



# Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

August 18, 2016



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

[www.dec.al.ga.gov](http://www.dec.al.ga.gov)

# Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approve **8-18-16** agenda
- Approve **5-12-16** minutes



# Inspiration

## Dr. Luann Purcell



Looking Back!



# The Year is 2004

Governor Sonny Perdue and the Georgia General Assembly created **Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning** to further streamline the state's services to Georgia's children from birth to age five and their families.

The department was formed by merging

- Office of School Readiness
- Georgia Child Care Council

And units from the

- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Education



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Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

# First Commissioner Marsha Moore



# The first board: 2006



# Janice Gallimore

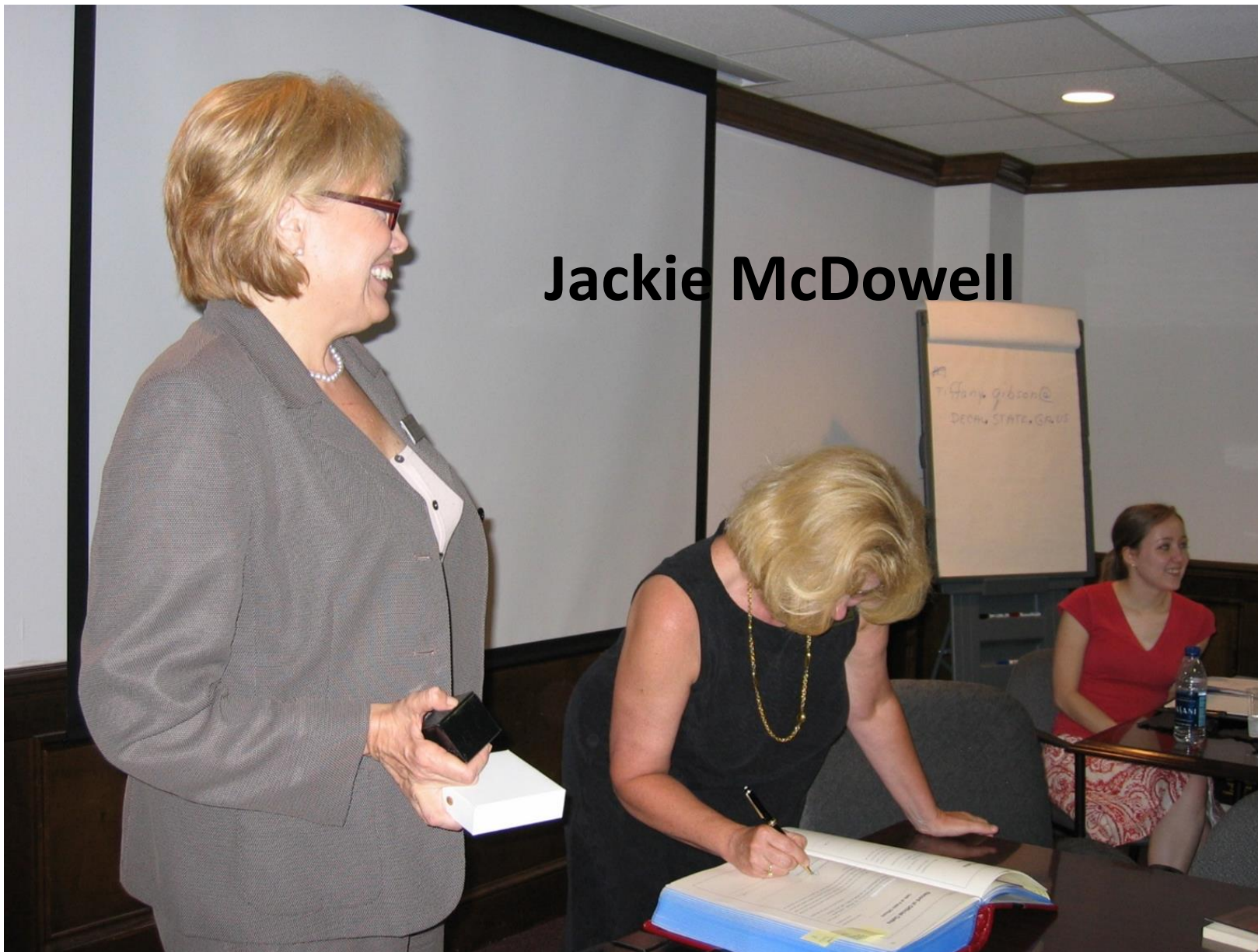




**Luann Purcell**



**Jackie McDowell**



**Maggie Martinez**





**Melissa Turner**

**Carlene Talton**



**Gabrielle Braswell**



**Ted Mallory**



**Victor Morgan**





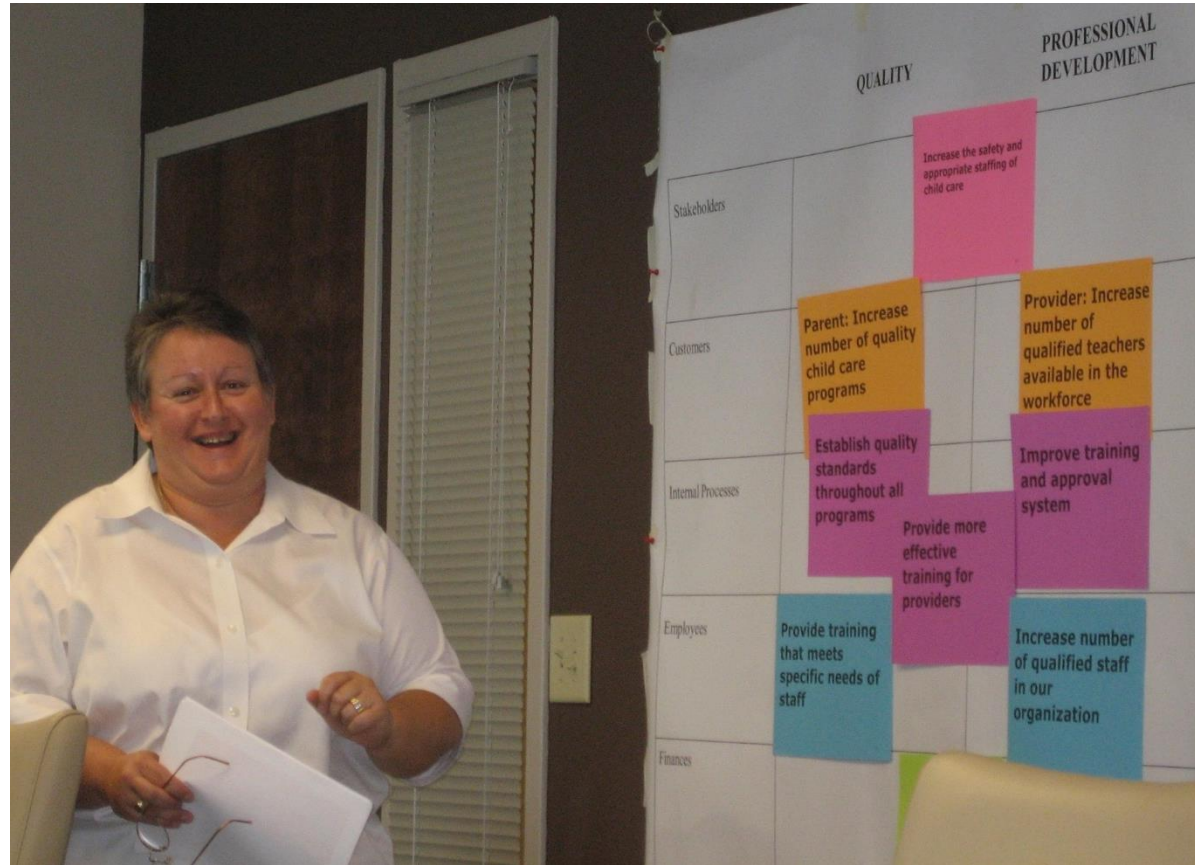
# naeyc



**GEORGIA ASSOCIATION ON YOUNG CHILDREN**  
**2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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# Balanced Score Card Card Board Training



	QUALITY	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Stakeholders		Increase the safety and appropriate staffing of child care
Customers	Parent: Increase number of quality child care programs	Provider: Increase number of qualified teachers available in the workforce
Internal Processes	Establish quality standards throughout all programs	Improve training and approval system
Employees	Provide training that meets specific needs of staff	Provide more effective training for providers
Finances		Increase number of qualified staff in our organization

Feb 2007-  
Inspiration

## **IF A CHILD....**

**If a child lives with criticism,  
he learns to condemn.**

**If a child lives with hostility,  
he learns to fight.**

**If a child lives with ridicule,  
he learns to be shy.**

**If a child lives with shame,  
he learns to feel guilty.**

**If a child lives with tolerance,  
he learns to be patient.**

**If a child lives with encouragement,  
he learns confidence.**

**If a child lives with praise,  
he learns to appreciate.**

**If a child lives with fairness,  
he learns justice.**

**If a child lives with security,  
he learns to have faith.**

**If a child lives with approval,  
he learns to like himself.**

**If a child lives with acceptance and friendship,  
He learns to find love in the world.**

**Author unknown**





Fall 2009



8/18/08







# Commissioner Holly Robinson

Nov 2007-Jan 2011



# Commissioner Bobby Cagle

**BOBBY CAGLE** GEORGIA EARLY CARE AND LEARNING COMMISSIONER




**WHERE'S BABY? LOOK BEFORE YOU LOCK  
PREVENTING CHILD VEHICLE HEATSTROKE DEATHS**

**8:11m** **WEST** Cooler 60s, low 70s today along immediate West Coast    Highs 100° to



**FLAGSTAFF, AZ  
NOW**

 **39°** Sunny

Winds  
Calm

Feels like  
39°

# Georgia Lottery for Education Celebrates Anniversary





Macon  
2013





# Commissioner Amy Jacobs





**E3Z Summit  
8-15-16  
Valdosta, GA**





*Whatever you do,  
do it with all your  
heart  
as unto the Lord  
and not to man.  
Colossians 3:23 NIV*

In Memory of Ted Mallory  
Aug 10, 1942-June 26, 2011  
(DECAL Board Member)



I believe that this is a practical world and that I can count only on what I earn. Therefore, I believe in work, hard work.

I believe in education, which gives me the knowledge to work wisely and trains my mind and my hands to work skillfully.

I believe in honesty and truthfulness, without which I cannot win the respect and confidence of my fellow men.

I believe in a sound mind, in a sound body and a spirit that is not afraid, and in clean sports that develop these qualities.

I believe in obedience to law because it protects the rights of all.

I believe in the human touch, which cultivates sympathy with my fellow men and mutual helpfulness and brings happiness for all.

I believe in my Country, because it is a land of freedom and because it is my own home, and that I can best serve that country by "doing justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with my God."

And because Auburn men and women believe in these things, I believe in Auburn and love it.

-George Petrie (1943)



# Board Member Updates

Board members report on their recent DECAL-related activities in their districts.



# At E3Z Summit in Valdosta



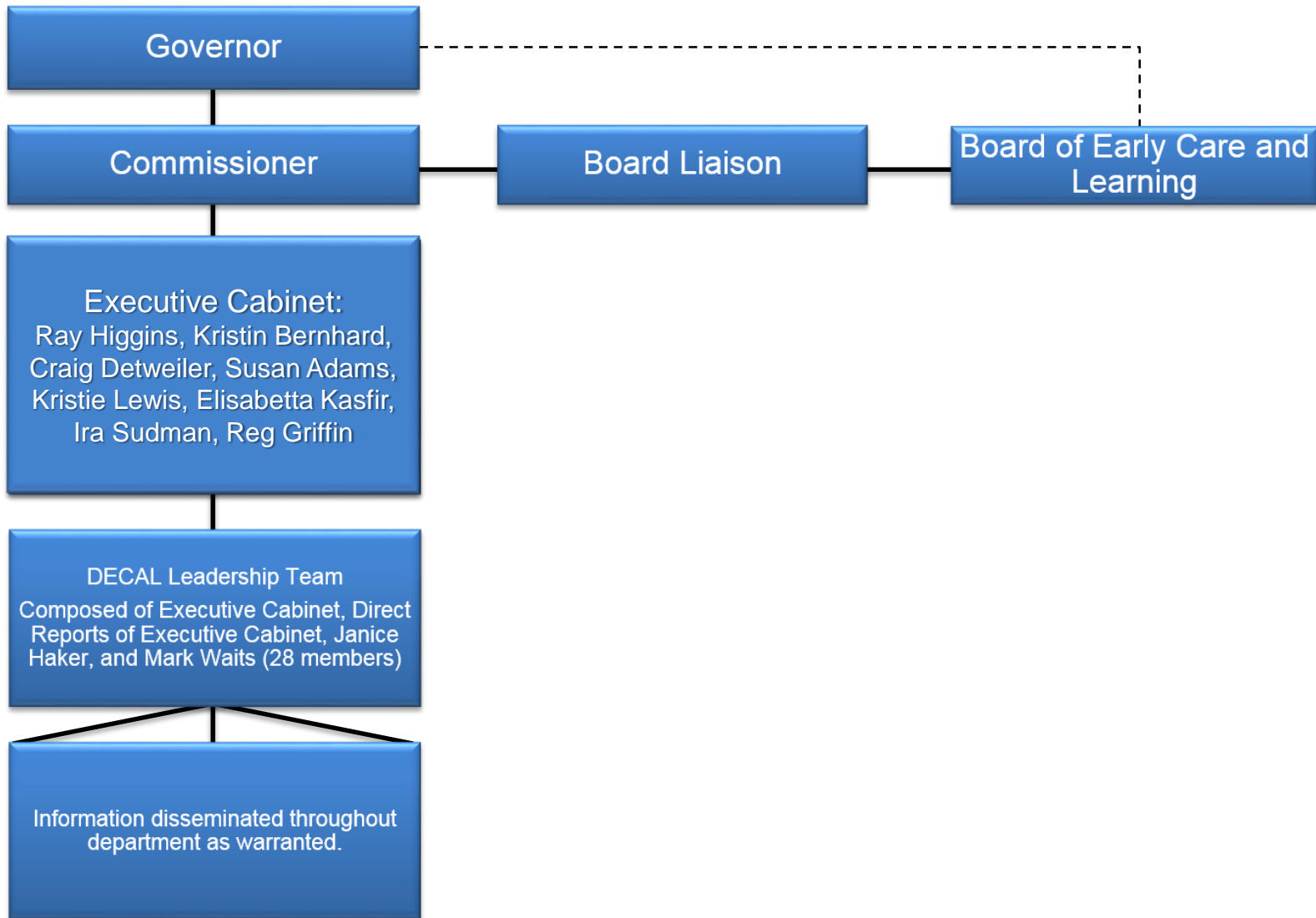


# Commissioner's Update

Amy M. Jacobs  
Commissioner



# DECAL Governance Structure



# Recent Grant Applications

- ***Georgia CCDF Evaluation Project (GCEP)***
  - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Funding to plan how Georgia will evaluate effectiveness of the CCDF State Plan 2016-2018.
- ***Quality Rated Incentive/Bonus Packages***
  - Peyton Anderson Foundation. Funding to provide incentive packages and bonuses for child care providers in Macon-Bibb County who choose to participate in Quality Rated.
- ***Parents and Children Thriving Together (PACTT): Two Generation State Policy Network***
  - The National Governors Association (NGA) and the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP). Technical assistance grant to help states develop policies to simultaneously promote children's learning and healthy development and parents' success as caregivers and breadwinners.

# DECAL and ESSA

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) – Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
- GaDOE leading the development of the plan; due March 2017
- Plan must support early childhood education programs
- DECAL involvement:
  - Member of State Advisory Committee
  - Co-chair of working group: Education of the Whole Child



# Employee Survey

- Developed by DECAL and Georgia State University (primarily DECAL)
- Conducted and analyzed by Georgia State University
- Employee Survey
  - Full-time employees
  - Conducted May 2016 (Georgia State University)
  - n = 262 or 80% of 327 DECAL employees

# Employee Survey: Results

<b>Top Five Responses (Mean, % SA and A)</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>% Agree &amp; Strongly Agree</b>
<b>My direct supervisor supports my need to balance work and family issues.</b>	263	4.4	93
<b>My direct supervisor is accessible.</b>	262	4.3	91
<b>My direct supervisor seems to care about me as a person.</b>	260	4.4	89
<b>My direct supervisor is easy to talk with.</b>	262	4.3	88
<b>I am proud of our achievements as an organization.</b>	259	4.2	88

# Employee Survey: Results

<b>Items below 70% (% SA or A, Mean)</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>% Agree &amp; Strongly Agree</b>
<b>Innovation and operational improvements are encouraged at DECAL.</b>	258	3.8	67
<b>I feel that I am sufficiently recognized for my work.</b>	262	3.6	63
<b>All work units work together to ensure that DECAL functions like one department.</b>	260	3.4	47
<b>Sufficient coordination and communication occurs between DECAL divisions.</b>	259	3.4	45

# Employee Survey Conclusions

- **The results of the employee survey are good.**
  - 74% of the respondents rated employee satisfaction a 4 or a 5, up from 71% last year.
- **More than half the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with all but two of the 12 items used to measure workplace quality.**
  - The exceptions, as it was the last two out of three years, were “All work units work together to ensure that DECAL functions like one department.” and “Sufficient coordination and communication occurs between DECAL divisions.”

# Questions & Comments from Board





# Finance, Administration, and Legislative Update

Ray Higgins

Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

[www.dec.al.ga.gov](http://www.dec.al.ga.gov)

# Finance Update – SFY 2016 Summary

Data as of June 30th	Budget	Expenditures*	Remaining Balance	% Remaining
<b>BY PROGRAMS</b>				
Child Care Services	\$233,860,658	\$233,360,655	\$500,003	0%
Pre-K + (HS)	\$321,490,547	\$314,638,869	\$6,851,678	2%
Quality Initiatives	\$31,772,987	\$31,772,985	\$2	0%
Nutrition	\$140,789,360	\$140,789,360	\$0	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$727,913,552</b>	<b>\$720,561,869</b>	<b>\$7,351,683</b>	<b>1%</b>

<b>BY FUNDING SOURCE</b>				
State General	\$55,527,513	\$55,527,512	\$1	0%
State Lottery	\$321,295,547	\$314,460,869	\$6,834,678	2%
Federal	\$350,917,109	\$350,417,106	\$500,003	0%
Other	\$173,383	\$156,382	\$17,001	10%
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$727,913,552</b>	<b>\$720,561,869</b>	<b>\$7,351,683</b>	<b>1%</b>

\* Includes encumbrances.

# Legislative Update



**Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**

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# Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) Update

- CAPS Eligibility Staff Transition to DECAL
- Funding Restrictions



# Communications Update

Reg Griffin  
Chief Communication Officer

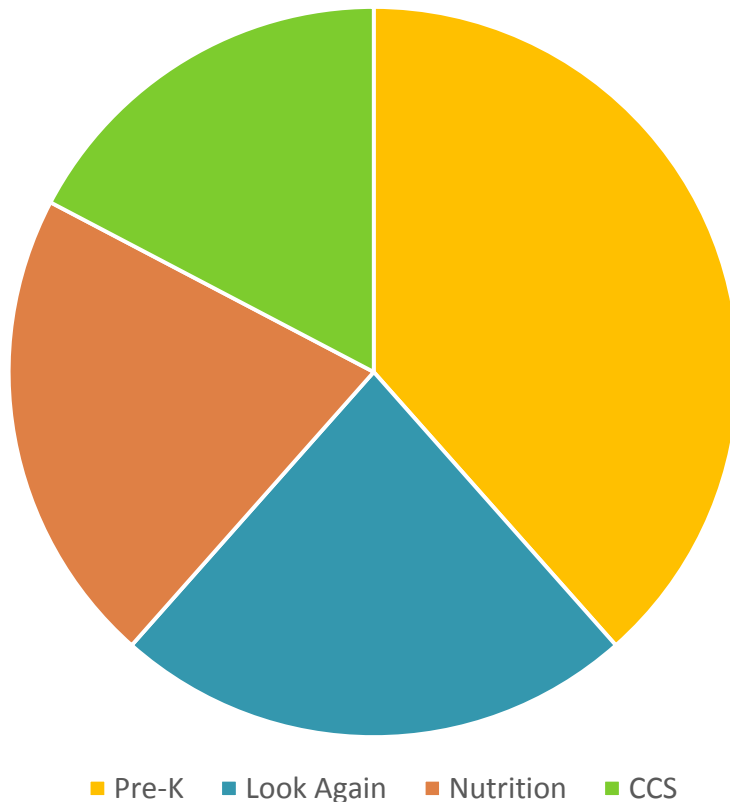


Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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# Media Coverage (May - July)

Media



**Total Stories: 66**

## **Top Stories:**

Georgia's Pre-K Program – 30%

Look Again – 18%

Nutrition – 16%

CCS Investigations – 13%

## **ALSO:**

Summer Brain Drain

Child Care Expansion Grants

# Pre-K TOTY: WTOC-TV (CBS) 11 Savannah



# Look Again: WGNX-TV (CBS) 46 Atlanta



# Expansion Grants: WALB-TV (NBC) 10 Albany



# Social Media Outreach

Facebook	6,638
Twitter	1,860
Instagram	539
Pinterest	213
LinkedIn	186
YouTube	152

***Total Social Media Reach = 9,588***



# System Reform Update, Part 1

## DECAL Early Head Start – Child Care Partnerships

Carol Hartman  
Director Policy & System Reform  
Bentley Ponder  
Director of Research & Policy Analysis





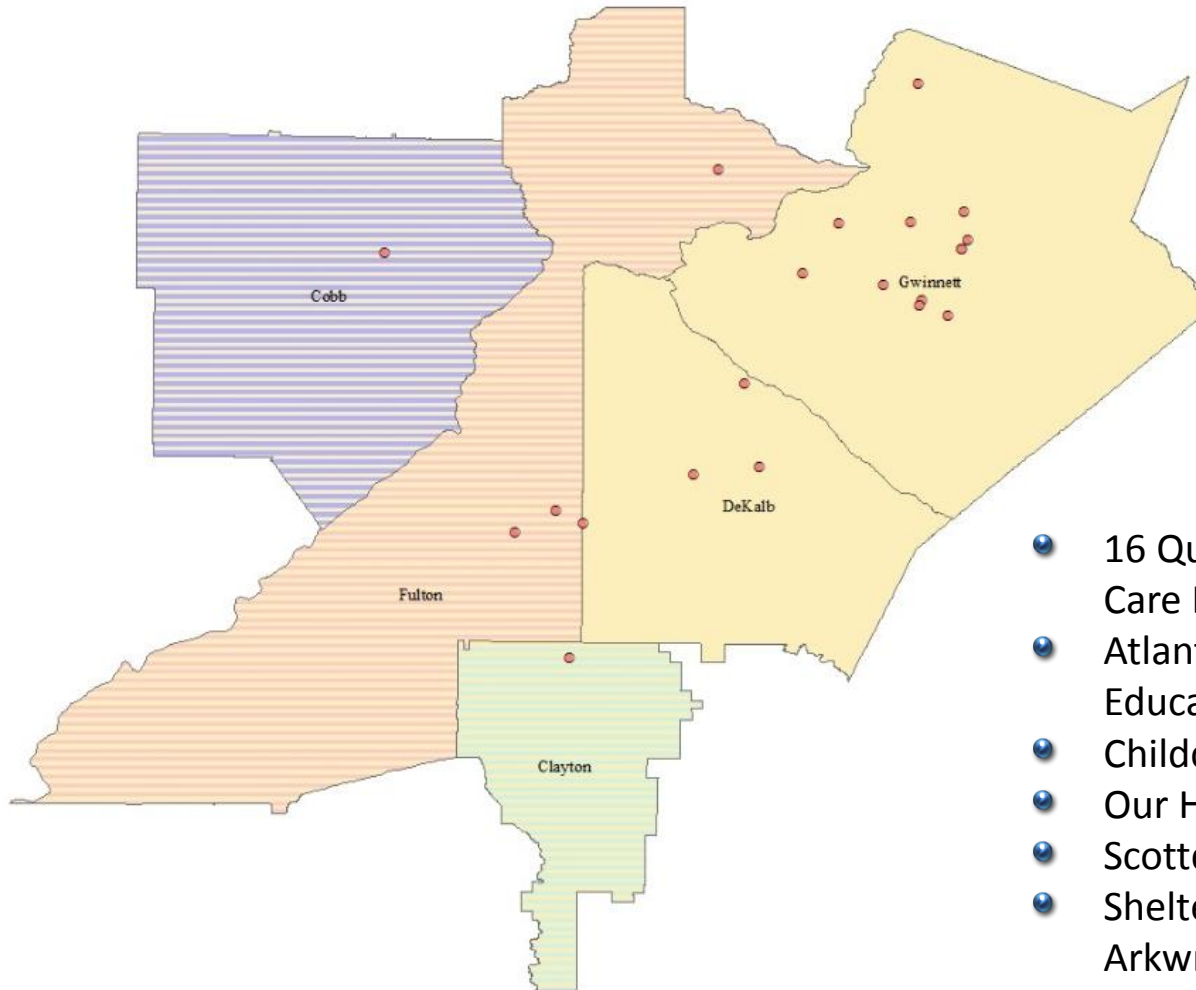
## DECAL's Roles: Grantee and CCDF Lead Agency

- **EHS-CCP grantee-** building the supply of high-quality infant and toddler care with Early Head Start as the “driver.”
- **CCDF lead agency-** building the early care and education system by using the flexibility of CCDF to ensure that Georgia’s other EHS-CCP grantees and their partners are able to layer subsidy funds.

## DECAL awarded \$3.5 million per year for five years to:

- Deliver comprehensive services to 184 infants and toddlers and their families in metro Atlanta area.
- Create early education “hubs” to support programs in meeting the Head Start Program Performance Standards.
- Enhance the quality in the programs to meet Head Start standards.
- Revise the state’s child care subsidy policies and procedures where there is flexibility to support Early Head Start partnerships statewide.
- Monitor the project and measure improvements to access and quality.

# DECAL Early Head Start Partnership Locations

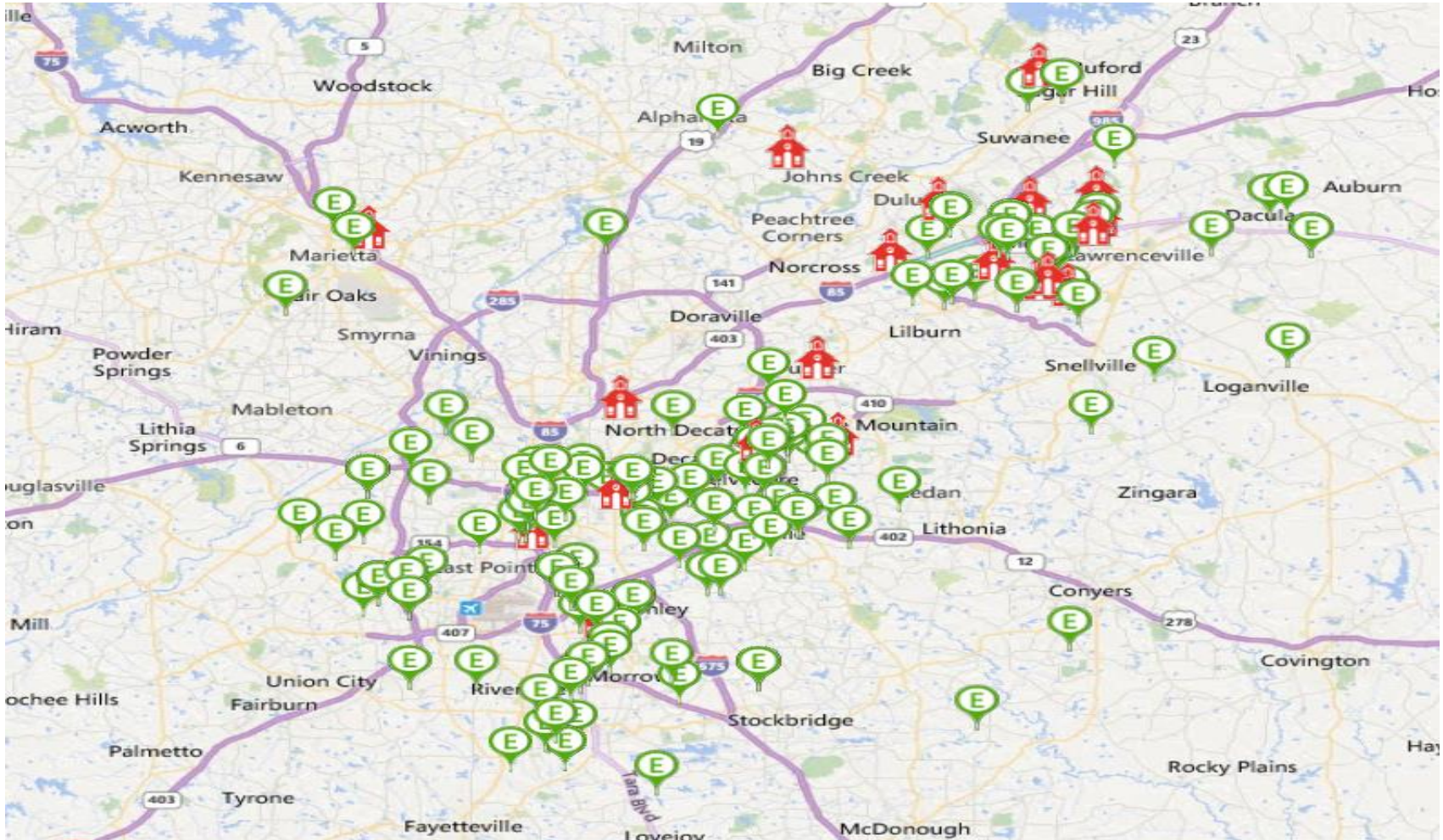


- 16 Quality Rated Family Child Care Learning Homes
- Atlanta Technical College Early Education Center
- Childcare Network #206
- Our House- Genesis
- Scottdale Early Learning, Inc.
- Sheltering Arms, Dorothy Arkwright

# EHS Family Child Care Partners



# Enrolled Children and Families



# Families Served in DECAL EHS Partnership



- 84% are single parents
- 74% have earned income from employment
- 23% enrolled in an education program
- 12% are experiencing homelessness
- < 7% receive income assistance (SSI or TANF)

# Children Served in DECAL EHS Partnership



- 35% age birth-18 months
- 34% age 24-36 months
- 31% over 36 months old
  - 46 children transitioning to Head Start and preschool
- 11% speak Spanish at home
- 11.4% have diagnosed disabilities

# How are we doing?

- Developed guiding principles, project goals, school readiness goals.
- Established management, reporting, and monitoring systems with our partners.
- Completed a self-assessment to guide program improvement.
- Established Early Head Start Policy Council to help guide program planning.
- Presented at two national conferences, webinars; featured in April issue of *Early Child Development*.

# Policy Council Officers





# Early Head Start Partnership Funding

- DECAL awarded continuation funding for July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017.
- Application for cost-of-living adjustments was submitted June 14, 2016.
- Applications are due August 24 for new Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership grants.
  - Partner with additional family homes and centers to expand services in metro Atlanta area.

# DECAL's Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership

## Self-Assessment Process and Results



# What Is Self-Assessment?



Self-assessment is the process for reviewing progress on goals and objectives, fostering accountability in meeting the objectives proposed in the application, and determining if resources are used effectively.

Provides an opportunity to leverage strengths, examine quality, and work to continually improve the program.

# DECAL “Approach” to 2016 EHS-CCP Self-Assessment

- **Self-assessment is not an evaluation of EHS-CCP.**
  - Focused on identifying strengths, challenges, and where the project is meeting its goals.
- **Self-assessment is designed for the partnership.**
  - Other self-assessments work better at the “program” level.
- **Self-assessment should provide a roadmap for future self-assessment.**
  - We will also assess how the self-assessment process worked.
- **Self-assessment should be simple and straight-forward.**
- **Key elements:**
  - Multiple data sources
  - Multiple stages
  - Multiple perspectives
- **Self-assessment is not an audit.**

# Methods

## Focus Group

- Conducted by DECAL with “implementers”
- Review instruments and data, critique survey questions, and provide feedback to whole process

## Surveys

- Confidential and anonymous
- Families, center directors, teachers, family child care providers, and hub staff

## Classroom Observations

- Random selection of infant-toddler classrooms and family child care providers
- Conducted by Quality Rated Reliable Assessors

## Document Review

- Independently conducted by DECAL project manager, consultant, and site directors
- Child Plus and On-Site

# Focus Group: “What went well?”

It was easy for providers to receive their funds.

All programs were able to fill their slots.

The professional development training had a positive impact on programs.

The management structure has done a great job motivating child care providers and families.

# Focus Group: “What were the challenges?”

Determining EHS eligibility in conjunction with CAPS.

The hours requirement (programs have to be open 10 hours) was confusing for providers.

Some EHS standards are not applicable to Family Providers.

Finding the right person to answer questions took a significant amount of time.

Trainings started after the school year began forcing programs to play catch-up.

# Focus Group #1



*“The EHS-CCP has really helped in supporting families. I feel that both parents and children are thriving in their EHS programs.”*



# Survey Results: Family

81% (n=39) of families reported that they were happy with their child's EHS program.

92% (n=44) felt that their child's program helps them be a better parent.

85% (n=41) of parents reported that their EHS program helped them see themselves as their child's first teacher.

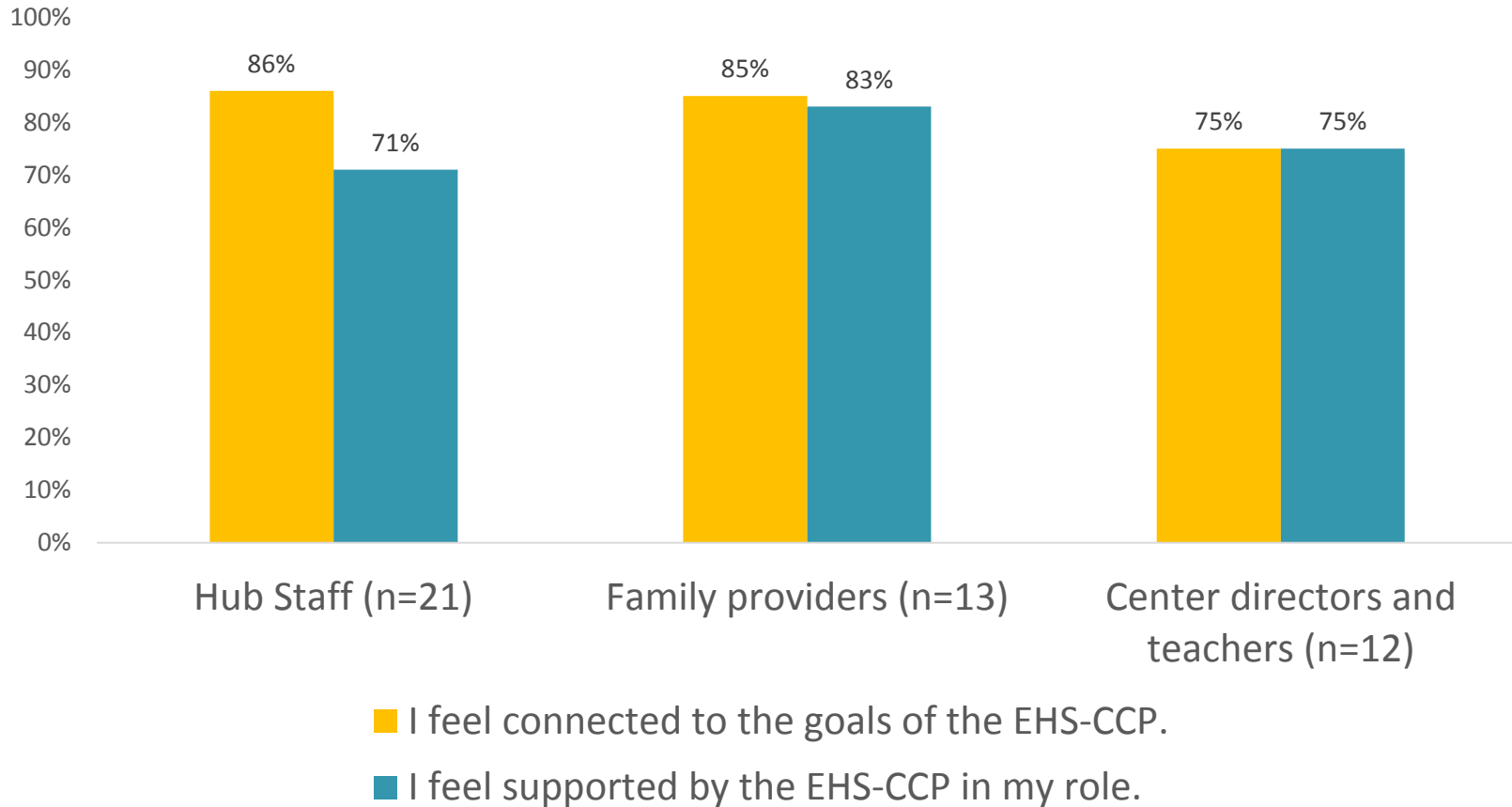
73% (n=35) of parents reported that EHS program staff discussed family goals (such as finding a job).

73% (n=35) of parents reported that their EHS program has given them the tools they need to support their child's development.

# EHS-CCP Support and Vision

## Support and connection to the goals of the EHS-CCP

% who agreed or strongly agreed with the statements below



# Assessing the “Assessment”

## Strengths

- Collaboration
- Capacity building
- Inter-agency collaboration
- Partnership collaboration

## Challenges

- Timeline
- Language barriers
- Communication
- Scheduling
- Survey and document dissemination

# Quality Rated Validation Study



# QRIS Validation

“Validation is a **multi-step process** that assesses the degree to which design decisions about program quality standards and measurement strategies are resulting in **accurate and meaningful ratings.**”

Zellman & Fiene, 2012

# Validation Questions

- Is Quality Rated working as intended?
  - Are Quality Rated ratings meaningful?
  - What aspects correlate with children's growth and development?

# Georgia's Successful Approach

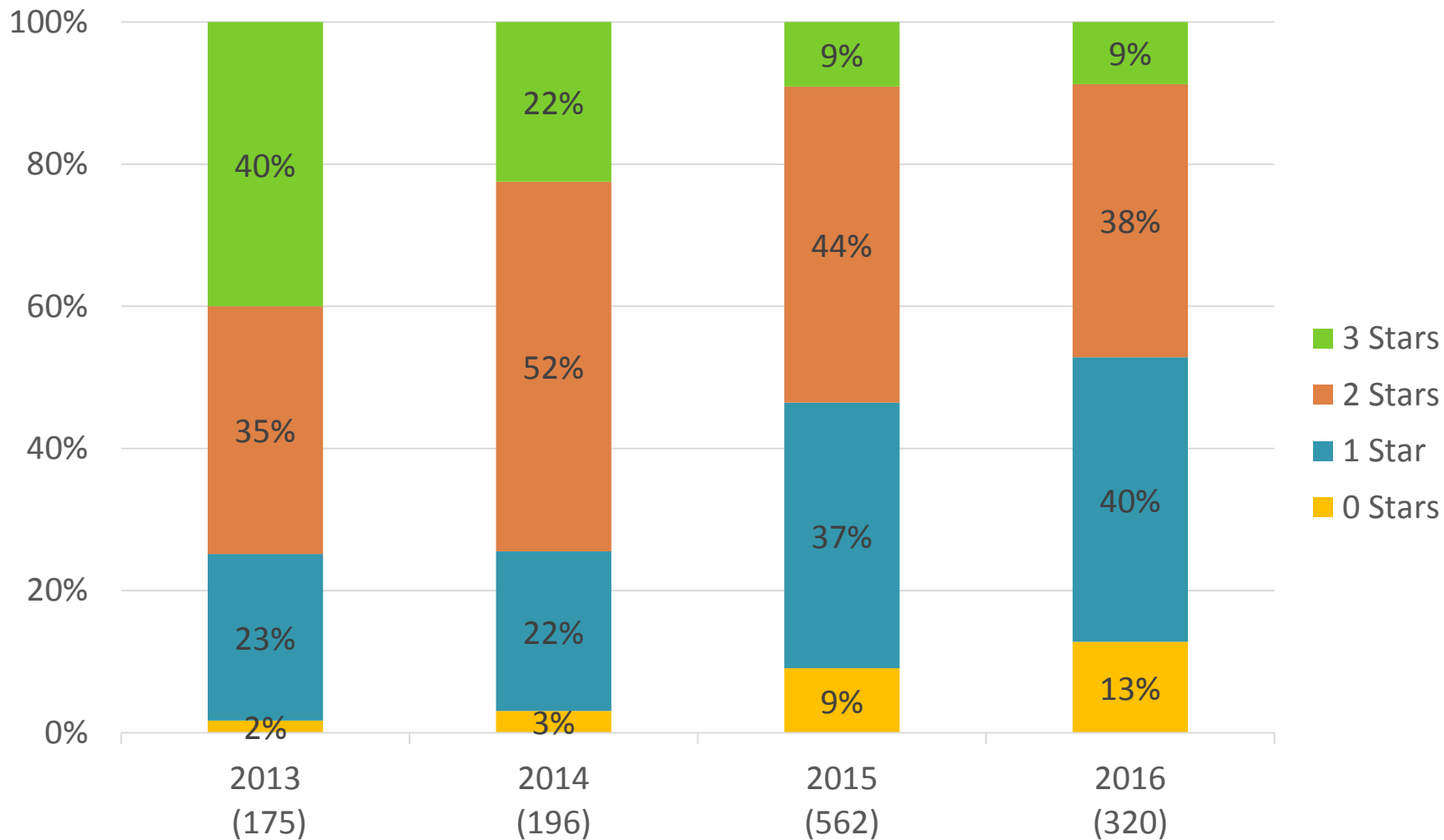
- Collaborative: Both internally and externally
- Ongoing feedback loops
  - Bi-weekly validation meetings
  - No question is “off the table”
- Systemic
  - Impact on and by other programs
  - Subpopulations
- Capacity building
- Use of administrative data
- Evolving (moving past ELC)

# Internal Data Analysis

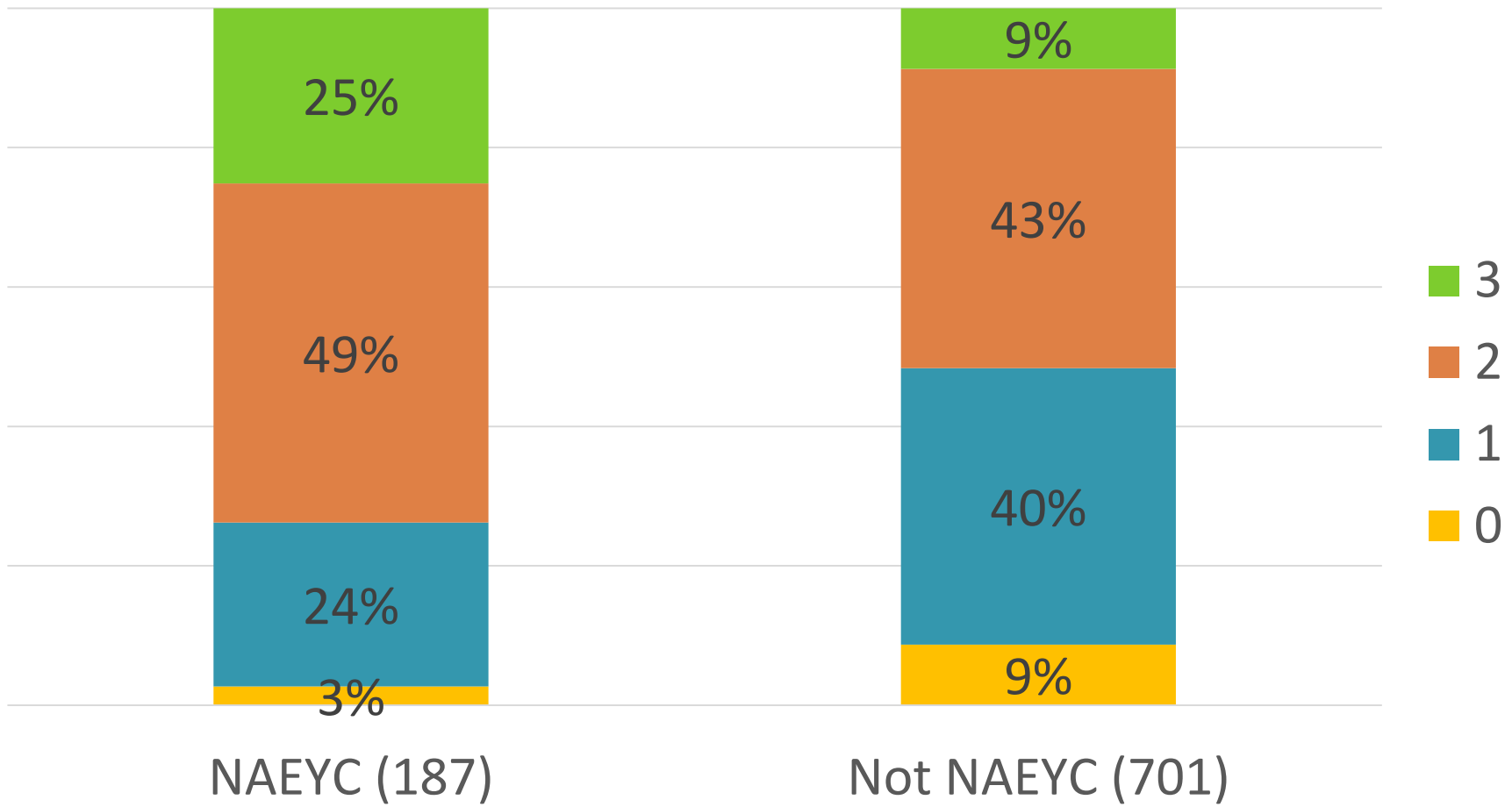




# Initial Ratings by Year Rated



# Center-Based Programs by Star Level: NAEYC or Not NAEYC Accredited



# External Validation Study



# Validation Study

- **Conducted by Child Trends and Georgia State University**
- **Address major RTT-ELC questions**
  - Do the ratings meaningfully differentiate higher-quality programs from lower-quality programs?
  - Is there a relationship between ratings and children's development? Do children who attend higher-rated programs have greater developmental growth than children who attend lower-rated programs?
- **Issues of importance for DECAL**
  - All 4 levels (including 0s)
  - Infants and toddlers, as well as preschoolers
  - Family child care homes, as well as centers
  - Language and literacy richness of the environment
  - Role of attendance

# Validation “Context”

- Validation is a journey, not a destination. Will not provide a “yes” or “no” answer.
- Validation results from other states have been mixed. Impacts can be hard to measure.
  - Does not mean quality rating and improvement systems are not beneficial.
- Many other states will release validation results before Georgia.

# Three Phases

Pilot

(2015-2016)

Family Child Care

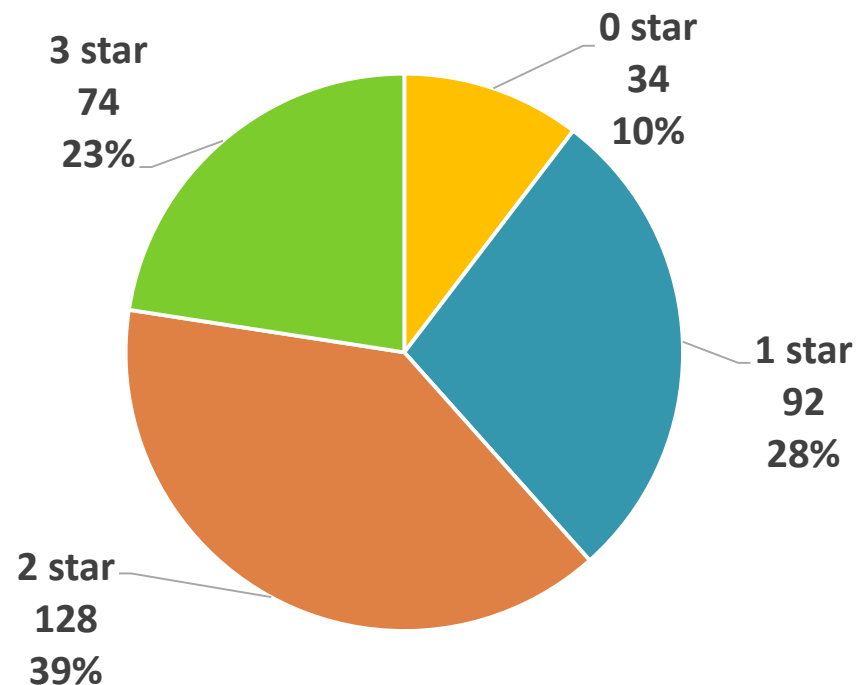
(2016-2017)

Center Based Care

(2017-2018)

# Family Child Care Homes in QR

- Currently, 328 FCCHs with a rating
- Ideally the sample would include 50 FCCH at each level
- Attempting to recruit all rated FCCHs
- Current response rate: 57%



# DECAL Support to Recruitment

- Commissioner presented at Professional Family Child Care Alliance of Georgia.
- Letter from Commissioner sent to all rated family child care homes.
- Resource and referral agencies asked to remind providers of study.



# DECAL's "Take-Aways" for Study Year

- Legitimacy of study – importance of knowing that this is a DECAL sponsored study.
- Guarantee of confidentiality – DECAL will not know who is participating. Individual programs will never be identified.
- “We Need Your Help” – it is important for providers to participate. It will help in strengthening Quality Rated and Georgia’s ECE system.

***BREAK***  
*(15 minutes)*

# System Reform Update, Part 2:

Kristin Bernhard  
Deputy Commissioner for System Reform





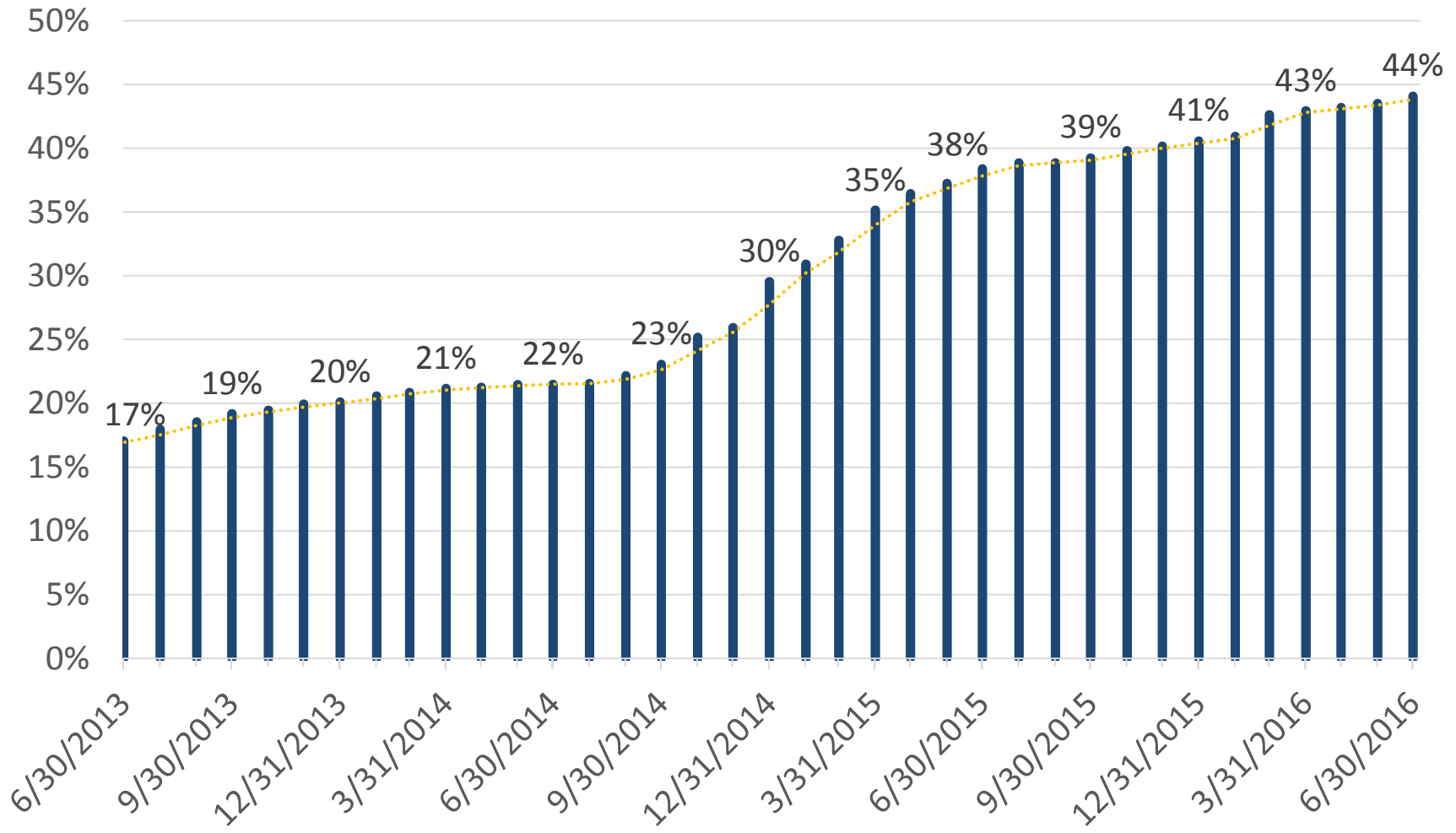
## Participation by Facility Type

	Count	Percentage
Child Care Learning Center	1,843	58.14%
Family Child Care Learning Home	767	40.75%
Other	79	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,689</b>	<b>44.51%</b>

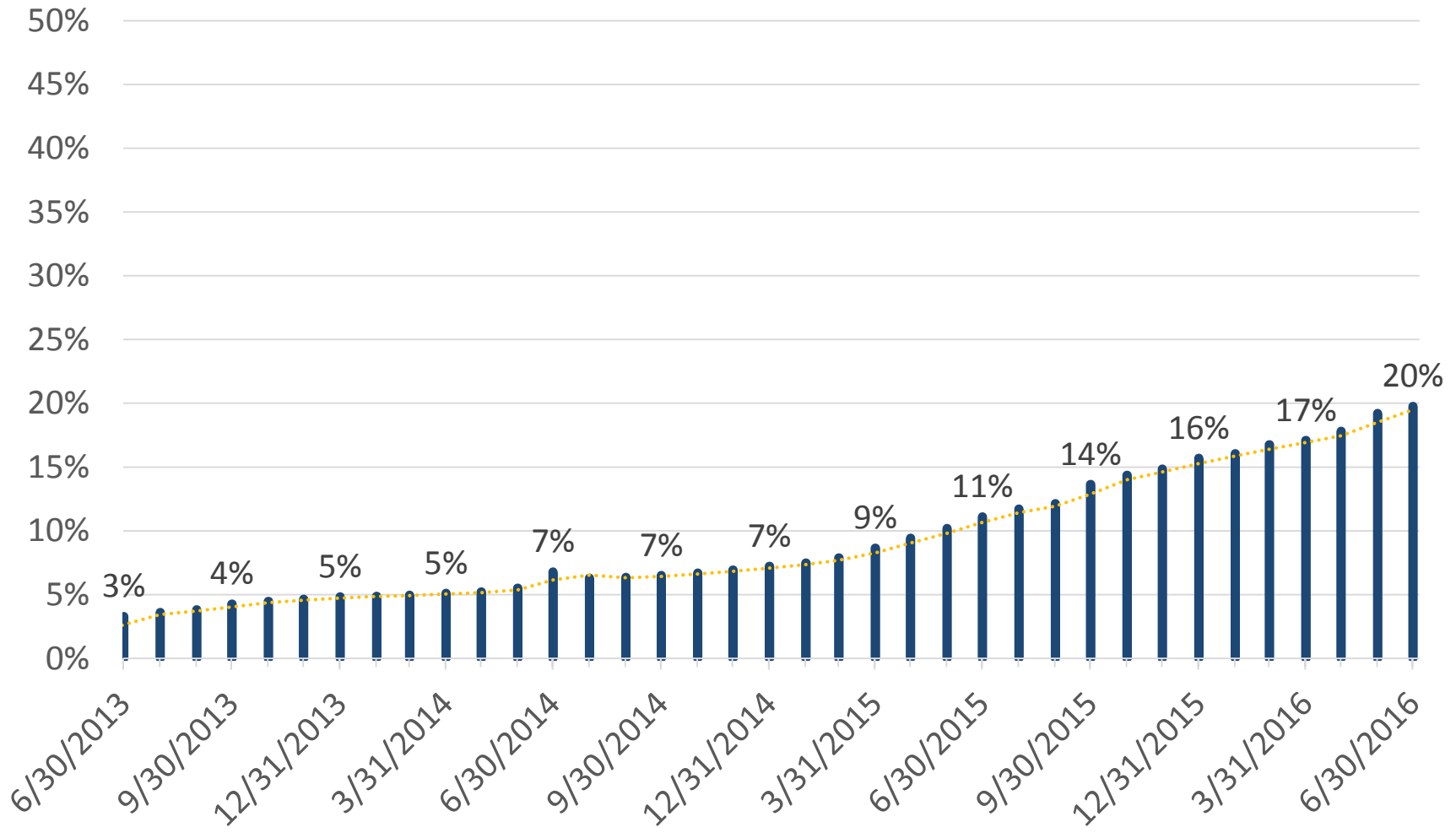
## Ratings by Facility Type

	One Star	Two Star	Three Star	Total
Child Care Learning Center	301	363	101	756
Family Child Care Learning Home	94	133	75	337
Other	22	36	11	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>1,136</b>

# Quality Rated: % Participating



# Quality Rated: % Rated (0-3 Stars)



# Quality Rated Marketing Campaign



## SAPORTAREPORT

Valued voices share insights about Atlanta and beyond

Home Respected Voices Latest Reports Photo Picks Thought Leaders Topics About Us



### GUEST COLUMN

#### Quality Rated Child Care is great for children – and benefits our entire state

August 7, 2016, 9:34 pm / 0 Comments

Share this:



By Guest Columnist MILTON J. LITTLE, Jr., *president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Greater Atlanta*

Like many other fathers, all I have ever wanted is the reassurance that my children – and now my three grandchildren – are healthy and on track for a successful future.



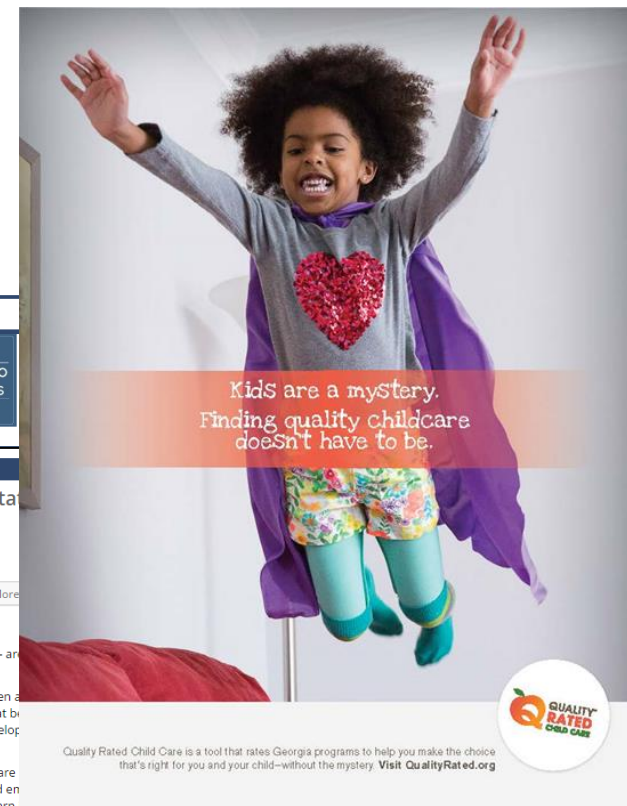
Milton Little

Today, many families seeking to supplement the care they are providing to their children are seeking a developmental expertise look at a variety of child care options. The research shows that birth, environments rich in language and child-caretaker interaction are crucial for developing children need to succeed in school and life.

In my capacity leading United Way of Greater Atlanta, I have visited high-quality child care across the region and witnessed children building valuable cognitive, motor, social, and emotional skills when they stack blocks, interact with other children, read a book with a teacher and learn simple daily routines. As a result, these children are far more likely to arrive in kindergarten ready to learn.

Early childhood development is not just a benefit for children receiving the services and their families – it benefits all of us. In the corporate world, we would call any investment that yields a consistently high rate of return a good one. Research by Nobel Prize-winning economist James Heckman shows that quality early education for disadvantaged children yields a 17 percent return a year through better outcomes in education, health, social mobility – more than any other social investment.

The key, though, is quality. Many families, including those in Atlanta, have trouble identifying the highest quality programs – whether at a center,



Quality Rated Child Care is a tool that rates Georgia programs to help you make the choice that's right for you and your child—without the mystery. Visit [QualityRated.org](http://QualityRated.org)



**Nathan Deal**  
Governor

**Amy M. Jacobs**  
Commissioner

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Reg Griffin  
404-656-0239  
[reg.griffin@decalf.ga.gov](mailto:reg.griffin@decalf.ga.gov)



*Quality Rated takes the mystery out of searching for child care.*

#### Most Harris County Child Care Programs Participating in Quality Rated

*Free online tool helps Georgia families make the most informed child care choice*

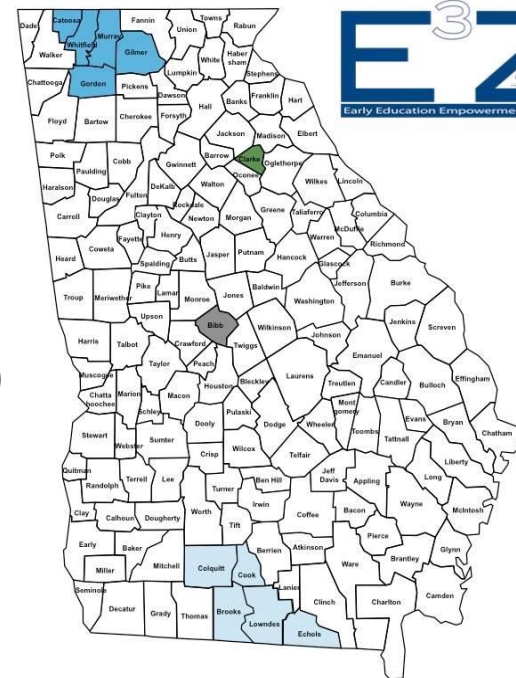
**ATLANTA (August 1, 2016)** – Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) announced today that Harris County is among the top counties in the state in its Quality Rated program where more than 70-percent of all eligible child

**Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**

[www.decalf.ga.gov](http://www.decalf.ga.gov)

# Round Four Child Care Expansion Grants

- **Early Learning Challenge grant supports partnership with Department of Community Affairs to offer child care programs economic development incentives up to \$100,000 to:**
  - Expand a current child care center
  - Open a new child care center
- **The applicant must:**
  - Be a current Quality Rated provider
  - Be located in an Early Education Empowerment Zone (E3Z)
  - Increase the number of infant/toddler spaces by 15% or 10 new slots
- **Funding may be used for:**
  - Teacher salary subsidies
  - Classroom equipment
- **Impact of Rounds One, Two and Three:**
  - Nine child care programs received \$674,213 in grant funds
  - Increased child care capacity by 405
  - Created 52 new jobs
- **Applications for Round Four are due September 16, 2016 and are available at: [www.dca.ga.gov/e3z](http://www.dca.ga.gov/e3z)**





# Update on the Family Engagement Opportunity Grants

- DECAL defines family engagement as:  
*“the shared responsibility of families, schools, early education programs, and communities to actively promote, support, and sustain family wellbeing, healthy child development, strong family-child relationships, and lifelong learning for all children and families.”*

# Update on the Family Engagement Opportunity Grants *(continued)*

- Family Engagement Opportunity Grants made ELC funds available via a competitive grant application in fall 2015 to:
  - Increase the availability and accessibility to quality family engagement programs, activities, and opportunities
  - Provide supplemental educational outlets that promote, encourage, and support community awareness and advocacy
  - Provide access to free, ongoing parent leadership and child development resources in the E3Zs and in metro Atlanta
- Grant recipients had to design opportunities to provide quality family engagement programs to families at least once a month free of charge in at least one of the following focus areas:
  - Advocacy
  - Community Connection
  - Education
  - Health & Safety



# Experience of a Family Engagement Grant Recipient

Joseph Mole  
Emmaus House



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

[www.decal.ga.gov](http://www.decal.ga.gov)

# **MINDFULNESS FOR A GREAT START**

Results of a parenting class innovation funded by a  
DECAL Family Engagement Opportunity Grant



# EMMAUS HOUSE TWO-GENERATION APPROACH

## Family Economic Success

Peoplestown Family Initiative: Intensive Case Management

Emergency Assistance, Georgia ID's, Social Security/Disability benefits, Job Placement, Food Pantry

## Academic Achievement

CDF Freedom Schools® Site

Homework Relief Bootcamp for Parents

Saturday STE(A)M

Youth on the Move

Summers Away

## Social, Emotional and Spiritual Support

A Great Start for Parents & Children

Emmaus House Chapel

Community Supper

Family Trips to Reidsville

Holiday Programs



# A GREAT START FOR PARENTS & CHILDREN: GOALS

- **Goal 1:** Parents/caregivers (and expectant parents) obtain valuable knowledge regarding personal health and learn how parental health affects babies and young children.
- **Goal 2:** Parents/caregivers gain valuable knowledge about child development and key developmental milestones, including an emphasis on protective factors.
- **Goal 3:** Parents/caregivers obtain tools for managing stress in their daily lives.



# THE CHALLENGE

In a recent (2014) Great Start cohort, when asked (pre and post) “How much do you know about handling stress in your life?” 83% of participants reported either “1 - don’t know much” or “2 - I know a little” in a pre-assessment, using a 5-point Likert scale survey.

By the end of the 8-week cohort, 71% still responded in the bottom two options on this question.



# INTRODUCING MINDFULNESS:



## **Frontiers of Innovation Partners:**

- Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students
- Georgia State University
- Harvard's Center on the Developing Child
- Emmaus House

## **Mindfulness Activities:**

- Take 5
- Tuza (breathing practice)
- Body Scan





# RESULTS

- Statistically significant reduction in anxiety ( $d=0.77$ ) and depression ( $d=0.80$ )
- Statistically significant increase in overall mindfulness ( $d=.46$ )
- Cohen's effect size value suggested a moderate to high practical significance of intervention effects.
- Parenting Competency ( $d=-.59$ ) saw a moderate negative effect size.
- How much do you know about handling stress in your life?
  - 74% parents answered "I don't know much" or "I know a little" on a Likert scale pre-test
  - Zero parents responded in bottom two categories on post-test. 100% responded "I know as much as average mom/dad" or "I know more than most"
- Assessment tools:
  - BAI: Beck Anxiety Inventory
  - CES-D: Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale
  - FFMQ-SF: Five Facets of Mindfulness Questionnaire – Short Form
  - PSOC: Parenting Sense of Competency Scale
  - Emmaus House Pre/Post Satisfaction Survey



# IMPLICATIONS



- Introduce mindfulness in 3-4 separate sessions prior to introducing parenting skills instruction
- Consider assessment fatigue
- Integrate age-appropriate mindfulness curriculum in our Freedom Schools summer program and our Youth on the Move after-school program
- Identify funding sources to support this work





# Child Care Services Update

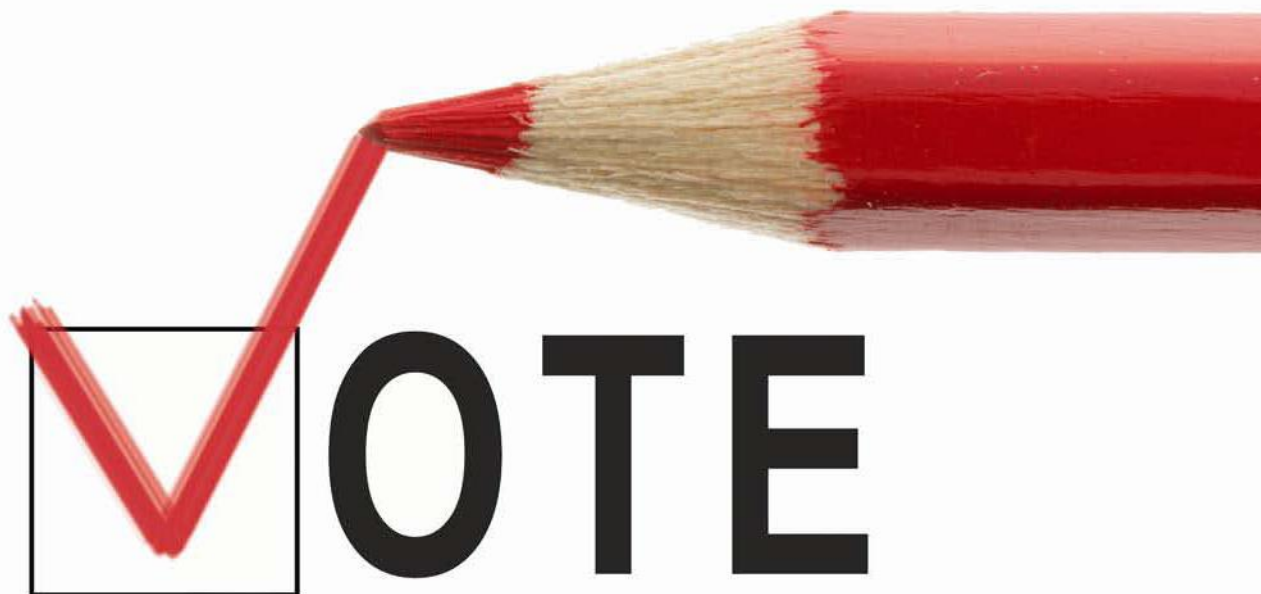
Kristie Lewis  
Assistant Commissioner for Child Care Services



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

[www.decal.ga.gov](http://www.decal.ga.gov)

# Public Hearing & Board Vote on Child Care Rules



# Emergency Preparedness Rules

- Enhances current rules pertaining to disaster preparedness and emergencies for all child care programs by adding additional provisions for:
  - Children with disabilities
  - Infants and toddlers
  - Emergency lock down at a facility
  - Reunification with families
  - Training staff on emergency plans periodically
  - Handling chemical spills
  - Earthquakes, ice storms, flooding, etc.

# Health and Safety Training and Orientation Rules

- **Pre-Service and Orientation Training**
  - Required for all new staff within 90 days of hire
  - Required for existing staff by December 29, 2016
  - Required topics in Health and Safety such as:
    - First Aid and CPR
    - Medication Administration
    - Safe Sleep
    - Building and Premises Safety
    - Child Abuse and Neglect
    - Transportation
- **Request permission to amend Criminal Records**
- **Check rules to align with federal legislation**

# Exemption Visit Project Update

- Collect health & safety information for exemption categories at select sites
- Visit exempt programs for CCDF monitoring
  - Government-owned/operated & Day Camps receiving CAPS funding
- Verify program operation at select exemption sites





Category	Count of Programs	Sampling %	N from %
EX-7	947	10%	95
EX-1	728	10%	73
EX-6	530	12%	64
EX-5	436	12%	52
EX-8	185	30%	56
EX-9	145	30%	44
EX-12	134	30%	40
EX-10	122	30%	37
EX-14	70	50%	35
EX-11	35	50%	18
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3332</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>514</b>



# Launch of New Enforcement and Compliance System





# Georgia's Pre-K Program & Instructional Supports Update

Susan Adams

Assistant Commissioner for Pre-K & Instructional Supports



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

[www.dec.state.ga.us](http://www.dec.state.ga.us)

# 2016-2017 School Year

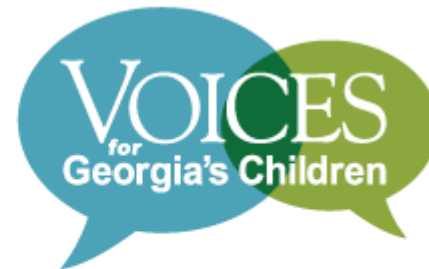


- % of 4 year olds served: 60%
- Slots: 84,000
- Classes: Approximately 3,900
- Waiting List:
  - Approximately 5,000
- Cost per child:
  - Approximately \$4,260



# Georgia's Pre-K Week 2016

- October 3-7, 2016
- DECAL board members invited to visit Georgia Pre-K classrooms in your communities to build public commitment for early learning.
  - Contact Meghan McNail to schedule a visit – [Meghan.mcnail@decals.ga.gov](mailto:Meghan.mcnail@decals.ga.gov)



# Pre-K Teachers of the Year – Finalists



**Tonya Freeman**



**Kelly Harris**



**Connie Ellington**



**Stacy Tidwell**



**Channie Frazier**



**Rondrikus Fletcher**

# Pre-K Teachers of the Year



- 6 Finalists
  - Interview
  - CLASS observation
  - Videotaped lesson
- 2 Winners – 1 public/ 1 private
  - Will be announced September 27, 2016
  - \$2,500 award per winner; \$1,500 per classroom



# Quality Rated Inclusion Endorsement

- Voluntary endorsement for 2 and 3 star rated child care centers
- Highlights programs committed to providing high quality inclusive environments for young children with disabilities
- Up to nine months of TA provided to directors
- Programs earn Inclusion Endorsement by scoring a program overall average of five or greater on the Inclusive Classroom Profile
- Programs that earn Inclusion Endorsement receive grant package that includes professional memberships, publications, and equipment

# Sites with Inclusion Endorsement



- D. Scott Hudgens Jr. Early Learning Center, December 2015
- Central Georgia Technical College CDC (Warner Robins), April 2016
- Lifespan Montessori of Athens, May 2016
- Appletree - ABC Preschool, August 2016



# DECAL's Inclusive Early Learning Week September 19-24, 2016

## Goals:

- Increase awareness
- Celebrate success
- Strengthen supports

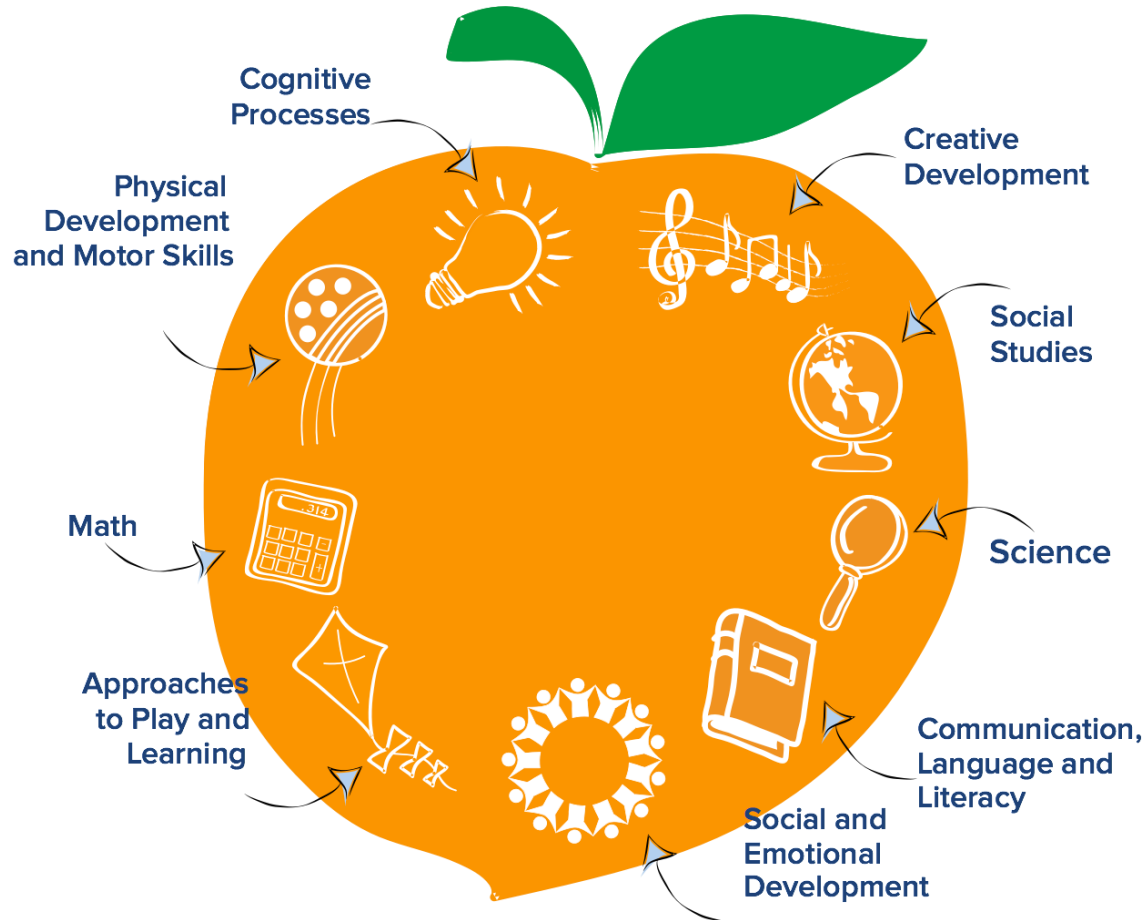
## Highlights will include:

- Visits to QRi sites by Commissioner Jacobs and CALi
- Stakeholder tours of QRi sites
- GAYC sessions, activities, and appearances by CALi
- Provider celebration kits



# PEACH

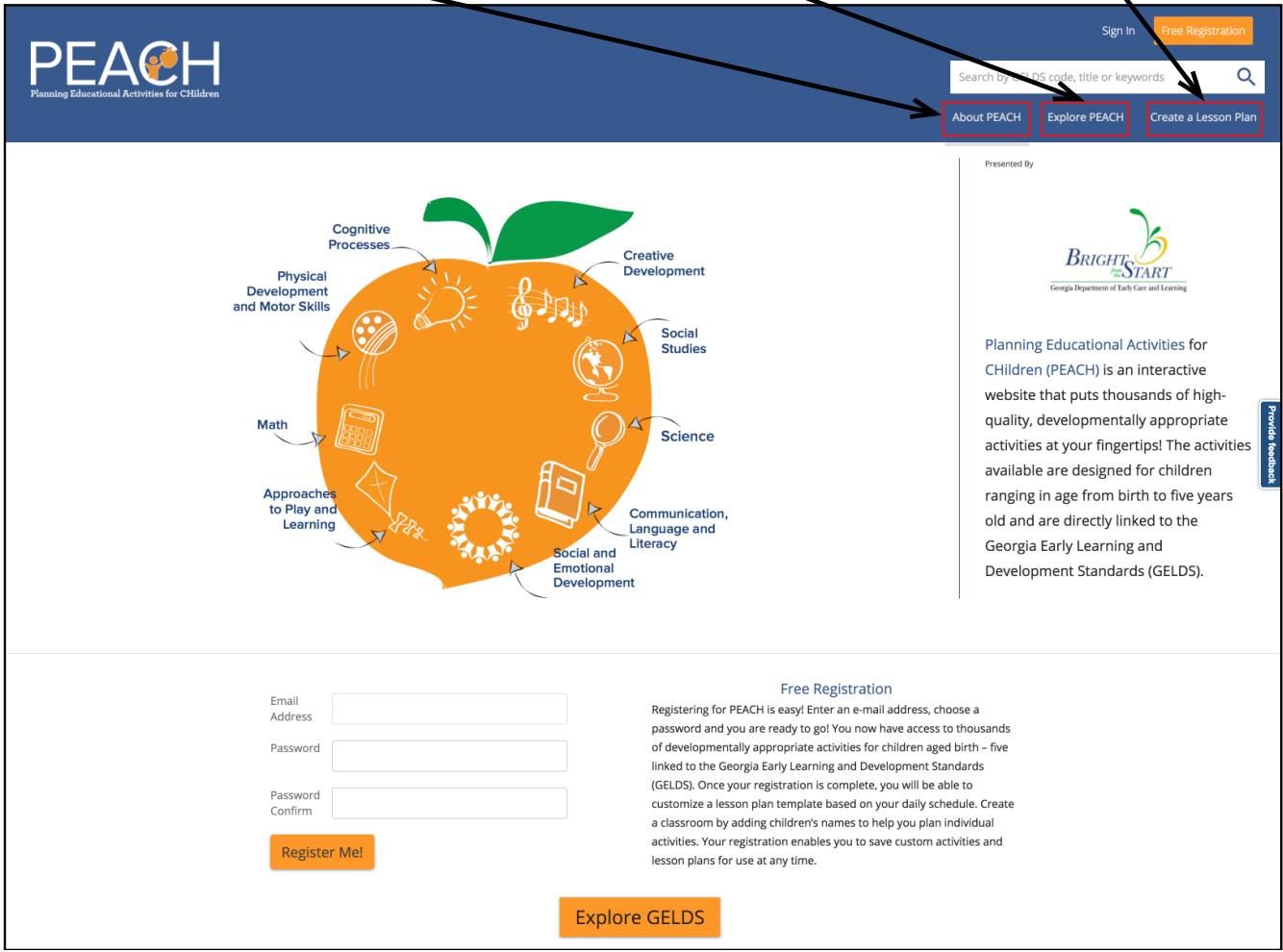
## (Planning Educational Activities for Children)



Learn about what teachers can do using PEACH

Explore the activities using the search and filter features

Begin creating a lesson plan, but you must log in or register to save




**PEACH**  
Planning Educational Activities for CHildren

Sign In [Free Registration](#)

Search by GELDS code, title or keywords

[About PEACH](#) [Explore PEACH](#) [Create a Lesson Plan](#)

Presented By



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Planning Educational Activities for CHildren (PEACH) is an interactive website that puts thousands of high-quality, developmentally appropriate activities at your fingertips! The activities available are designed for children ranging in age from birth to five years old and are directly linked to the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS).

*Provide feedback*

**Free Registration**

Registering for PEACH is easy! Enter an e-mail address, choose a password and you are ready to go! You now have access to thousands of developmentally appropriate activities for children aged birth - five linked to the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS). Once your registration is complete, you will be able to customize a lesson plan template based on your daily schedule. Create a classroom by adding children's names to help you plan individual activities. Your registration enables you to save custom activities and lesson plans for use at any time.

Email Address

Password

Password Confirm

[Register Me!](#)

[Explore GELDS](#)

**PEACH** categories:

- Cognitive Processes
- Physical Development and Motor Skills
- Math
- Approaches to Play and Learning
- Creative Development
- Social Studies
- Science
- Communication, Language and Literacy
- Social and Emotional Development

# GELDS Family Engagement Tools



# Lunch

*(Pick up in Entry Area)*

## Committee Meetings

*Programs – Hickory*

*Budget/Finance – Willow*

*System Reform – Cypress*

(The public is welcome to attend/observe committee meetings but may not participate in the committee's discussion.)

# Committee Reports

- Budget/Finance – Carlene Talton
- Programs – Jerri Kropp
- System Reform – Susan Harper

# Finance Committee – Budget Request

Department of Early Care and Learning	Current FY17 Budget**	Proposed AFY17 Budget	Proposed FY18 Budget
<b>BY PROGRAMS</b>			
Child Care Services	\$259,615,326	\$259,615,326	\$259,615,326
Pre-K + (HS)	\$358,021,380	\$358,021,380	\$358,021,380
Quality Initiatives	\$37,512,775	\$37,512,775	\$37,512,775
Nutrition	\$148,000,000	\$148,000,000	\$148,000,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$803,149,481</b>	<b>\$803,149,481</b>	<b>\$803,149,481</b>

<b>BY FUNDING SOURCE</b>			
State General	\$55,569,342	\$55,569,342	\$55,569,342
State Lottery	\$357,846,380	\$357,846,380	\$357,846,380
Federal	\$389,573,759	\$389,573,759	\$389,573,759
Other	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$160,000
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$803,149,481</b>	<b>\$803,149,481</b>	<b>\$803,149,481</b>

\*\*FY17 budget as of Amendment 2

# Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

# Public Hearing

August 18, 2016



# Board Action on:

## ***Rules and Regulations for Family Child Care Learning Homes, Rule Chapter 290-2-3***

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 290-2-3-.04*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 290-2-3-.07*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 290-2-3-.08*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 290-2-3-.11*

# Board Action on:

## ***Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers, Rule Chapter 591-1-1***

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 591-1-1-.14*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 591-1-1-.21*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 591-1-1-.27*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 591-1-1-.31*

*Proposed Amendment of Rule 591-1-1-.33*

## Remaining Board Meeting Date 2016

November 10, 2016

## Proposed Board Meeting Dates 2017

February 16, 2017

May 11, 2017

August 17, 2017

November 16, 2017