

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC)

Feedback Loop

October 6, 2015

ELAC Recommendations/Input and Decisions Made/Status

Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Plan

Status Update – DEL is currently in the process of writing the CCDF plan using input from ELAC, the Indian Policy Early Learning Committee (IPEL) and the CCDF Steering Committee. A first draft of the plan will be available November 1, 2015 for review.

As a result of ELAC input, DEL is conducting a survey of parents eligible for Working Child Care Connections subsidy who choose family, friend, and neighbor (FFN) care to ask why parents use FFN providers; what might be the effects of including fingerprinting background checks and monitoring visits on their care situation; and what the parents might potentially do if they were no longer able to utilize non-relative FFN providers.

Birth – Three Subcommittee

Status Update – The standing Birth to Three Subcommittee of ELAC meets on October 1, 2015 to develop a work plan and provide input on the infant and toddler components of the CCDF plan.

Family Partnerships & Engagement

Status Update – DEL invited seventeen parents from each of the ten early learning regions to join the Parent Advisory Group. PAG’s first meeting will take place on October 7, 2015, where DEL will seek input on the survey to families who choose FFN care. For the most current information on the members, visit the Parent Advisory Group page here: [PAG](#).

Work Force Report

The Workforce Report will be discussed at the December 1, 2015 ELAC meeting instead of October when the 2014 report and baseline salary data is available. The [2013 Work Force Report](#) is available on the DEL website.

Healthiest Next Generation

Follow-up – ELAC requested specific information on the new healthy eating and physical activity standards for ECEAP (Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program). Here is the list of additional health and safety requirements:

1. Create a policy on the promotion of physical activity and removal of potential barriers to physical activity participation.
2. Require a minimum of 30 minutes a day of outdoor play unless conditions pose a health and safety risk to children, for sites providing Full School Day or Extended Day models.
3. Staff must support children’s play and learning by promoting children’s active play and participating in children’s active games when appropriate.
4. Have a planned curriculum that includes:
 - a. Specific nutrition education activities including teaching healthy foods and portion sizes.
 - b. Use of media only for educational purposes or physical activity and never during meals.
5. Include the following additional requirements beyond ECEAP Performance Standard D-15 when planning menus:
 - a. Limit the amount of highly processed foods which include saturated fats and high fat foods; fried and breaded meats; and fried potatoes.
 - b. Serve foods low in salt which include limiting salty foods such as chips and pretzels.
 - c. Limit grains high in sugar and fats including but not limited to muffins, cakes, pop tarts, French toast sticks.
 - d. Avoid sugar including, but not limited to sweets such as candy, sodas, sweetened drinks, fruit nectars and flavored milk.
 - e. Serve whole grain breads, cereals and pastas at least once a day.
 - f. Serve a variety of vegetables and whole fruit, rather than juice with no added sugars.

- g. When serving juice, ensure it is 100 percent juice and only served at meal times.
- h. Ensure drinking water is available for self service, indoors and outdoors.