

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- * ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY MUTED.
- *QUESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS SHOULD BE SHARED IN THE CHAT BOX.

* THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED, THE RECORDING WILL BE AVAILABLE AT <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/> BY END OF DAY.

SEPECC Meeting

Tuesday, September 21,2021

Meeting will begin at 9:00.

Agenda:

- 9:00 Welcome & Legislative Guest
- 9:10 Special Presentation #1: Staffing Crisis
- 9:20 OCDEL & ELRC Updates
- 9:55 Special Presentation #2: Phila. School Dist.
- 10:05 Funding Updates
- 10:10 Advocacy Skill Building
- 10:35 Community Partner Updates
- 10:45 Self-Care Moment
- 10:47 Wrap Up
- 10:50 - 11:10 Breakout Groups



REPRESENTATIVE
DIANNE HERRIN
156TH DISTRICT

PA HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARING ON CHILD CARE

August 17, 2021





Special Presentation: ECE Staffing Crisis





Pennsylvania's Child Care Crisis September 2021 Survey Results

1,163 Programs Responded

92%

indicated they have a staffing shortage.

Low wages, lack of benefits, and under-qualified candidates were reported as

major challenges

in recruiting and retaining staff.

Our economy **can't recover** if child care is not available to support the workforce.

Impacts

25,804

children currently sit on waiting lists.

2,397
classrooms are **closed.**

Programs reported **34,084**

additional children could be served if fully staffed.

PA state and federal elected officials must act now to **#SolveChildCare**

| Survey Results 9/2021 - SEPA | Phila | Mont | Del | Bucks | Chester | SEPA | PA |
|---|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| # of programs responding | 147 | 92 | 46 | 43 | 36 | 364 | 1,163 |
| % having staffing shortage | 93 | 97 | 96 | 93 | 100 | 95.8 | 92 |
| # children on waiting list | 1,854 | 1,779 | 1,046 | 580 | 695 | 5,954 | 25,804 |
| # classrooms closed | 322 | 123 | 58 | 71 | 58 | 632 | 2397 |
| # additional children could be served if fully staffed | 4,779 | 3,372 | 1,371 | 1,836 | 898 | 12,256 | 34,084 |



**SEPECC
REGION-WIDE
ECE DAY OF HIRE**

WHO'S INTERESTED?



Updates from OCDEL and ELRCs

KAREN GRIMM-THOMAS
C-KGRIMMTH@PA.GOV

DIANE GETZINGER - PHILADELPHIA
DGETZINGER@CARINGPEOPLEALLIANCE.ORG

ANGIE SOMOGYI – BUCKS
ASOMOGYI@CSCINC.ORG

BETSY VASSALLO – CHESTER
BVASSALLO@PHMC.ORG

MAGGIE JOHNSON – MONTGOMERY
MJOHNSON2@MONTCOPA.ORG

TAMMY JOLAOSO – DELAWARE
TJOLAOSO@PHMC.ORG

IMPORTANT SUBSIDY REMINDERS

- The school-age flip happened on August 30th, and ELRC cannot pay for full-time care during virtual education. You will be paid the part-time (blended) rate for school-age enrollments. The only time you would receive a full-time payment for a school-age enrollment is if you provide **5** or more hours of care outside of the regular school day.
- As of October 1st, we can no longer pay for **14** consecutive business days of COVID-related closure. There are **3** possible situations:
 - Individual child absence – ELRC would suspend on the 6th consecutive day of absence and re-enroll when the child returns.
 - Classroom closure – Children cannot be charged with absences, because care is not available. Mark the children absent and indicate that the classroom was closed due to COVID. ELRC will then remove the schedule. Children will not accumulate absences, but you will not be paid, either.
 - Full facility closure – You would have to use either your paid or unpaid closures in PELICAN. If you do not use PSS and would like to use paid closures, remember to notify ELRC within 3 days of reopening.

ARPA STABILIZATION GRANT CONTACTS

REGION 15 (Chester Co)

- Angelique Hiers, hiersa@delcohsa.org
610-713-2478

REGION 16 (Bucks Co)

- Angela Somogyi, asomogyi@cscnc.org
215-486-2524 ext. 1-800

REGION 17 (Montgomery Co)

- Margaret Johnson, MJohnson2@montcopa.org
610-278-1484
- Jeanine Moser, jmoser@montcopa.org
610-278-5194

REGION 18 (Philadelphia Co)

- Diane Getzinger, 267-504-4179
dgetzinger@caringpeoplealliance.org

REGION 19 (Chester Co)

E-mail is STRONGLY preferred

- Susan Moylan, ELRC 19 STARS Manager –
smoylan@phmc.org - 215-756-7328
- Betsy Vassallo, ELRC 19 Director –
bvassallo@phmc.org - 215-606-7328



Special Presentation:
Philadelphia School District



*FYI for Our PreK
Colleagues*

**The School District of
Philadelphia's
COVID Protocols**

Diane Castelbuono, Deputy
Michelle Linder-Coates, Executive Director

*The School District of Philadelphia's
Office of Early Childhood Education*

COVID PROTOCOLS & PROCEDURES

The goal is to safely welcome all students back to school for full in-person learning, 5 days/week:

- prioritize student learning recovery and acceleration;
- attend to the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff;
- provide safe and healthy schools that support high-quality teaching and learning and equitable outcomes for all students.

The protocols incorporate:

- The most up-to-date guidance, recommendations, and mandates from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Philadelphia Department of Public Health and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; as well as
- Input and feedback received from families, students, staff, and community members in response to surveys and multiple community forums to consider local context.

UP-TO-DATE PROTOCOLS POSTED ON PHILASD.ORG

1. Go to philasd.org
2. Look under “Office Directory”
3. Select “Office of Student Health Services (School Nurses)”
4. Scroll down to “Quick Links” and select “Health and Safety Protocols”

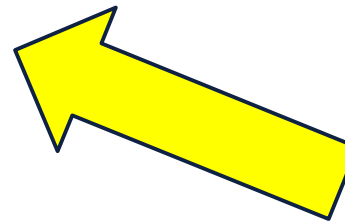
Or click here: www.philasd.org/studenthealth/health-and-safety-protocols

UP-TO-DATE PROTOCOLS POSTED ON PHILASD.ORG

www.philasd.org/studenthealth/health-and-safety-protocols

Seven protocols listed on this website:

1. **Presumptive-Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Case Protocol**
2. Social Distancing Protocol
3. Cleaning and Ventilation Protocols
4. General Health and Hygiene Protocol
5. Personal Protective Equipment Protocol
6. Student Mask Protocol
7. Visitor Protocol



UP-TO-DATE PROTOCOLS POSTED ON PHILASD.ORG

www.philasd.org/studenthealth/health-and-safety-protocols

What does the *Presumptive-Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Case Protocol* say about closing schools or classrooms due to COVID-19?

SCHOOL CLOSURE AND SCHOOL DISMISSAL

Guidance regarding the closure or dismissal of a classroom, school, and/or other District facility due to COVID-19 will be provided by PDPH [Philadelphia Department of Public Health]. The decision to close or dismiss students and/or staff from any District facility does not rest with the District. PDPH will work closely with the District's appointed designee(s) to make the determination that best addresses the specific circumstances. Decisions about closures will be made carefully, and with the health, safety, and needs of our students and families in mind. As a situation evolves and decisions are made, communications will be sent out to all necessary stakeholders. *(page 8, current as of 9/15/2021)*

NOTE: School principals are responsible for sending out notifications to the school community once PDPH makes the decision to close a classroom or school.



Q&A



Funding Updates





Advocacy Skill Building



THE
RECONCILIATION
PROCESS- WHAT
IS THIS? WHAT
WILL IT MEAN?

Table 1: Distribution of Stimulus Grants to Pennsylvania Child Care Providers

| Round | Distribution | Source | Total | # Grants | Data Used in Methodology |
|-------|--------------|-----------|---------------|----------|---|
| 1 | 06/20 | CARES Act | \$ 49,368,100 | 6,341 | Provider Type, Licensed Capacity, CCW Enrollments, County Capacity |
| 2 | 07/20 | CARES Act | \$ 49,906,700 | 6,325 | Provider Type, Licensed Capacity |
| 3 | 10/20 | CARES Act | \$109,266,298 | 6,134 | Provider Type, Licensed Capacity, Facility Expenses, Personnel Expenses, Health and Safety Expenses |
| 4 | 03/21 | CRRSA | \$188,325,600 | 5,734 | Provide Type, Licensed Capacity, Reduced Enrollment, Health and Safety Expenses |
| 5 | TBD | ARPA ★ | TBD | 6,629 | Facility Expenses, Personnel Expenses, Health and Safety Expenses, Current Enrollment, Keystone STAR Designation, I/T Service, CCW Reduced Enrollments, Regional Cost Variation |

Source: 2021 Aug, American Rescue Plan Act Stabilization Subgrants for Pennsylvania Child Care Providers

★ Estimated available funding \$656 million





ARPA Stabilization Grants

Eligible Providers – Child Care

1. Have a regular or provisional Certificate of Compliance on or before **March 11, 2021**;
2. At the time of application, be either open and available to provide child care or be in a temporarily closed status due to a COVID-19 pandemic related reason;
 - a) Providers in a temporarily closed status must plan to reopen by **Sept. 30, 2021**; and
3. At the time of application, a providers' Certificate of Compliance cannot be in the "Revocation or Refuse to Renew" status with the OCDEL Bureau of Certification Services.

Eligible Categories

- a. Personnel (i.e. wages, benefits, professional development and training, hazard pay)
- b. Facility costs (i.e. rent, mortgage, utilities, maintenance, insurance, minor renovations)
- c. Personal Protective Equipment/Professional Development – health and safety practices
- d. Equipment and supplies – in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency
- e. Goods and Services (i.e. business automation services, shared services, food, transportation)
- f. Relief from copayments and tuition payments for the families
- g. Mental Health Services for children and staff
- h. Paying for past COVID-19 expenses not covered by other funding
- i. Paying for reopening expenses from being on a temporary closed status

FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE BILLS

House Education & Labor Committee ... Build Back Better

- The Build Back Better Act invests roughly \$450 billion in lowering the cost of child care and securing universal pre-K for three- and four-year-olds.
 - ❖ Families' copayments would be capped at 7% of income by creating a sliding scale fee system, and
 - ❖ Child care providers would have the resources to raise wages for child care workers and expand available supply to serve more children and families
 - ❖ Free, universal, high-quality pre-k for three- and four-year-olds. Eligible providers who can participate in the universal PreK program include: LEAs, Head Starts, licensed center or family child care home, or community or neighborhood based network of FCC providers.
 - ❖ Communities will have the resources they need to provide safe and healthy environments for pre-K programs.

House Ways & Means Committee

- Would create of a child care information network and attends to tax credits and grants for early childhood educator compensation

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING



WORKING TOGETHER

Webinar with Start Strong
PA and Pre-K for PA
Campaign supporter update
9/28/2021 | 11AM



OCDEL

Stabilization Funding
Regulation Reversals
Contracted Slots
Child Care Program Revision
Requests (PRR)



CHILD CARE WORKFORCE LEGISLATION

Establish of a state Workforce
Commission to analyze &
collect data on the early
childhood workforce



VIRTUAL ONE-ON-
ONE MEETINGS
BETWEEN STATE &
FEDERAL POLICY
MAKERS AND CHILD
CARE PROVIDERS

Looking forward 2021 and 2022 Elections

THE BIGGER CHILD CARE ADVOCACY PICTURE



To have equitable access to high-quality child care for children and families we need:

- All subsidy-eligible families to know about Child Care Works and for funds to be available to support all eligible children.
- Stable funding to child care programs for subsidized children (contracts).
- Rates that reflect the actual cost of care.
- Compensation that reflects the education and skill of teachers and supports for teachers to reach higher degrees and credentials.
- The high-quality supply to be maintained, while supports are provided to grow it.



START STRONG PA CHILD CARE STAFFING SURVEY

**Child Care Workforce Shortages Eliminate more than
34,000 Spots for PA Children**
More than 25,000 children sit on wait lists

**1,163 Pennsylvania
child care
programs across
63 counties
participated in
survey**

**92% of
respondents
reported staffing
shortages.**

**51% of
respondents
have closed at
least one
classroom.**

**Between March
2020 and August
2021, over 850 PA
providers have
closed
permanently and
another 350 have
temporarily closed.**

**There is still
remaining \$400+
million in ARPA
discretionary
child care funding
that has not been
allocated**

Urgent Action is Needed

Tell Congress families need a significant and sustained investment in child care.

Families and communities economic recovery depends on it!

SEPECC ADVOCACY PRIORITIES- WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Advocacy Goals:

1. Being at the table to have say in how federal funds for child care are allocated (73.7%)
2. Speaking up for how the state and city should budget and spend on ECE (73.7%)
3. Staying on top of changes in OCDEL, i.e. major changes to regulations (63.2%)
4. Having conversation with elected officials about: compensation, true cost of care, contracts vs. slots, quality improvement, importance of ECE and the money needed (63.2%)
5. Moving from market rate survey to the cost of care (47.4%)

PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT



Betsy Billie, Executive
Director of West
Chester Area Daycare
Center

PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT



Damaris Alvarado-
Rodriguez, Executive
Director of Children's
Playhouse

COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATES

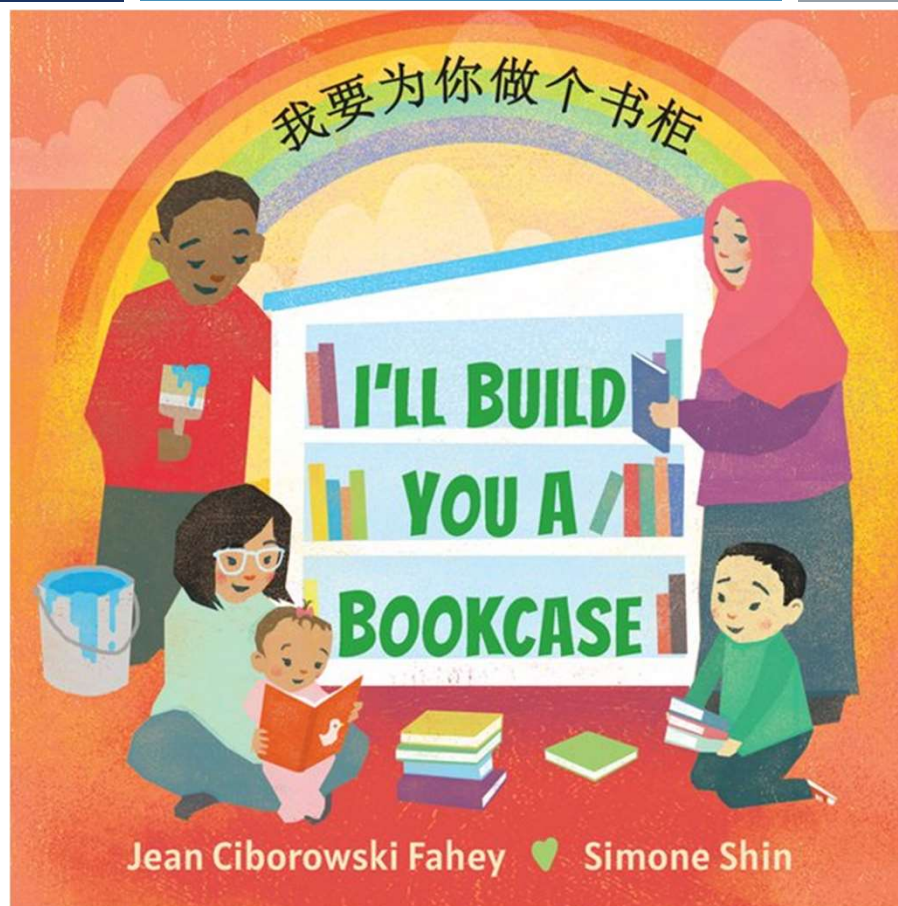
Le-Quyên Vu
Indochinese American Council

Matt Williams
Phila. Dept of Public Health



Le-Quyen Vu,
Executive Director
Indochinese
American Council


[Lequyen@IACPHIL
A.ORG](mailto:Lequyen@IACPHILA.ORG)





MATT WILLIAMS - MATTHEW.WILLIAMS@PHILA.GOV OR
SHANNON WISE - SHANNON.DRYDEN@PHILA.GOV

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH-
DIVISION OF CHRONIC DISEASE AND INJURY
PREVENTION



JOIN US FOR CHILD & ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

1:30-2:30 PM

3RD FRIDAY EACH MONTH

9/17/21 • 10/15/21 • 11/19/21

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

To submit questions or topics, send to:

Shannon.Dryden @Phila.gov
Matthew.Williams@Phila.gov

PLEASE JOIN US

- Open space for discussion of Child and Adult Care Food Program.
- Opportunity to address current challenges related to CACFP.
- Share successes and what is working.
- No commitment! Feel free to just drop in anytime and join in with your peers.

Details:

- Sessions will be held monthly on the last Thursday of the month.
- [CLICK HERE TO JOIN: HTTPS://GLOBAL.GOTOMEETING.COM/JOIN/238146989](https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/238146989)

SHARE YOUR QUESTIONS/ EXPERIENCES



If you have questions that you would like to submit to be answered at our next session, please email me or my colleague at the links listed below.



MATT WILLIAMS -
MATTHEW.WILLIAMS@PHILA.GOV OR
SHANNON WISE -
SHANNON.DRYDEN@PHILA.GOV



SELF-CARE MOMENT

ELEVATOR BREATH

-
- **I-Minute Exit Survey** to provide feedback on the effectiveness of today's meeting: <https://forms.gle/xLXUscSgekca94tQ6>
 - **Upcoming Meetings: Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 21**
 - **Meeting Registration Links** on First Up/ SEPECC
Webpage: <https://www.firstup.org/sepecc/>

MEETING WRAP UP



Advancing quality early care
and education in Bucks, Chester,
Delaware, Montgomery and
Philadelphia Counties

SEPECC

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Steering Committee

Unis Bey
Laverne Cheeseboro
Traci Childress
Latonta Godboldt
Mary Graham
Jackie Groetsch
Shineal Hunter
Jacki Jay
Kellie Ketchum-Umphrey
Sharon McClafferty
Minette Taylor
Shawn Towey

Advocacy Workgroup

Damaris Alvarado
Dionne Chambers
Eleanor Levie
Elizabeth Ozer
Shawn Towey

Suburban Workgroup

Donna Bartman
Zakiyyah Boone
Jackie Groetsch
Kim Heuschkel
Jacki Jay

Advisory Council

Stephanie Bey
Stephanie Blake
Norma Finkelstein
Diane Getzinger
Pamela Haines
Sara Jann
MaryKay Mahar
Maddy Malis
Elizabeth Ozer
Khadijah Sabir



BREAKOUT ROOMS

We will break out into randomly assigned small groups for all who wish to join.