Federal Early Learning Proposals & Developments

Featured Speaker: Adele Robinson
Deputy Executive Director, Policy & Public Affairs, NAEYC
Logistics & Technical Info

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- Questions will be taken after the presentation – submit questions using the tool in your control panel.
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Webinar Outline

- Welcome: **Sessy Nyman**, VP of Policy & Strategic Partnerships, Illinois Action for Children
- Welcome: **Laurie Rhodes**, President, Illinois AEYC
- Presentation: **Adele Robinson**, Deputy Executive Director, Policy & Public Affairs, NAEYC
- Questions & Answers
The Federal Landscape

March 4, 2014
Why Does It Matter?

• Of the public funds in early childhood birth to Kindergarten, 75% are from the federal government

• How they touch you:
  – Licensing/monitoring visit
  – TEACH scholarship or training
  – Early Head Start and Head Start
  – Children who are subsidized for care with vouchers/certificates/contract
  – QRIS, Registry, state learning standards
  – Home visiting
Currently...

- President’s budget request released with requests for significant increases in early childhood education programs – now Congress has to act
- Strong Start – introduced in House and Senate, bipartisan in House, would need funding if passed
- Early Head Start/Child Care Partnerships – waiting for applications
- Preschool development grants – waiting for applications
- CCDBG/CCDF reauthorization – Senate floor vote next week; no House bill yet
CCDBG

– Senate bill is similar to the proposed regulations: focus on licensing visits, criminal background checks, encourages QRIS, promotes training, prohibition on high-stakes use of child assessments, one-year determination of child eligibility

– Senate bill is the program, not the funding – still need increase to deal with access and quality gaps

– No House bill as yet
Strong Start for America’s Children

Legislation follows the President’s agenda of

• home visiting,
• Early Head Start/child care partnership grants,
• State-Federal partnership grants to expand high-quality preK to children under 200% of poverty
Home Visiting

– If we don’t reauthorize and fund by September 30, it will end on October 1
– Part of the ACA but separate funding
– Mandatory funding (not appropriations)
– Voluntary, evidence based – this is not the controversial part
– Funding? How much?
Action Now

Tell your member of Congress about families who get good child care because of the subsidy; children who are safe and learning because of child care and Head Start, infants and toddlers starting with a strong foundation from home visiting and Early Head Start, and children continuing to succeed because of high-quality preschool children.

Enact the President’s full request for early childhood education – the investment will bring benefits to everyone and reduce later “catch up” expenses.

Tell them to make sure they reauthorize and fund voluntary, evidence-based home visiting so families can be supported in helping their children be healthy and learning.
Thank you for all you do for children and families
Federal Early Learning Initiatives

Questions??

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Questions will be answered in the order received as time allows. A summary of questions and answers will be posted in addition to the webinar recording and slides following this broadcast.