Why is CCDF important to afterschool advocates?

CCDF is a major source of federal funding for afterschool care for school-age children with working parents.

- Approximately 500,000 children receive CCDF assistance for their participation in before-school, afterschool and summer programming.
- Children ages 6 to 13 represent 34% of all children receiving CCDF assistance. School-age children receive an estimated one-third, or \$2 billion, of CCDF funds.
- In 2014, 67% of school-age children receiving CCDF assistance were in center-based programs, 23% were in family child care homes, 6% were in group homes and 5% were in the child's own home. However, the proportion of children in the various types of settings differs widely by state. V
- CCDF is a primary source of federal funds to improve the quality of care for children and families.
- Additional Focus on Quality: Through the administration of CCDF funds, states are able to use Quality Rating Systems (QRS) and tiered reimbursement to promote higher-quality care. In 2010, 19 states and the District of Columbia had implemented a statewide QRS, which rates providers according to particular quality benchmarks and usually offers incentives and supports to encourage meeting higher levels of quality.^{v, vi} With a tiered reimbursement system, states pay higher rates to programs meeting accreditation standards or other criteria beyond the level assured by minimum licensing standards.^{vii}



¹ The mandatory funding is set in the TANF legislation, which created the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF).

ii Office of Child Care. (2015). FY 2014 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary). Retrieved May 12, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fy-2014-ccdf-data-tables-preliminary.

^{III} Office of Child Care. (2015). FY 2014 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary). Retrieved May 12, 2016 from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fy-2014-ccdf-data-tables-preliminary.

The Finance Project/Child Care Bureau. (2005). Afterschool Investments: Settings for School-Age Children Receiving Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Subsidies. Retrieved March 5, 2007, from http://www.nccic.org/afterschool/fundedSettingsRep.htm.

^v Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services. Compendium of Quality Rating Systems and Evaluations. Retrieved May 12, 2016, from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/qrs compendium final.pdf.

vi The Finance Project/Child Care Bureau. Afterschool Investments: Using a State Child Care Quality Rating System to Promote Quality in Afterschool Programs. Retrieved April 23, 2008, from http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/qrs_afterschool.html.

vii The Finance Project/Child Care Bureau. Afterschool Investments: National Profile. Retrieved April 23, 2008, from http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/afterschool/PDFDocs/nationalprofile.pdf.

viii Office of Child Care, Department of Health and Human Services. Fiscal Year 2016 Federal Child Care and Related Appropriations. Retrieved April May 12, 2016, from http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/resource/fiscal-year-2016-federal-child-care-and-related-appropriations.

ix CLASP. \$1.2 Billion Investment Needed in 2017 to Implement CCDBG Reauthorization. Retrieved May 12, 2016, from http://www.clasp.org/resources-and-publications/publication-1/1.2-billion-factsheet.pdf.

What is CCDF?

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), also referred to as the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), was created to provide support for low-income families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and families transitioning off of TANF. CCDF gives these families access to child care and afterschool services for children up to age 13 while parents work or attend training. Most families receiving assistance are given certificates to purchase care.

After 18 years, Congress reauthorized CCDBG in November 2014. The new law includes provisions to keep children healthy and safe, including background checks and staff training; improves program quality while simultaneously ensuring that federal funds support low-income and at-risk children and families; ensures families that initially qualify for a subsidy get care for at least a year; and increases funds authorized for CCDBG. Implementation of the new law is underway.

CCDF is one of the largest sources of federal funding for afterschool care of schoolage children from low-income families. It provides about \$2 billion in funding to help approximately 500,000 school-age children with assistance for before- and afterschool care, as well as summer programs.

What is CCDF's recent funding history?

- CCDF discretionary funds had been largely stagnant since 2002 until the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 provided a one time \$2 billion supplemental appropriation. In FY2010, CCDF returned to its pre-ARRA level; however, CCDF was increased by \$326 million in the omnibus package of FY 2016 for and by \$95 million in the FY 2017 Omnibus bill for a total of \$2.9 billion appropriation.
- Mandatory child care funding is authorized through the TANF program.¹ In 2006, Congress reauthorized TANF with legislation that increased parental work requirements, thus increasing the need for child care. Mandatory child care funding was increased by \$1 billion over five years, or \$200 million each year. This amount is far below the amount estimated as necessary to cover the increased need.

Funding (FY2017)viii

Discretionary \$2.9 billion
Mandatory (set by law) \$2.9 billion
TOTAL \$5.8 billion

What should afterschool advocates ask for?

- Consistent with the request of leading national child care organizations, we support a \$1.1 billion increase in funding in FY 2018 for the Child Care and Development Fund.
- Increase for the CCDF would help meet the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) proposed costs of first year implementation (\$722 million) and adjust for cost increases to prevent additional children from losing care (\$503 million).ix

For more information about the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) or other funding streams that can be applied to afterschool programs, check out the Afterschool Alliance funding database at afterschoolalliance.org/funding.cfm

