ALL OUR KIN
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trains, supports, and sustains
family child care providers
to ensure that children and families
have the foundation they need
to succeed in school and in life.
All Our Kin serves over 400 family child care providers in New Haven, Bridgeport, Norwalk, Stamford, and surrounding towns.

These educators, many of whom are parents themselves, have the capacity to serve over 2,400 children in our community.
Research shows that high quality learning environments have the greatest impact during children’s earliest years as their brains are literally being built. (National Institutes of Health)

A recent capacity analysis found that Connecticut could serve only 15% of its infants and toddlers in licensed child care spaces. (CT Voices for Children)
The majority of infants and toddlers are cared for in home-based settings, and children with socioeconomic risk factors are the most likely to be in home-based child care arrangements.

(Porter, Paulsell, Del Grosso, Avellar, Hass, and Vuong, 2010)
Why do families choose family child care?

- Affordable
- Culturally competent
- Neighborhood-based
- Flexible for parents working non-traditional hours
- Warm, family-like setting
All Our Kin's family child care providers – many of whom are parents themselves – work with children and families during a critical period in their lives.

With our help, these providers lay the foundation for children and families’ lifelong success while achieving financial stability for themselves and their own children.
All Our Kin’s model is win-win-win:

child care providers build better lives for themselves and their own families;

parents succeed in the workforce;

and most importantly, children from all backgrounds have the chance to succeed.
All Our Kin’s Model: Supporting Family Child Care Providers at Every Stage of their Development

Tool Kit Licensing
Help new providers get started and become licensed

Family Child Care Network
Support all providers through workshops, courses, and conferences

Beginner

Improving

Strengthened

Early Head Start
Full range of services to the neediest children

Statewide Training and Technical Assistance
Train other agencies on generating quality practice throughout Connecticut
Tool Kit Licensing Program
Family Child Care Network

- Educational consultation and program visits from master teachers
- Child Development Associate (CDA) Training
- Workshop series
- Scholarships for college courses
- Business training and technical assistance
- Networking and peer mentoring
- Annual conference
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model:

**Increased Education**

Over 50% of the providers
All Our Kin helps become licensed
go on to achieve either an Associate's Degree
in Early Childhood Education
or a CDA credential.
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model:

**Increased Earnings**

Many providers are parents themselves. Nearly 60% of All Our Kin providers report earning at least $5,000 more the first year after licensure. In the second year, over 45% report earning at least $10,000 more.
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model:

Increased Supply

Between 2000 and 2011, Connecticut lost nearly 34% of its family child care programs. In New Haven, the number of licensed family child care programs increased by 74%. Increased supply allows more parents to enter the workforce: UCONN found that each provider licensed through All Our Kin enables between four and five parents to work.
The University of Connecticut reports that every dollar invested in All Our Kin yields $15-$20 in macroeconomic benefits.
Family Child Care: Implications of a Study of Quality in the All Our Kin Family Child Care Network

Research Conducted by Toni Porter
FCCERS-R

- 3 hour observation
- Extremely rigorous
- Respected in the field
FCCERS Subscales

- Space and Furnishings
- Personal Care Routines
- Listening and Talking
- Interactions
- Activities
- Parents and Provider
- Program Structure
Example FCCERS Item: Helping Children Use Language

Asks children questions to encourage more complex answers

Balances time between listening and talking

Links older children’s talk with writing
Material Requirements

2 different types of blocks for each age group accessible daily for much of the day

4 examples of props representing various races/cultures accessible for use in dramatic play

Sand and water table used daily
### PICCOLO

**Affection**
- Warmth, physical closeness, and positive expressions toward child

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Observation guidelines</th>
<th>Absent</th>
<th>Barely</th>
<th>Clearly</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Parent speaks in a warm tone of voice</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Parent smiles at child</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Parent praises child</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Parent is physically close to child</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Parent uses positive expressions with child</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Parent is engaged in interacting with child</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Parent shows emotional warmth</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Responsiveness

### Encouragement

### Teaching
Examples from Affection Subscale

- Speaks in a warm tone of voice
- Smiles at child
- Praises child
- Shows emotional warmth
- Engages in interacting with child
Process

- 2 groups
- 3 hour observations
- 4 outside observers
Results

• All Our Kin providers scored, on average, **53 percent** higher on the FCCERS-R, and **30 percent** higher on the PICCOLO, than providers who were not associated with All Our Kin.

• All Our Kin providers performed particularly well on FCCERS-R subscales measuring **Interactions and Listening & Talking**.
Results

• All Our Kin providers’ average scores on the PICCOLO’s Teaching subscale were 76 percent higher than those of the comparison providers.

• Fifty percent of All Our Kin providers intended to stay in the field of family child care “as long as possible,” compared to seven percent of the comparison providers.
All Our Kin providers performed significantly better on both measures.
All Our Kin providers performed significantly better on every subscale.
All Our Kin providers performed better on every subscale and significantly better on three subscales.
Intention to stay in the field “as long as possible”

More All Our Kin providers see family child care as a lifelong career path.
Questions for Future Research

• How is All Our Kin affecting child outcomes?
• Which All Our Kin programs make the most difference in provider quality?
• Which providers grow the most through working with All Our Kin?
How Can Communities Engage and Support Family Child Care Providers?

- Invest in staffed family child care networks and other hubs that provide training, support, and relationships.
- Offer learning opportunities for providers around health, mental health, and child development.
How Can Communities Engage and Support Family Child Care Providers?

• Engage providers as leaders and include them in community conversations.
• Give providers information about resources and services available in the community.
• Support collaboration and dialogue among service providers and agencies, including K-12, health, mental health, job training, and child care.
How Can Communities Engage and Support Family Child Care Providers?

- Encourage local attractions for children and families (i.e., museums, libraries, and zoos) to create programs geared toward family child care programs.
Family Child Care in Your Community

• What is your program/community already doing to engage with family child care providers?
• How can existing resources in your community be expanded to include family child care programs?
• How does your community plan include family child care providers and the children they serve?
• How can community-based initiatives (e.g., early childhood collaborative and cradle to career initiatives) include metrics that are inclusive of children in family child care?
Questions?