To expand high-quality early learning opportunities in the years before preschool, Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships support communities to increase the number of Early Head Start and child care providers that can meet the highest standards of quality for infants and toddlers.

WHAT IS AN EHS-CC PARTNERSHIP?

EHS-CC Partnerships bring together the best of two worlds – combining the strengths of child care and Early Head Start programs. The Partnerships layer funding to provide comprehensive services and high-quality early learning environments for low-income working families with infants and toddlers. Long-term outcomes for the program include:

- Sustained, mutually respectful and collaborative EHS-CC Partnerships
- A more highly-educated and fully-qualified workforce providing high-quality infant-toddler care and education, along with an increased supply of high-quality early learning environments and infant-toddler care and education
- Well-aligned early childhood policies, regulations and resources, with quality improvement support at national, state and local levels
- Improved family and child well-being and progress toward school readiness

The program integrates EHS comprehensive services and resources into the array of traditional child care and family care settings.

- Child care centers and family child care providers respond to the needs of working families by offering flexible and convenient full-day and full-year services. Experienced child care providers offer care that is strongly grounded in the cultural, linguistic and social needs of families and communities. Many child care centers and family child care providers lack the resources to address the needs of the nation’s most vulnerable children.

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WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Our 275 Grantees partners with more than 1,200 local child care centers and 700 family child care programs, with additional partners coming online each month.

Grantees will serve 32,000 infants and toddlers when they reach full enrollment over the next few months.

More than 6,100 other children in the same classroom with EHS-CC Partnership children will benefit from low teacher-to-child ratios and class sizes, ongoing supervision and coaching for qualified teachers and broad-scale parent engagement activities.

Benefits for Partnership Sites:
- Additional resources to improve child care worker compensation and benefits
- Quality improvement funds to purchase new supplies, equipment, materials and facility improvements
- Support for staff including enhanced training, professional development, networking, peer learning and coaching

Benefits for Children and Families Served by Partnership Sites:
- Children and families qualifying for EHS services benefit from:
  - Developmental screening and referral and linkage to needed medical, dental, nutrition, vision and mental health services
  - Provision of diapers and formula
  - Access to home visits, parent engagement activities and family support workers who help the family meet its goals

All children served by partnership sites benefit from:
- Low student-to-teacher ratios and smaller, high-quality environments supporting enhanced curriculum and instructional support

For more information:
The National Center on Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships (Partnership Center) supports effective implementation of Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships to ensure they are positioned for success. This includes:

- Delivering reliable training and technical assistance to all EHS-CC Partnerships
- Providing resources, information and peer learning opportunities to EHS-CC Partnerships
- Developing training, resources and materials to state, regional and federal agencies, organizations and professionals who support Partnerships
- Sharing EHS-CCP Promising Practices to increase the effectiveness of collaborating Partnerships

Contact the National Center on Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships today!
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