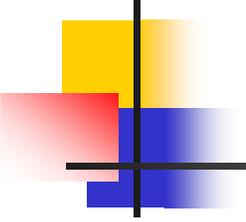


# Maine Child Care and Head Start Program

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Early Childhood Division

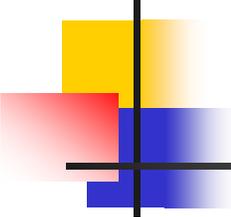
Office of Child and Family  
Services



# Child Care and Head Start Program

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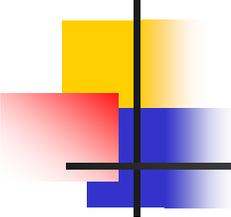
- Child Care Subsidies
- Quality Initiatives
- Head Start Collaboration Office
- Child and Adult Care Food Program



# CCDF Child Care Subsidy

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- Provide funds to help Maine parents pay for the cost of child care.
- Average annual cost of full-time care for infant in center based care is \$8,320



# Maine CCDF Child Care Subsidy

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**2006 Maine CCDF Child Care Funding**

**\$31,109,867**

**Children served ages 0-12**

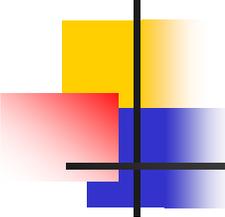
**8,941**

**Average annual cost of care children under 5 years**

**\$7,190**

**( includes subsidy and parent fee)**

**Parents paid 22% of cost and subsidy paid 78%**



# Child Care Subsidy

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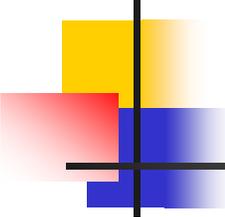
## Eligibility Requirements and Parent co-pay

Parents must be working or in training

Income less than 85% of state median income

\$55,085 for family of four *FY 2008*

Parent co-pay limited to 10% of gross family income – varies by income from 2% to 10%



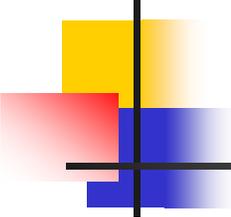
# Child Care Subsidy

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## **Unmet Need - Maine serves 38% eligible children**

- Number children currently served  
FY06 18,171 (CCDF and TANF)
- Estimate number of children eligible  
48,122

*(Urban Institute Transfer Income Model)*



# Maine CCDF Child Care Subsidy

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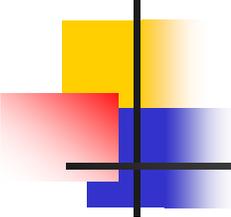
## ■ **Child Care Vouchers**

- 11 Voucher Management Agencies
- Determine eligibility and make payments to providers

FY06 6,310 served

82% licensed child care center or family child care homes

18% family, friend, or neighbor care



# Maine CCDF Child Care Subsidy

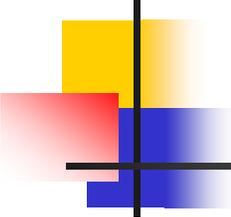
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## **Contracted Child Care Slots**

48 contracts with agencies

Served 2889 children in licensed  
child care centers or family child  
care homes (FY06)

Performance-based contracting

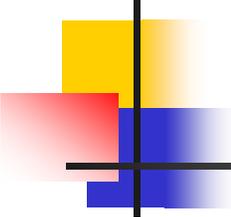


# Maine CCDF Child Care Subsidy

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## **Waitlist**

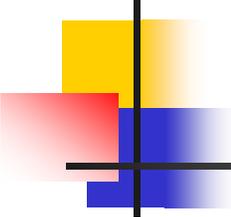
- When funding not available, child put on waitlist
- **Current Waitlist for CCDF Funding – 2,010 children**
- Priority on waitlist
  - Very low income
  - Special needs
  - Date of application



# Child Care Subsidy

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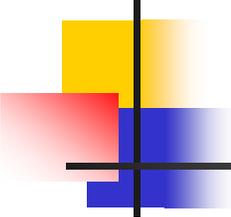
- Rates set through a market rate survey
- Set at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of rate licensed child care providers charge private pay clients
- Rates set by county and age group



# Maine CCDF Child Care Subsidy

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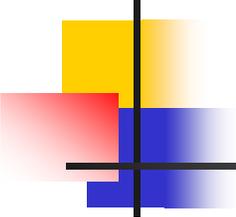
- **Federal Child Care Development Fund**
  - FY 07 \$15,656,315
  - Block grant to states
  - Three components
    - Discretionary
    - Mandatory
    - Matching



# Child Care Subsidy

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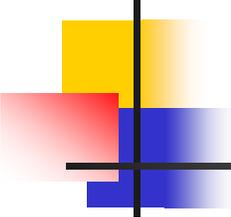
- Required State Maintenance of Effort
  - \$1,749,818
- Required State Matching Funds
  - \$3,466,156



# CCDF Quality Initiatives

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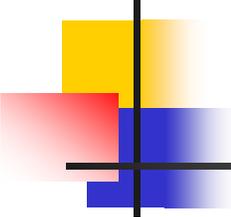
- **Career Development Center**
  - Curriculum Development
  - Trainer Registry
  - Provider Registry
  - Accreditation Facilitation
  - Scholarships



# Child Care Workforce

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- Directors – 53% MA or BA degrees
- Lead Teachers – 34% MA or BA degree and 17% AA degrees
- Teachers – 22% MA or BA degree and 14% AA degree
- Family child care – 46% MA or BA or AA degree

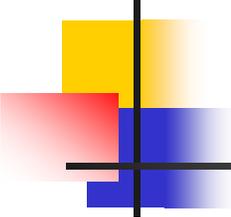


# Child Care Workforce

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- Staff Average Hourly Income- Centers
  - Directors - \$13.40
  - Assistant Directors - \$11.43
  - Lead Teachers – 10.80
  - Teachers – \$9.75
  - Teacher Assistants - \$9.59

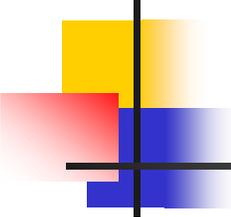
Maine Child Care Market Rate and Workforce Study 2006



# CCDF Quality Initiatives

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- **8 Regional Child Care Resource Development Centers**
  - Training for child care providers
  - Technical assistance for child care providers
  - Child care referrals for parents
  - Community child care capacity building

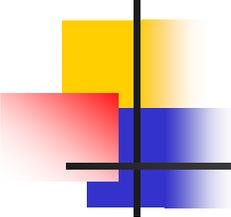


# CCDF Quality Initiatives

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- **Child Care Plus ME**

- Contract with Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies University of Maine
- Provide on-site technical assistance to support inclusion of children with special needs in child care program and to prevent expulsion from child care

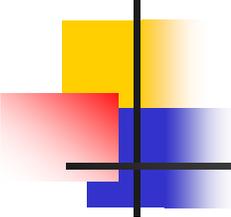


# CCDF Quality Initiatives

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- **Standards**

- Early Childhood Learning Guidelines  
Three and four year olds
- Supporting Maine's Infants and Toddlers:  
Guidelines for Learning and Development  
Birth to three years old

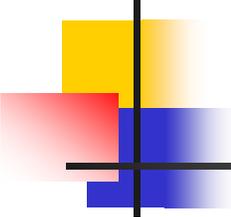


# CCDF Quality Initiatives

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- **Infant and Toddler Initiative**

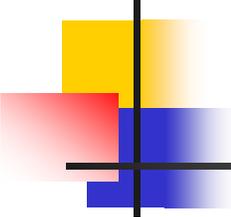
- Zero to Three Organization Technical Assistance
- Infant and Toddler Guidelines
- Infant and Toddler Caregiver Credential
- Infant and Toddler Summer Institute
- Infant and Toddler Literacy Course
- Infant and Toddler Day at the Legislature



# CCDF Quality Initiatives

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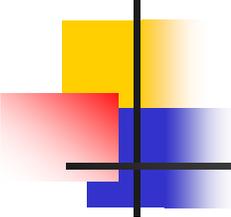
- **Family Friend and Neighbor Care**
  - *Care for Me* Initiative
  - Newsletters
  - Training Offered Through RDCs
  - Child and Adult Care Food Program
  - Quality Initiatives in Process



# Quality Rating System

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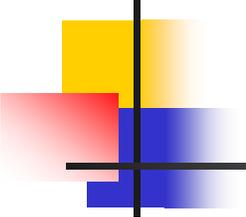
- **Voluntary measures of level of quality of licensed child care programs**
  - Based on research
  - Collected parent and provider input through focus groups and surveys



# Quality Rating System

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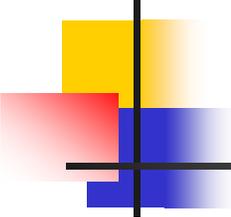
- QRS provides a method to:
  - Increase quality of care and education for children
  - Increase parents' understanding of and demand for high-quality care
  - Increase professional development of early childhood workforce



# Double Dependent Care Tax Credit

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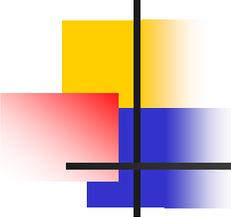
- A Maine taxpayer who enrolls a child or children in a child care center or home with a Quality Certificate is eligible for a double child care tax credit on their Maine individual income tax return.
- Credit may result in a refund up to \$500



# Head Start in Maine

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- **Comprehensive program for low-income children birth through five years**
- Offered statewide
- Variety of settings
  - Center based
  - Family child care
  - Home-based programs

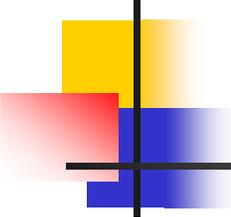


# Head Start in Maine

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- **Federal to Local Grantees**

- 11 Community Agencies
- 3 Tribal Grantees
- Funding -
  - Federal Head Start - \$27,537,146
  - State Head Start - \$2,417,784
  - Fund for a Healthy Maine - \$1,383,498



# Head Start in Maine

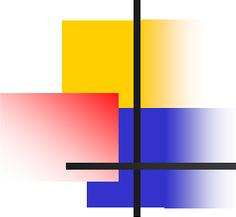
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## Enrollment FY06

- Head Start & Early Head Start – 4,016 total

- Enrollment by age

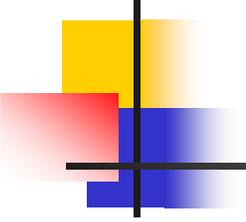
Under 1 year	251
1 year old	240
2 years old	357
3 years old	1,691
4 years old	2,299
5 years old	250



# State Head Start Collaboration Director

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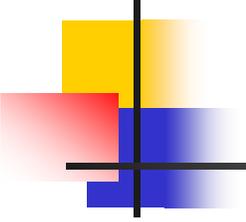
- Federally Funded – one each state
  - Connect Head Start Programs to other community resources
  - Collaboration between child care and Head Start
  - Funding Partnership Task Force
  - Collaboration with DOE



# Child and Adult Care Food Program

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- USDA federal food program
  - Provides financial assistance to Head Start and Child Care Facilities serving pre-school children
  - Non-profit programs
  - For-profit programs serving 25% or more children eligible for free or reduced lunch
  - Cash reimbursement for meals served

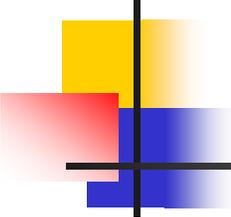


# Child and Adult Care Food Program

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FY2006

- 1,860 family child care homes enrolled
- 217 centers enrolled
- 18,342 children served
- 8,614,171 meals served
- \$9,837,116 total federal funds
- \$304,547 administration expenses



# Child Care Advisory Council

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- Created by Legislature to advise Commissioner DHHS and the Legislature on child care issues
- Membership
- Accomplishments-
  - Credential Task Force
  - Early Childhood Education B.S.degree expansion