



**Child Care Bureau/ACF**  
***Good Start, Grow Smart***  
**2003**

# *Good Start, Grow Smart*

- President's Early Childhood Initiative
- Introduced April 2002
- Companion to *No Child Left Behind*
- Next critical step in education reform
  - to prepare children to read and succeed in school with improved Head Start and early childhood development programs

# *GSGS: Major Players*

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- White House Office of Domestic Policy
- Dept of Education
- HHS
  - Head Start
  - Child Care
  - NICHD

## *GSGS: 3 Major Areas*

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- Strengthen Head Start
- Partner with the States to Improve Early Childhood Education
- Provide Information to Teachers, Caregivers and Parents

# GSGS: Head Start

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- Head Start will ensure cognitive development :
  - implement national professional development program
  - create child outcomes reporting system
  - design national reporting system to ensure increased program accountability

# GSGS: Partnering with States

- Through CCDF Biennial Plan Process, HHS will require:
  - voluntary statewide “early learning guidelines”
  - statewide professional development plan
  - coordination across early childhood programs or funding streams

(note: assessment is not a requirement)

# GSGS: Providing Information

- Department of Education (ED) will:
  - lead public awareness campaign to share best research and current practices
  - deliver scientifically based research at Early Childhood Educator Academies across the nation
  - initiate award program

# What We've Done Since April Launch ...

- Input from States and other Stakeholders with experience in guideline development and professional development system building
- New and Improved Relationships (ED, NICHD, contractors, ACF Regions) resulting in joint planning around *GSGS*
- Developed an Integrated Strategic Plan across ACF on Early Literacy, involving Head Start and Child Care Bureaus, Regional Offices and research offices

- More HS/EHS and CC collaboration at state and local level — promoting quality through professional development, full-day/full-year, contracting, joint planning for infants and toddlers
- Increased capacity and momentum — staff, consultants, TA providers, grantees
- Engaged ACF Regions in outreach and joint planning with stakeholders and new partners
- Increased awareness of issues and underlying research among early care and education community; particularly State and Tribal Child Care Administrators and local Head Start
- Promoted attendance at STEP Training, ED Academies; consulted with ED on Academy development



## Major Objectives

- Focus on Early Literacy through *GSGS*
- Support Self-Sufficiency: Encourage CC Quality
- Address Quality and Supply for Infants and Toddlers
- Expand School-Age CC Infrastructure
- Strengthen Health Linkages in Child Care Bureau



## ★ ACF Initiatives Addressed ★

■ *GSGS* — Literacy

■ Welfare Reform

■ Healthy Marriage and Fatherhood

■ One Department, Prevention, Faith-Based, Positive Youth Development, Rural Initiative

■ President's Management Agenda

ACF/CCB Role

— *with the help of CCTAN*

- Consultation
- Leadership
- Guidance

# Key Strategy

- Take advantage of existing outreach vehicles and relationships; incorporate ACF initiatives into our regular work
  - Block Grant — \$4.8...\$11.7 Billion (CCDF, TANF, SSBG, States)
  - Quality funds — 4% required. But in FY 2001, States spent a total of \$716 million or 9% of their CCDF funds on quality activities.
  - TA Projects — \$12 Million
  - Research Grants — \$10 Million
  - ELOA Grants to Communities — \$25 Million

# Strategy, cont.

## ■ Build on Regional Role

### ■ Biennial Plans and Policy w/ *GSGS* Criteria

Review and Approve State and Territory CCDF Plans

Provide TA to States on Plan Process, Policy Clarification, Problems

### ■ Carrying Our Early Literacy Message

Information Dissemination to States

Regional Meetings and Conferences

*GSGS* Planning, Coordination, and Implementation

School-age Collaboration Project (ED, CCB, FYSB)

### ■ Promoting Partnerships

# Strategy, cont.

- Policy Change through Regs, etc.
  - Revise State preprint to include *GSGS* components — post for comments and revise again — then issue to States in final
  - Draft Regulatory Changes in Support of *GSGS*
    - ◇ Increase Match flexibility through technical amendment
  - More when Reauthorization passes . . .

## *GSGS* Workplan

- Continue conversation begun with *GSGS* launch
  - Key State Administrators' Meeting topic — Summer '02
  - Regional Meetings for Baseline Data, pulling States and stakeholders together — Fall '02
  - State Roundtable and ED Academies — Sept. through Apr. '03
  - STEP II on mentoring and coaching — Nov. '02
  - OMB Preprint comment period, including Guidance, plan revisions, and issuance of final plan — Dec. '02 through April '03
  - Key National Tribal Conference — Spring '03

## *GSGS* Workplan, cont.

- Regional Workshops for States on CCDF Plans and *GSGS* — Mid-Winter and Spring '03
- State Biennial Plans due July 1, 2003.
- After July 1, review and approve plans, then
  - Follow State progress on *GSGS*; ID lessons learned and TA needs
  - Continue guidance and TA;
  - Promote research and findings
  - Work closely with CCTAN and States
  - Make adjustments as needed



## Build Support within Existing Federal Resources

- Not just a welfare issue
  - Child Development — Link to *GSGS*
  - Child Care as Economic Development
  - Universal Pre-K Movement
  - Parental Leave and other "Family Friendly" Workforce Policies gaining momentum



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## Continue Education Process

### ■ Greater Visibility Needed

- Help policy-makers understand child care's role in early care and education, and how we can support the President's early literacy goals
- Build awareness among general public that child care isn't just babysitting
- Build awareness of common goals shared by Child Care, Head Start, and Pre-K

# Key Task

- Pulling all our resources together to provide consultation, leadership, and guidance resulting in a unified early learning system that increases child well-being, strengthens families, and supports the next phase of welfare reform

## Key Stats

- 10.7 million children ages 0-5 with employed primary caretakers are regularly in nonparental care — about 6 in 10.
- An additional 9.8 million school-age children under age 13 with employed primary caretakers are regularly in nonparental care when they are not in school.
- In an average month in FY 2000, an estimated 2.45 million children ages 0 to 13 received child care services through CCDF, SSBG, and TANF. CCDF served 1.75 million.
- Head Start serves about 900,000

## Key Stats, cont.

- Head Start Classrooms — 50,000
- Licensed Organizations — 418,000
- 27% Licensed Centers
- 73% Licensed Family Child Care Homes
- People Providing Paid Care — 2,302,000
- 28% Family Child Care Providers (650,000)
- 35% Paid Relatives (804,000)
- 24% Center Care Providers (550,000)
- 13% Paid Non-Relatives (298,000)



# Challenges

- Defining key terms — from guidelines to child care
- States at different stages in process
- Applicability of guidelines across provider settings; age groups
- How to align with K-12
- Prof. Dev. across range of providers; competence-based vs. degree or course-based models; articulation
- Being responsive to families from different cultures and children whose first language is not English
- Barriers to collaboration across programs

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# Thank You for Listening

For more information:

Call the Child Care Bureau at 202-690-6782

Or visit us online at

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb>