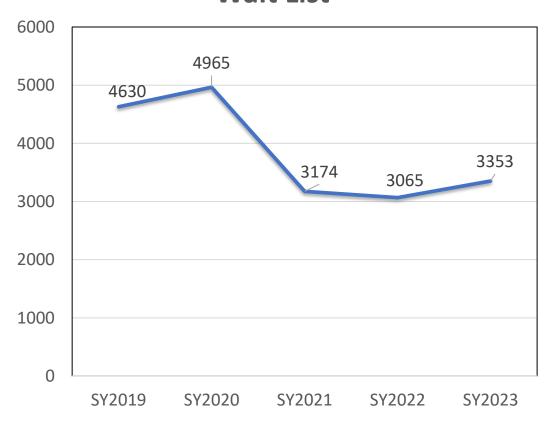
SY2023: 54%



## Pre-K Update: Waiting List







## Increase in Pre-K wait list from SY 2022 to SY2023





# Celebrating (2)



October 3-7

www.gaprekweek.org\_\_\_\_\_





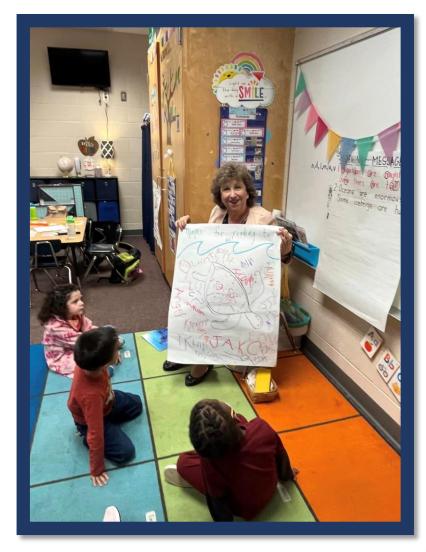














## Georgia Pre-K Week

Maria Ramos, Special Project Manager Voices for Georgia's Children







A celebration of Georgia's Pre-K Program and quality early education in Georgia









### What is Georgia Pre-K Week?

- Georgia Pre-K Week is a weeklong celebration of Georgia's nationally recognized Pre-K program and other quality early learning programs during the first full week of October.
- Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, Georgia Pre-K Week gives elected officials and other leaders from across the state a chance to visit and read to Pre-K classrooms in their districts / communities and actively engage in early learning.





### Pre-K Week 2022



October 3-7, 2022



**81** state leaders made

**110** visits to Pre-K sites



**73**% (172 out of 236) of current legislators have participated in Pre-K Week!





State Representative Sharon Cooper

State Representative
Chuck Martin













### **Beyond State Leaders**

- In total, we had 805 Pre-K Centers across a <u>record-breaking</u>
   143 counties participate in Pre-K Week!
- Local leaders hosted by these centers included:
  - Mayors
  - Superintendents
  - City council members
  - Local business leaders
  - Firefighters
  - Police
  - Members of the Armed Forces







## QUESTIONS?



# Workforce Updates

Christi Moore, PhD
Director of Professional Learning



## **POWER Payments**

- Eligibility Requirements
  - Must be employed by an eligible program at least one month before application period opens
  - Must work onsite at an eligible program for at least 20 hours per week
  - Must be in an eligible role
- Eligible Programs
  - Georgia child care program licensed by DECAL or DOD
  - Exempt Georgia Head Start or Early Head Start program
  - Georgia's Pre-K provider (private or public)
- Applications submitted by provider on behalf of eligible staff





# Over \$100M Dispersed Through POWER

	Recipients Paid	Total Funding
Round 1 Application Period: May 17 – June 18, 2021	37,129	\$37,129,000
Round 2 Application Period: January 18 – February 18, 2022	38,140	\$38,140,000
Round 3 Application Period: June 1 – July 1, 2022	39,510	\$39,510,000
TOTAL	114,779	\$114,779,000





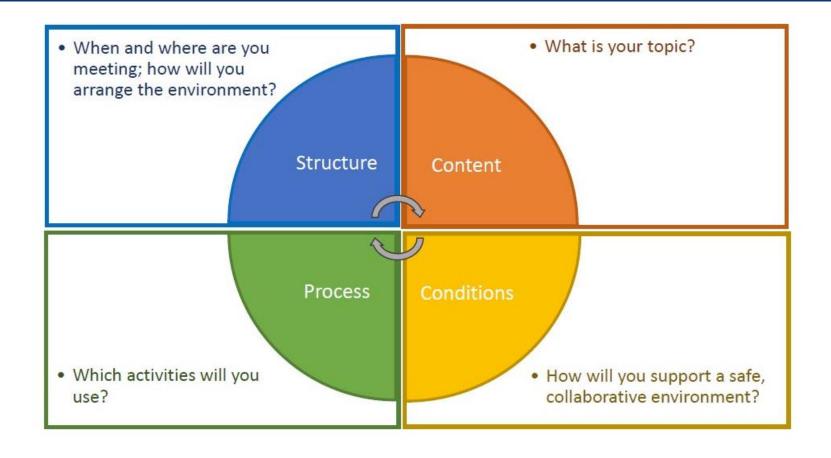
# Online Learning Library Initiative (OLLI)

- Over 50 online courses available
- Audiences
  - DECAL staff
  - Providers
  - Instructional staff
  - Trainers
- Some courses available in English and Spanish
- In FFY 2022, 20 courses were developed and launched





#### Professional Learning Community (PLC) Facilitator Training Program



Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly (Wenger, 2006).



#### Professional Learning Community (PLC) Facilitator Training Program

- Since 2016:
  - 392 professionals have successfully completed training
  - 208 professionals have successfully completed certification
- Recent updates to program:
  - PLC training and certification now offered with a virtual option
  - Program expanded to offer PLC opportunities for DECAL management
  - Georgia Training Approval updated to allow approved trainers who have completed PLC facilitator training to offer training hours for their PLCs



# Infant Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH)

Laura Lucas Director, IECMH





## Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Expand access to mental health services and supports for the 0-5 population and their families

- Policy and Finance:
  - Medicaid-funded Behavioral Health Services: Ages 0-6
  - Georgia DC:0-5TM Crosswalk and Case Studies
- Workforce Development:
  - Child Parent Psychotherapy
  - Georgia Association of Infant Mental Health
  - Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Pilot













#### **Children's Mental Health Week**

May 1st – 5th, 2023







# Child Care Services Updates

Pam Stevens, Deputy Commissioner for Child Care Services



# School-Age Help and Relief Effort



### **SHARE Grant Applications**

#### 3 Types of Programs:

- License-exempt providers serving at least one school-age child receiving CAPS (Child And Parent Service)
- Licensed child care center serving school-age children
- Licensed Family Child Care Home serving school-age children

Analysis of SHARE grant recipients includes data from 1,382 applications

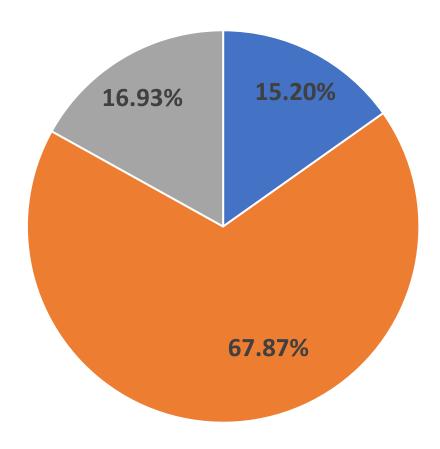


#### **Grant Award Amounts**

School-Age Capacity Range (Licensed & License- Exempt Centers)	Payment Tiers	
1-25	\$1720	
26-50	\$2150	
51-100	\$2795	
101-200	\$3440	
201 and greater	\$4300	
All Family Child Care Learning Homes	\$1075	



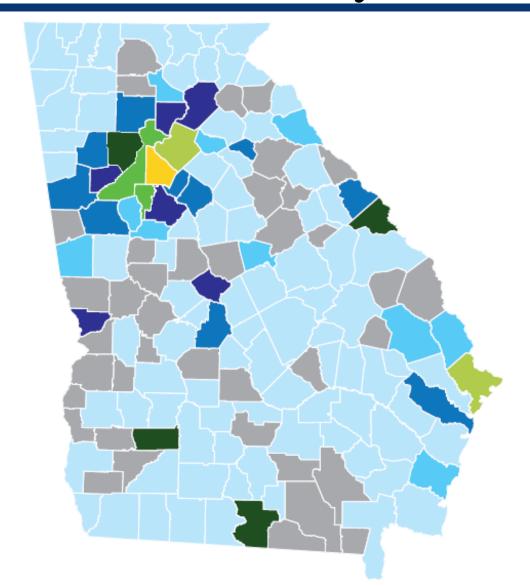
## 1,382 Approved SHARE Grant Applications

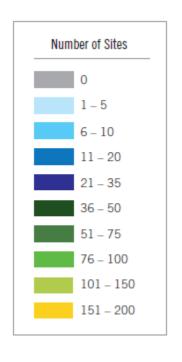


■ License Exempt ■ Child Care Learning Center ■ Family Child Care Learning Home



## SHARE Grantee Sites by County

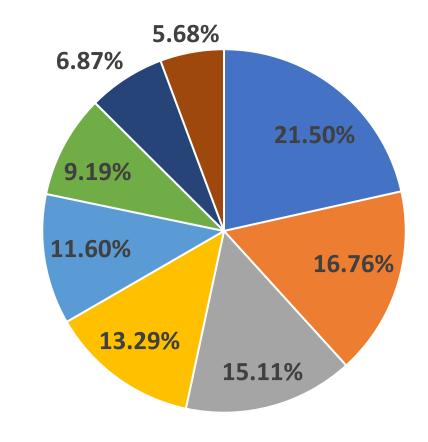






## Youth Served in March 2021 by Age

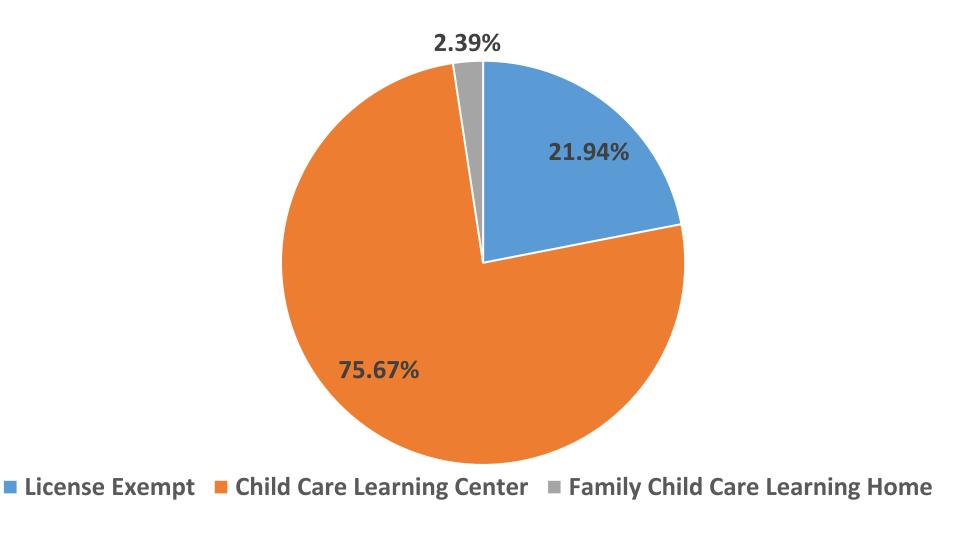
Total schoolage youth served in March 2021: 48,067



■ Age 5
■ Age 6
■ Age 7
■ Age 8
■ Age 9
■ Age 10
■ Age 11
■ Age 12



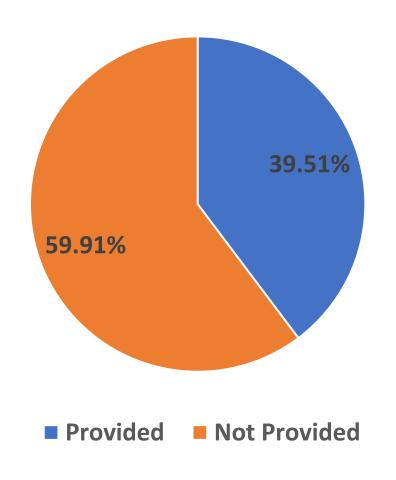
## Youth Served in March 2021 by Provider Type



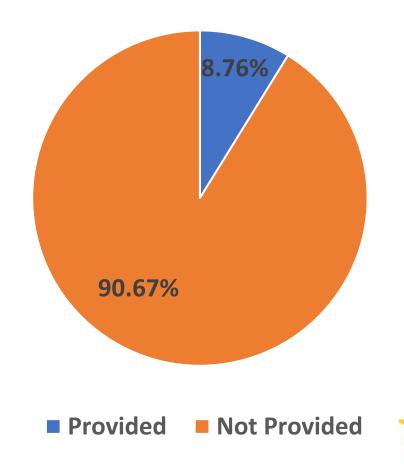


#### **Transportation Services**

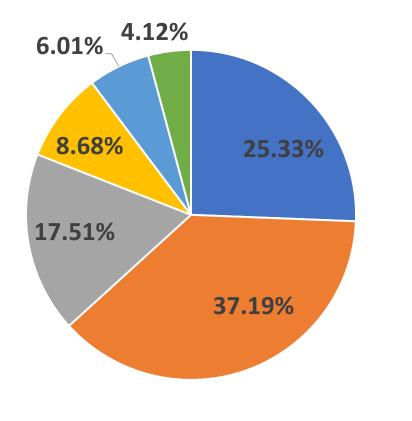
#### **Transportation to Program**

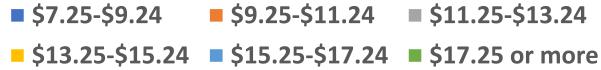


#### **Transportation Home**



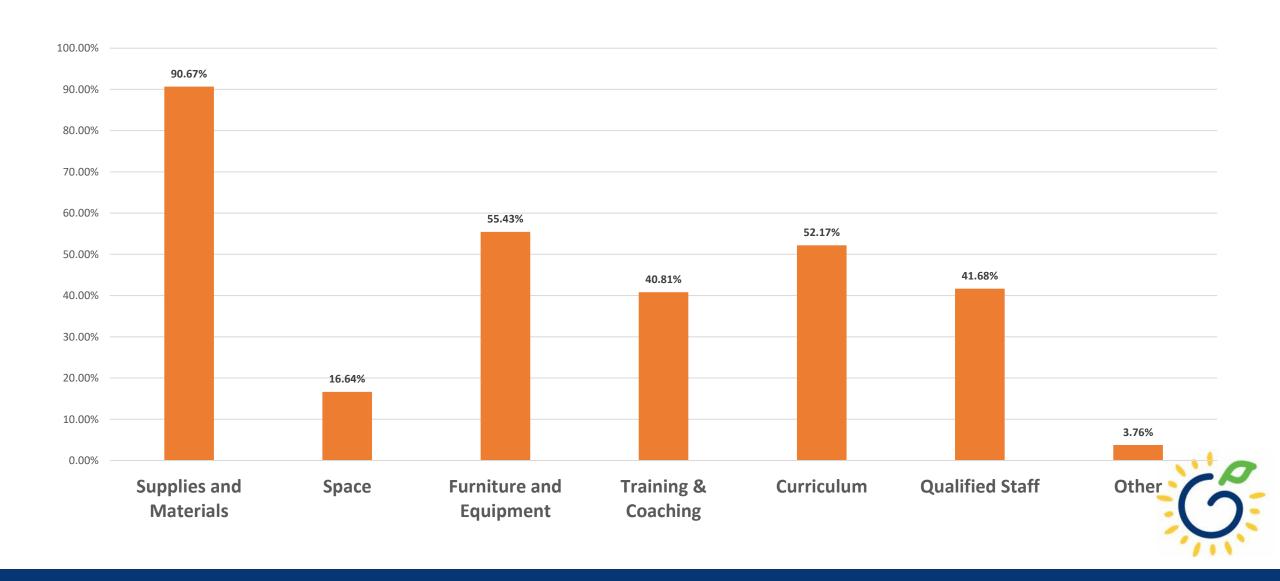
### Average Hourly Wage



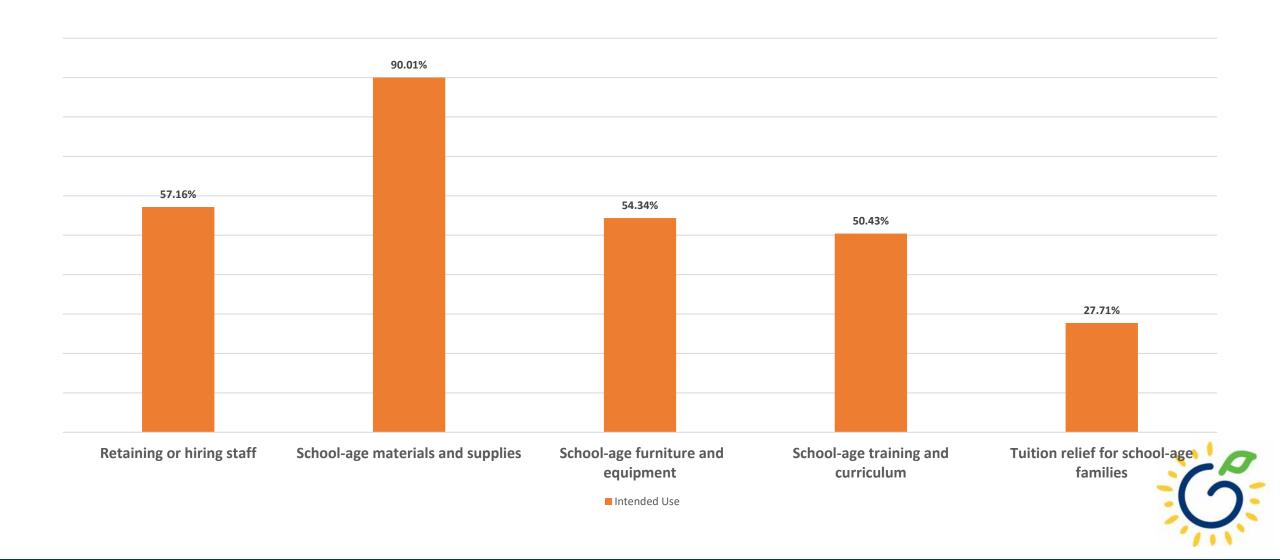




### Greatest School Age Classroom Needs



#### Intended Use of Funds



# Training Summary & Evaluation



# **Training Offered**

#### **Required Training (June 2021)**

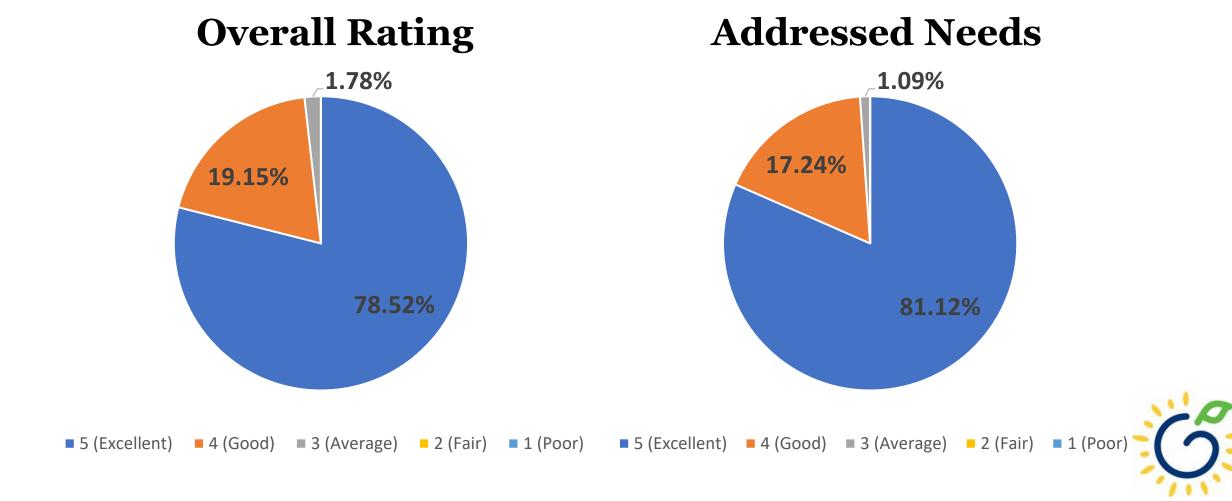
Best Practices in School-Age Care

#### **Optional Training (August 2021)**

- Raising the Bar: Introduction to the Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development (ASYD) Quality Standards
- Building Positive Relationships
- Addressing Trauma and Building Resiliency in Youth
- Delivering Great School-Age Activities
- Inspiring School-Age Environments



# Overall Training Evaluation



## Requested Future Supports & Training Topics

- Content segmented by age (5-7, 8+)
- Strategies to put information to use
- STEM, physical activity
- Working with school age in the digital age
- Conflict resolution and behavior management
- Lesson plans and activities, particularly for youth with disabilities
- Access to high quality activities
- Academic support

More school-age training, resources, and grants



# What participants said...

"Very informative. Would recommend the webinar to all providers and instructors."

"Everything about the webinar was useful."

"I found everything to be of great help to me. I learned a lot!!"

"This was awesome! So helpful!"

"More state approved trainings for school age care providers."

"More webinars please!"



"Participant interaction and the instructors explaining it all."

"Better understanding of school age children."

"Digging deeper to understand school age children's needs instead of just planning activities."

"New resources!"

"Exposure to Afterschool standards. So glad to see this." What was the most useful part of the webinars?

"Practical application."



# Coaching Interest & Readiness Assessment



# Supports for SHARE Grant Recipients

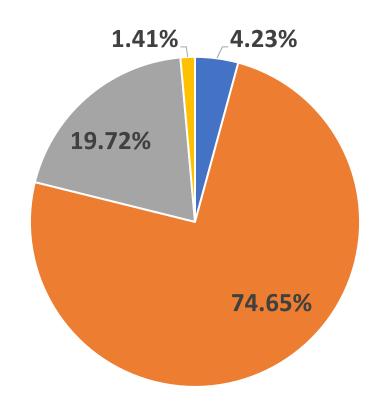
# Phase 1: Opportunity to Participate in Virtual, Small Group Coaching

- Coaching to be provided by school-age and youth development subject matter experts
- Application opened in October 2021
- 71 sites expressed interest

#### **Phase 2: External Quality Assessments**

After completion of coaching sites will be given opportunity to receive a quality observation and assessment and additional coaching base upon assessment results

# Coaching Recipients: Type of Organization

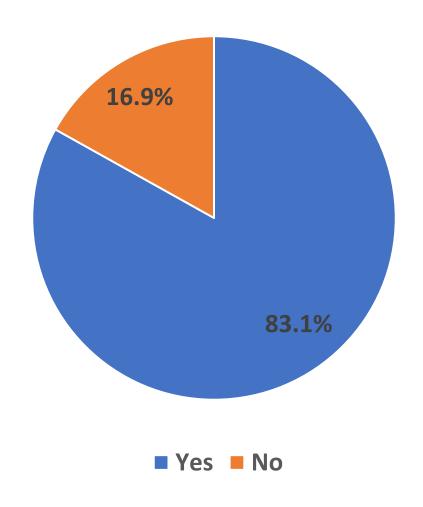


- School-Based
- Family Child Care Learning Home

- **Child Care Learning Center**
- Community-Based



# Coaching Recipients: Quality Rated Status





# Small Group Coaching Evaluations



## Small Group Coaching for SHARE Grant Recipients

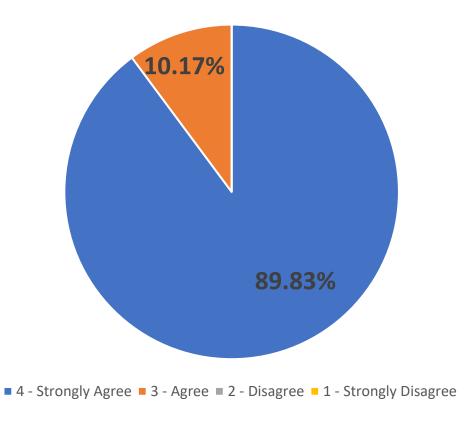
- 50 participants
- 39 programs
- 8 cohorts (1 focused on licensed family child care centers)
- 5 two-hour sessions aligned to the Georgia ASYD Quality Standards
  - Session 1: Relationships
  - Session 2: Programming and Youth-Development
  - Session 3: Programming and Youth-Development, pt. 2
  - Session 4: Environment and Climate and Action Planning
  - Session 5: Health & Well-Being, Action Planning and Close

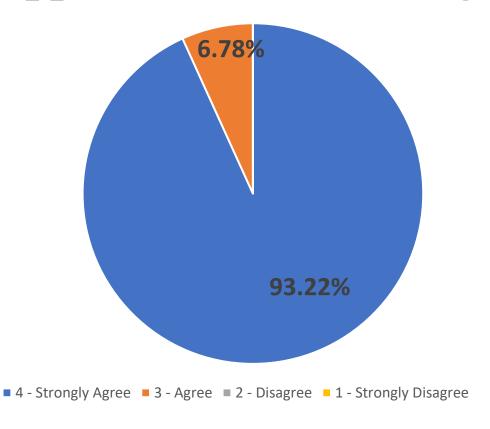


## Coaching Session Evaluations

62 evaluation respondents

#### Information was Relevant Supported Their Learning







# School-Age Program Quality Assessments (PQA) and Scores



## School-Age Program Quality Assessments (PQA)

- 10 assessments completed
  - 7 done in-person
  - 3 done virtually
- Programs received
  - Assessment Scores
  - Action Plans
  - Beyond the Bell Toolkit



# School-Age PQA Scores

- Score of 1: the behaviors/actions observed were not aligned to the standard
- Score of 3: the evidence of behaviors/actions were present but not consistent.
- Score of 5: there is strong evidence that the behaviors are evident and consistent throughout the activity observed.



Domain 1. Safe Environment						
Scales	Emotional Safety (2 Items)	Healthy Environment (4 Items)	Emergency Preparedness (6 Items)	Accommodating Environment (5 Items)	Nourishment (3 Items)	
Average Scale Score	4.7	5.0	4.3	4.8	4.9	
Range	3.0 – 5.0	4.5 – 5.0	3.0 – 5.0	3.8 – 5.0	4.3 – 5.0	



Domain 2. Supportive Environment							
Scales	Warm Welcome (3 Items)	Session Flow (5 Items)	Active Engagement (3 Items)	Skill-Building (5 Items)	Encouragement (2 Items)	Child-Centered Space (4 Items)	
Average Scale Score	4.9	4.7	3.1	2.4	4.0	4.4	
Range	4.3 – 5.0	3.8 – 5.0	1.0 – 5.0	1.0 – 4.0	2.0 – 5.0	3.9 – 5.0	



Domain 3. Interaction						
Scales	Managing Feelings	Belonging	School-Age Leadership	Interaction with Adults		
	(4 Items)	(4 Items)	(3 Items)	(4 Items)		
Average Scale Score	4.0	3.5	2.3	4.2		
Range	3.0 – 5.0	2.5 – 5.0	2.5 – 4.5	3.0 – 5.0		



Domain 4. Engagement						
Scales	School-Age Planning (3 Items)	School-Age Choice (2 Items)	Reflection (3 Items)	Responsibility (2 Items)		
Average Scale Score	1.8	3.3	2.6	4.4		
Range	1.0 – 3.0	1.0 – 5.0	1.0 –5.0	3.0 – 5.0		



# The Family-Friendly Licensing Dashboard: Making Regulatory Data Accessible

April Rogers, Child Care Services Director of Policy & Enforcement



## **Evaluation Phase**

- Listening sessions with DECAL staff
- Focus groups with childcare providers
- Focus groups with parents of children aged 12 and under
- Requirements meetings with DECAL Development Team





## **Key Findings From The Provider Focus Groups**

"My hope is that parents come alongside of us. They have to be partners in the care for the kids. Maybe this [the new tool] will help to educate them on all of the work that we do and all of the 196 things [that] we have to get right every single day in order to ensure the health and safety of their kids."

"Parents do have questions about our daycare. They should be able to get answers from the site and, if the provider is doing quality care, it really does not matter."



# **Key Findings From The Family Focus Groups**

"I have done nothing but smile at what this could mean for me and for my son, because honestly, I spend so much time doing this, this sort of tool is insane to me.

I can't wait to use it when I get the chance."





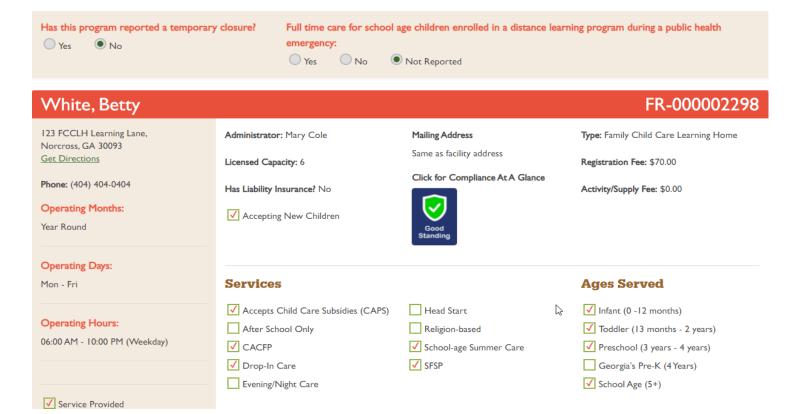
# Most Well-Received Components of the Dashboard

- The visual aspects of the tool
- Ability to "dig deeper"
- Track compliance over time





## **Dashboard Preview**









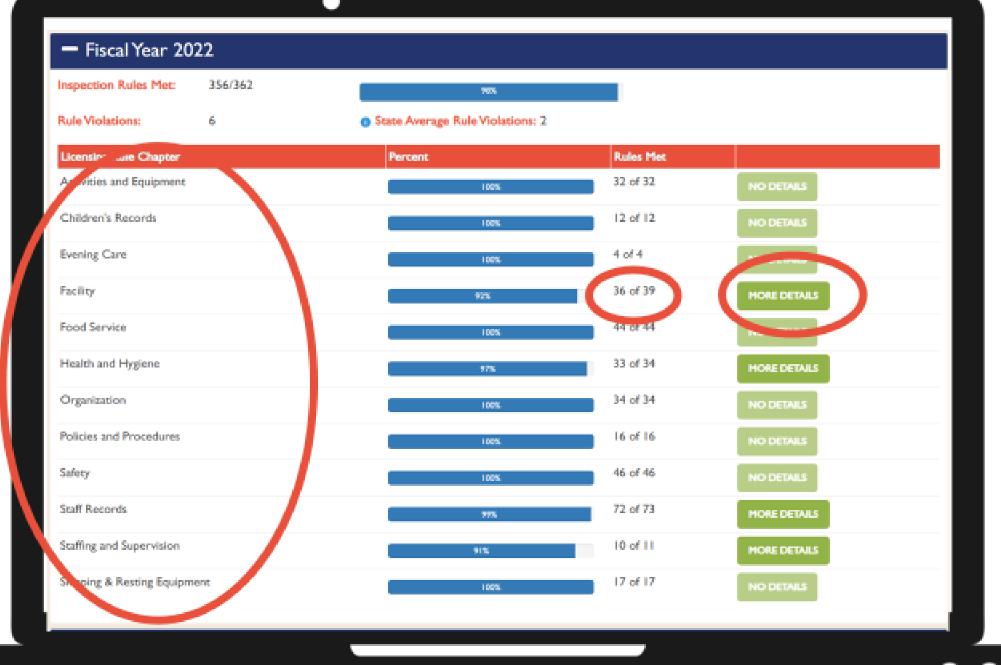




### Inspection Reports

View Report	Report Date	Arrival Time	Report Type
B	Apr 19, 2022	09:30 AM	Monitoring Visit
	Oct 27, 2021	09:50 AM	Licensing Study
	Apr 20, 2021	03:10 PM	Monitoring Visit
	Dec 23, 2020	03:00 PM	Licensing Study
	Dec 03, 2019	10:20 AM	Licensing Study
	Apr 15, 2019	08:30 AM	Licensing Study
	Oct 23, 2018	09:00 AM	Monitoring Visit
	Jan 26, 2018	11:00 AM	Licensing Study
	Sep 07, 2017	01:50 PM	Monitoring Visit





### **More Details**

#### **Facility Record Rules**



	Code	01/20/2022	08/01/2022	05/19/2022
VIEW RULE	.25(3) - Physical Plant - Safe Environment	Not Met	Corrected	
VIEW RULE	.26(4) - Playgrounds	Not Met		Corrected
VIEW RULE	.26(9) - Playgrounds	Not Met	-	Corrected

### .25(3) - Physical Plant - Safe Environment



(3) Cleanliness. The Center and surrounding premises shall be kept clean, free of debris and in good repair. Hygienic measures such as, but not limited to, screened windows and proper waste disposal procedures shall be utilized to minimize the presence of rodents, flies, roaches and other vermin at the Center.





#### **Activities and Equipment**

**Activities:** These rules inspect the daily planned activities of the children in care during both daytime and evening hours which includes the variety, the area of development, the age appropriateness of the activities, and activities that are provided for both indoors and outdoors, to include children with special needs. This rule inspects the routines and schedules within the classroom as well as staff interactions with children in care and the amount of media time children have throughout the time they are in care.

**Equipment and Toys:** These rules inspect the equipment and toys used by and accessible to children. **Swimming Pools and Water-Related Activities:** These rules inspect requirements if a child care program has a pool on the premises, the accessibility of the pool, and the requirements if children participate in any water activities.

# Quality Innovations and Partnerships Updates

Bentley Ponder, Deputy Commissioner for Quality Innovations and Partnerships



# **Community Transformation Grants**

# Grants awarded to communities to design and implement projects that address local needs in key focus areas.

### Round 1 CTGs

- \$75,000
- July 2021 December 2022
- Funded by PDG
- Birth-five population focus
- Focus areas defined by Georgia's PDG B-5 Needs Assessment
- Eight grantees
- Extension grants of additional \$50,000 offered through December 2023

### Round 2 CTGs

- \$125,000
- January 2023 June 2024
- Funded by ARP
- Birth-eight population focus
- Slightly revised focus areas to reflect Stakeholder Engagement findings
- Ten+ grantees



## **CTG Grantees**

### Round 1

- Baldwin County Board of Education
- Cook County Family Connection
- Georgia Organics
- Greenbriar Children's Center
- Gwinnett Building Babies' Brains
- Quality Care for Children
- United Way of Central Georgia
- University of West Georgia College of Education Early Learning Center

New Round 2 grantees coming soon!





"Our relationships have grown even stronger through the Transformation Grant in how we partner and get access to these families."

"The partnership has just continued to expand and people have been fully committed and excited over the past few months.....We're connecting people in new and different ways. It's really been tremendously exciting and rewarding to see what's happening."

"I don't know if it is COVID, but just trying to get people together, it's been difficult. People are busy. No doubt in my mind, but just **getting people together to just discuss and communicate** – **it's been a challenge** for us."





# CTG Grantee Experience

Janet Calvin, Executive Director
Communities in Schools Milledgeville Baldwin County, Georgia College
Project Director for Baldwin County Board of Education CTG





COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANT





**BALDWIN COUNTY** 









# 2Gen & Aspen Policy Acceleration Partnership Grant

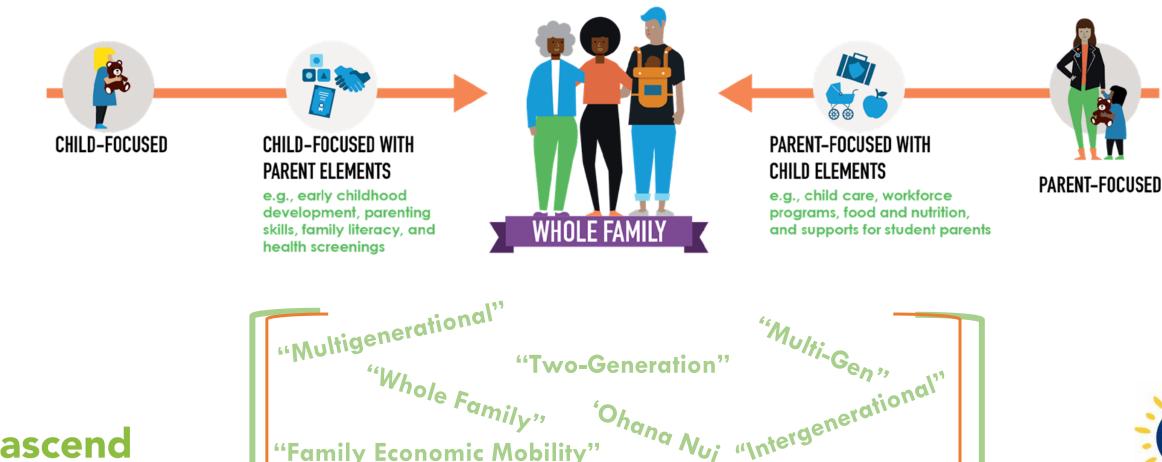
Bentley Ponder, Deputy Commissioner for Quality Innovations and Partnerships Elisabetta Kasfir, Deputy Commissioner for Federal Programs



## 2Gen Overview

aspen institute

Two-generation (2Gen) approaches build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives – *together*.





# 2Gen Organization Continuum

**Approach** 

Strategy

**Organization** 

A new **mindset** for designing programs and policies that serve children and parents simultaneously.

Aligning and/or coordinating services with other organizations to meet the needs of all outcomes for both. family members.

Providing services to both children and adults **simultaneously** and tracking

Cultural competency is a prerequisite





# Why a 2Gen Approach?

Research shows that supporting children and their caregivers together has an outsize **impact for generations**.



A college degree **doubles** a parent's income. (Kominski, 2011)



A \$3,000 increase during early childhood yields a **17%** increase in adult earnings. (Duncan & Magnuson, 2011)



Predictable, monthly unconditional cash aid given to low-income families may increase infant brain activity. (Troller-Renfree et al., 2022)



The brains of new parents undergo **major changes**. (Phu, Erhart, Kim, & Watamura, 2020)



Research demonstrates a **13% ROI** in high quality early childhood education. (Heckman, 2016)



Parents with health insurance are more likely to seek care for their children. (Rosenbaum & Whittington, 2007)





- Funders: Ascend at the Aspen Institute and The Liz Blake Giving Fund of the Blake Family Foundation
- Purpose: Support cities, counties, and states committed to increasing economic mobility and well-being for students who are parents
- **Grant Amount:** \$150,000
- Grant Period: 18 months (March 2021 September 2022) \*Extended to December 2022
- Partners: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning and Technical College System of Georgia
- Target Population: Single mothers and student parents seeking or participating in
  - Adult Basic Education
  - Adult Secondary Education programs
  - English Language Learners

# Project Goals & Accomplishments

- 1. Defining shared goals and opportunities for cross-agency policy alignment at the state level.
  - State 2Gen Advisory Council
  - Eligibility crosswalk completed
  - Community 2Gen Advisory Council
  - DECAL and TCSG working on data sharing agreement

- 2. Increasing access for single mothers and student parents for state, community, and educational supports and opportunities.
  - Georgia Gateway Partners
  - Resource and Referral Portal (FindHelp Georgia)
  - Student parents added as priority group for CAPS



# Project Goals & Accomplishments

- 3. Strengthening coaching and case management skills for state- and community-level staff.
  - Family-Centered Coaching Training

- 4. Ensuring parents are included in conversations and strategies to reduce and eliminate barriers to needed services and inform new practices and policies.
  - State 2Gen Advisory Council
  - Community 2Gen Advisory Council
  - Parents participating in the advisory councils received Values Based Leadership training
  - CVIOG conducted parent interviews



# Project Goals & Accomplishments

5. Expanding the 2Generation Georgia network to include other state and community partners.

- FindHelp Georgia
- Continue to offer 2Gen Innovation Grants: Capacity Building (\$25,000) and Implementation (\$10,000)
- 2Gen Summit





# 2Gen in Action Summit

October 19, 2022









The following Committee meetings are in session:

Programs and Rules – Oak Conference Room
Budget and Finance – Cypress Conference Room
Quality Innovations and Partnerships – Laurel Conference Room

The Public Comment Period will commence at 1:00 pm.



# Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

# **Public Comment**

November 17, 2022





# Board Meeting Dates 2023

- February 16, 2023
- May 18, 2023
- August 24, 2023
- November 16, 2023

