



Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

May 10, 2018



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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

www.decal.ga.gov

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approve **5-10-18** agenda
- Approve **2-5-18** minutes



Inspiration

Victor Morgan



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Board Member Updates

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



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Finance, Legislative, & Administration Update

Ray Higgins

Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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Finance Updates- SFY 2018 Summary

Data as of Mar. 31st	Budget	Expenditures*	Remaining Balance	% Remaining
BY PROGRAMS				
Child Care Services	\$268,460,055	\$176,267,239	\$92,192,816	34%
Pre-K + (HS)	\$365,037,613	\$282,517,148	\$82,520,465	23%
Quality Initiatives	\$51,612,775	\$41,716,257	\$9,896,518	19%
Nutrition	\$148,000,000	\$103,573,594	\$44,426,406	30%
Total Expenditures	\$833,110,443	\$604,074,238	\$229,036,205	27%

BY FUNDING SOURCE				
State General	\$61,472,071	\$29,048,960	\$32,423,111	53%
State Lottery	\$364,845,613	\$282,366,066	\$82,479,548	23%
Federal	\$404,473,759	\$291,224,337	\$113,249,422	28%
Other	\$2,319,000	\$1,434,875	\$884,125	38%
Total Expenditures	\$833,110,443	\$604,074,238	\$229,036,205	27%

* Includes encumbrances.

Under the Gold Dome: Highlights from the Georgia General Assembly



House Bill 494-DECAL Legislation Passes

- The primary purpose of this legislation is to make adjustments made necessary by recent changes in federal law. Also, several misdemeanors involving minors and other offenses were added to the covered crimes section and hearsay statements in emergency temporary administrative hearings are now admissible.
- House Vote: 170-1 on February 28, 2018
- Senate Vote: 51-0 (Passed by Substitute) on March 21, 2018
- House Vote: 163-0 (Agreed to Senate Substitute) on March 29, 2018
- Transmitted to Governor on April 5, 2018

Under the Gold Dome: Highlights from the Georgia General Assembly

Bills of interest to DECAL that passed

- **HB 684:** “The Big Budget” State Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019
- **HB 740:** Requires local school systems to conduct a multi-tiered system of supports, such as response to intervention, for a student in pre-school through third grade prior to expelling or suspending for five or more consecutive or cumulative days.
- **HB 763:** Expands the student attendance protocol committees to assess school climate as well.
- **HB 844:** It creates a multiagency task force to establish a system of collaborative governance responsible for making recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor regarding improvements to the state-wide system of developmental and educational services that support age-appropriate language and literacy proficiency for children who are deaf or hard of hearing from birth to third grade.
- **SB 336:** Allows the Georgia Crime Information Center to retain fingerprints of certain individuals under certain circumstances and submit such fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation relating to social services. This bill only includes DCH, DECAL, DBHDD and DHS.

Other bills of interest that passed

- **HB 159:** Substantially revises general provisions applicable to adoptions.
- **HB 673:** Prohibits driving while conducting wireless communication without using a hands-free accessory.
- **HB 930:** Transit expansion



Transition Update and Introductions

Rian Ringsrud
Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration



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New DECAL Directors

- Tamika Boone, Director of Eligibility Services-
Nutrition
- Sonja Adams, Director of Provider Services –
Nutrition
- Ben Appling, Director of Audits and Compliance



Federal Programs Update

Elisabetta Kasfir
Assistant Commissioner for Federal Programs



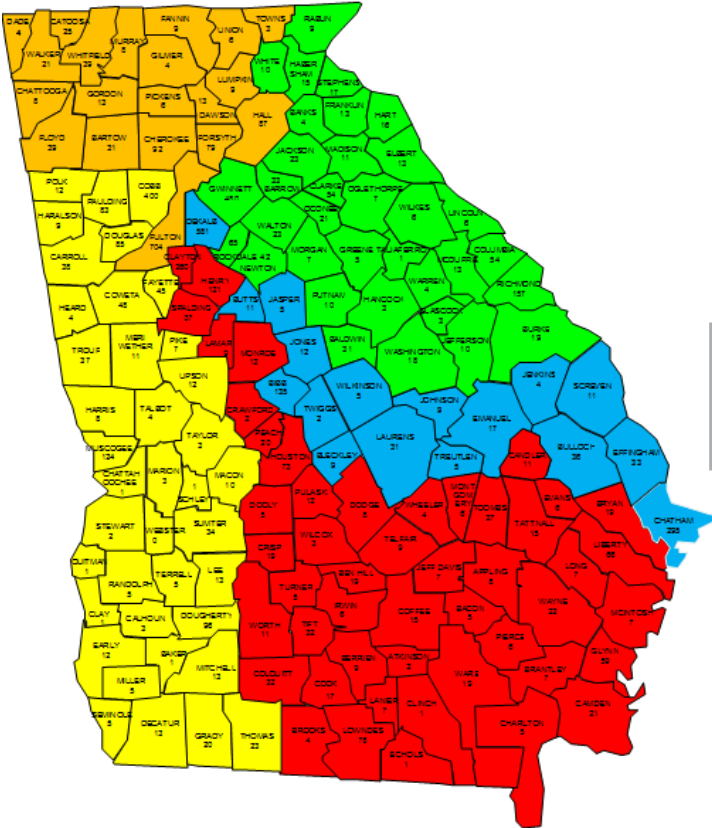
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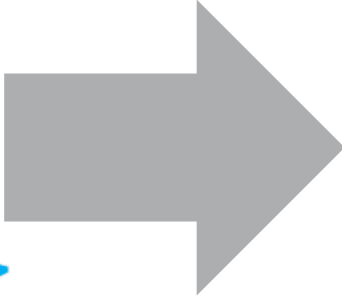
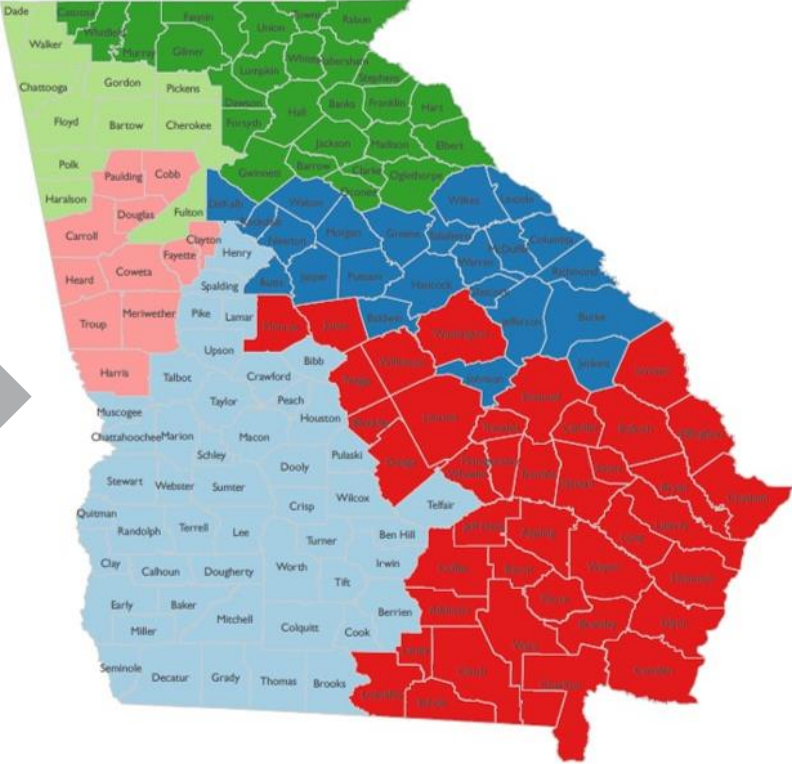
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CAPS realignment with new DECAL service regions

CURRENT 5 REGIONS



NEW 6 REGIONS



CAPS Family Fee Changes



What will change?

- 15 % Quality Rated discount
- Family fee is divided across scholarships when there are multiple children in a family
- Family fee calculation

When will changes happen?

July 2018

- 15% Quality Rated discount
- Family fee is divided across scholarships when there are multiple children in a family

September 2018

- Family fee calculation

Quality Rated Discount

- Families enrolled at a provider with 1, 2, or 3 stars in Quality Rated will receive a **15%** discount on their family fee.
- Incentive for families to **choose quality**.
- Tiered reimbursement will remain in effect as a provider benefit.



Distribution of Family Fee – multiple children

- Family fee will be **evenly divided** among all children’s scholarships within a family.
 - Will no longer “cascade” from youngest child first.
- Enables Quality Rated discount to apply only to children at Quality Rated providers.

Goals of New CAPS Family Fee Calculation

- Better align with federal requirements
- **Simplify** the family fee calculation
- Uses family **income** as foundation

Current CAPS Family Fee Chart

Income Range	Children in Care					
	1	2	3	4	5	6+
<i>Percent of Annual Income</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>16%</i>
\$0 - \$3,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$3,601 - \$6,000	\$9	\$12	\$14	\$16	\$17	\$18
\$6,001 - \$9,600	\$15	\$18	\$22	\$26	\$28	\$30
\$9,601 - \$12,000	\$18	\$23	\$28	\$32	\$35	\$37
\$12,001 - \$14,400	\$22	\$28	\$33	\$39	\$42	\$44
\$14,401 - \$16,800	\$26	\$32	\$39	\$45	\$48	\$52
\$16,801 - \$19,200	\$30	\$37	\$44	\$52	\$55	\$59
\$19,201 - \$21,600	\$33	\$42	\$50	\$58	\$62	\$66
\$21,601 - \$24,000	\$37	\$46	\$55	\$65	\$69	\$74
\$24,001 - \$26,400	\$41	\$51	\$61	\$71	\$76	\$81
\$26,401 - \$28,800	\$44	\$55	\$66	\$78	\$83	\$89
\$28,801 - \$31,300	\$48	\$60	\$72	\$84	\$90	\$96
\$31,301 - \$33,600	\$52	\$65	\$78	\$90	\$97	\$103
\$33,601 - \$36,000	\$55	\$69	\$83	\$97	\$104	\$111
\$36,001 - \$42,000	\$65	\$81	\$97	\$113	\$121	\$129
\$42,001 - \$48,000	\$74	\$92	\$111	\$129	\$138	\$148
\$48,001 - \$50,000	\$77	\$96	\$115	\$135	\$144	\$154
\$50,001 - \$55,000	\$85	\$106	\$127	\$148	\$159	\$169
\$55,001 - \$60,000	\$92	\$115	\$138	\$162	\$173	\$185
\$60,001 - \$65,000	\$100	\$125	\$150	\$175	\$188	\$200
\$65,001 - \$72,000	\$111	\$138	\$166	\$194	\$208	\$222
\$72,001 - \$76,000	\$117	\$146	\$175	\$205	\$219	\$234
\$76,001 - \$82,000	\$126	\$152*	\$189	\$220	\$252^	\$284*
\$82,001 - \$88,000	\$135	\$169	\$203	\$236	\$271^	\$305*
\$88,001 - \$94,000	\$145	\$181	\$217	\$253	\$289^	\$325*
\$94,001 - \$100,000	\$153	\$192	\$231	\$269	\$307^	\$346*

Current Federal Poverty Levels

Family size	2018 federal poverty guideline (FPL)
1	\$12,140
2	\$16,460
3	\$20,780
4	\$25,100
5	\$29,420
6	\$33,740
7	\$38,060
8	\$42,380
more than 8	add \$4,320 per person

New family fee calculation

FPL %	% of Income
0 – 10%	0% (no fee)
>10 – 50%	7%
>50 – 100%	11%
>100%	11%

Key points for new family fee

- Based on **FPL**, not income ranges
- Number of children in care is **not a factor**.
- Calculated as **% of income**
 - Maximum families can be assessed is **11%** of income.
- Still waived for the **same groups**
- Still recalculated when eligibility is run (initial eligibility, changes, and redetermination)
 - Can only go *down*, not up, during the 12-month eligibility period
- For **existing** CAPS families, Gateway will run the old method *and* the new method and apply whichever result is **more beneficial** for the family.

Addition of the Associates degree

- Enrollment in an Associates degree program will be added as an approved activity for families applying for and receiving CAPS
- Three year parameter for how long an AA degree may be used as the approved activity
- Becomes effective **July 2018**
- Supports our work toward two-generational strategies and collaboration with the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG)

Collaboration with Higher Education Agencies

- DECAL, Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) and University System of Georgia (USG) will hold a meeting in **July 2018**
- Meeting will include:
 - CAPS Family Support Consultants
 - TCSG Navigators, Special Populations Coordinators, and Adult Education Coordinators
 - USG Adult Education Coordinators
- Purpose of the meeting:
 - **build relationships** and **collaboration** among these groups
 - build the foundation for our two-generational work in the future



Georgia Foundation for Early Care + Learning Update

Carrie Ashbee
Executive Director



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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Introducing...



Sarah Tinsley

Foundation Advancement and Donor Relations Coordinator



www.gaearyed.org

\$ 650,000.00



Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation



Board of Directors



Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs
Chairman
GA Foundation for Early Care + Learning



Mrs. Ann Cramer
Senior Consultant
Coxe Curry & Associates



Mrs. Sister Ward
Director, Government Relations
Georgia Power



Rep. Katie Dempsey
Chairman, Appropriations: HR
Georgia General Assembly



Mr. Brandon Reese
Executive Director
WellStar Health System



Mr. Coy Bowles
Singer/Songwriter/Author
The Zac Brown Band



Mrs. Gretchen Corbin
President & CEO
Georgia Lottery Corporation



Mrs. Katie Childers
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Governor



Mrs. Stephanie Blank
Founder
Naserian Foundation

PICNIC UNDER THE PINES: A SINGER SONGWRITER SERIES

benefiting

Georgia Foundation for Early Care + Learning

Georgia Forestry Foundation

Saturday, OCTOBER 13, 2018

Charlene Plantation

Home of Rose Lane and Chuck Leavell

FEATURING: Skeet Shooting // Nature Excursions // Reading Retreat // Live Music // Southern Menu



Georgia's Pre-K Program & Instructional Supports Update

Susan Adams

Assistant Commissioner of Pre-K and Instructional Supports



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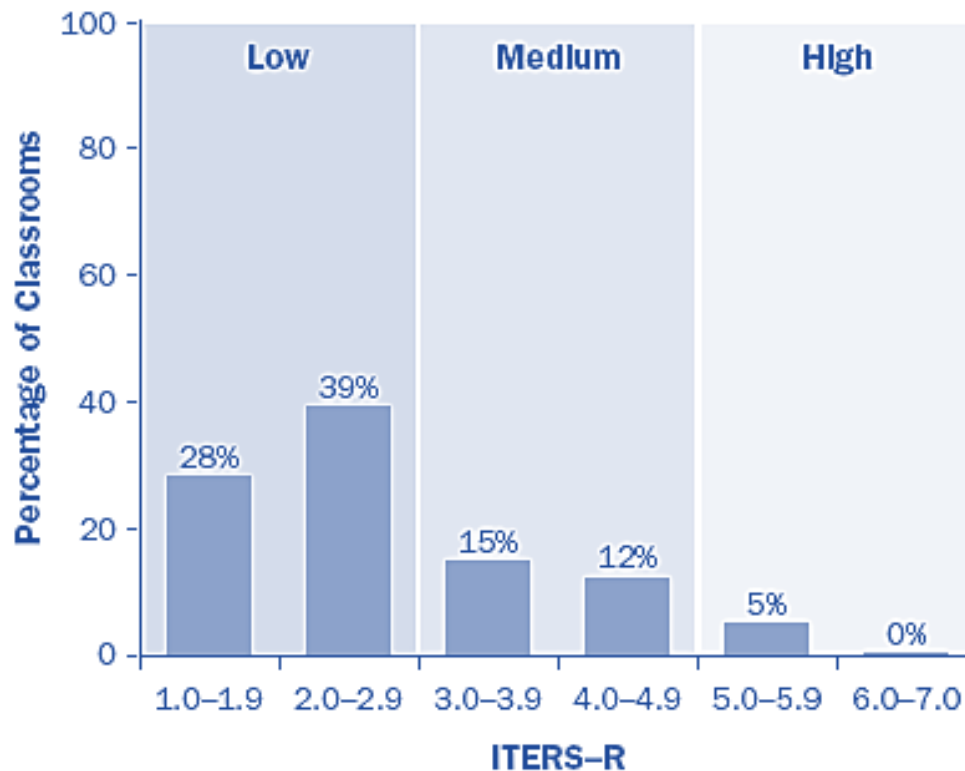
www.dec.state.ga.us

Challenges in Infant Toddler Care

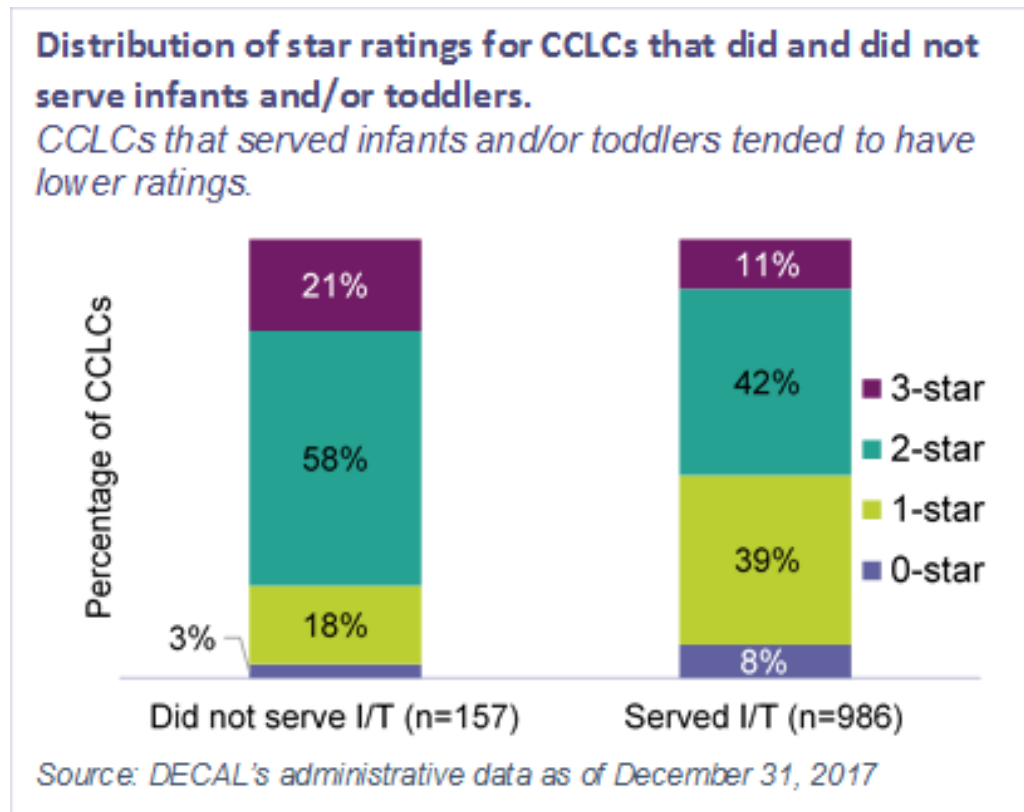
- Affordability
- Access
- Workforce
 - Low Wages
 - High Turnover
- Quality



2009 Georgia Quality Study found that two-thirds of Infant and Toddler Classrooms were rated “low quality.”



Quality Rated Validation Study found that centers serving infants and toddlers have lower quality.



Early Language and Literacy Grants



- Classroom grants focused on professional development
- Funds a Teacher Leader to build internal program capacity
- Onsite coaching by DECAL Infant Toddler Specialist

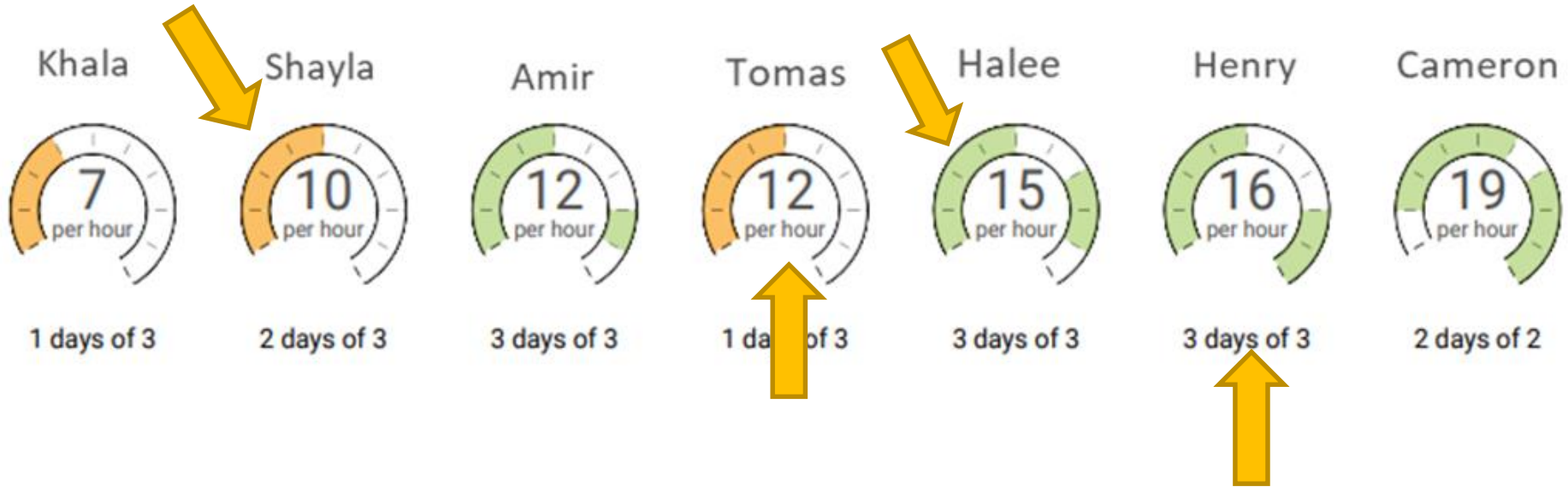
Data and Evaluation

- Data Collection
 - CLASS observation
 - LENA recording reports
 - Interviews and Surveys
 - TA Plan and Visit Notes
- Evaluations
 - Conducted in partnership with GOSA and Child Trends
 - Reports
 - Case Studies



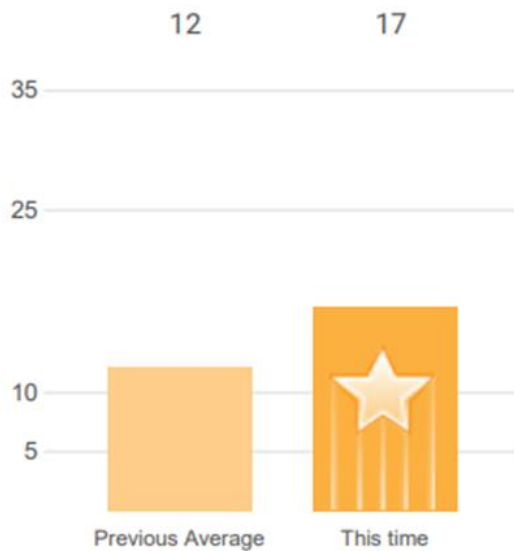
Sample LENA Reports Child Level

Child Level Interactive Talk Clocks

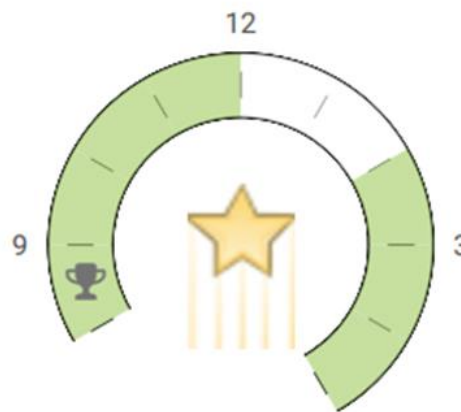


Sample LENA Reports Classroom Level

Conversational Turns per Hour

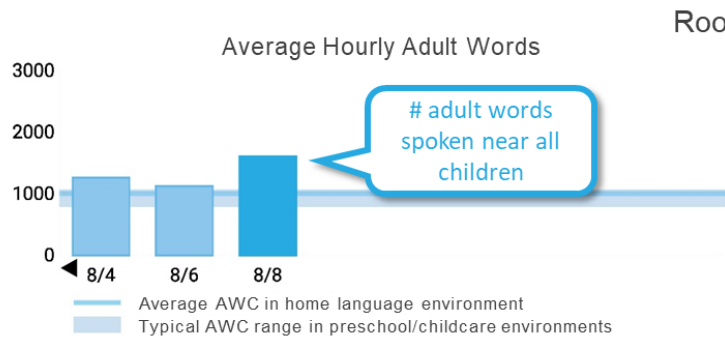


Interactive Talk Clock

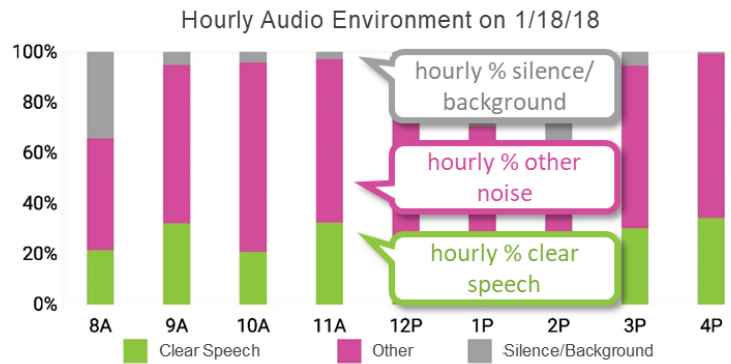
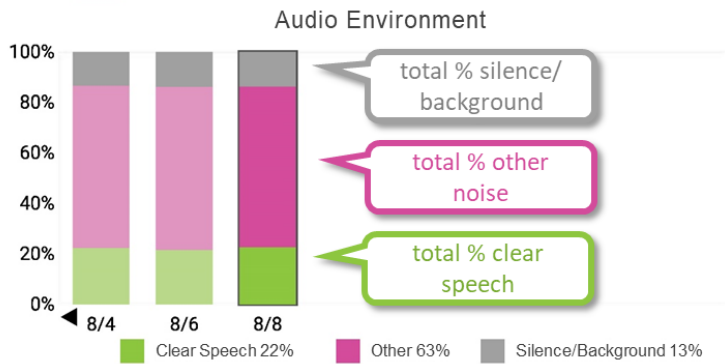
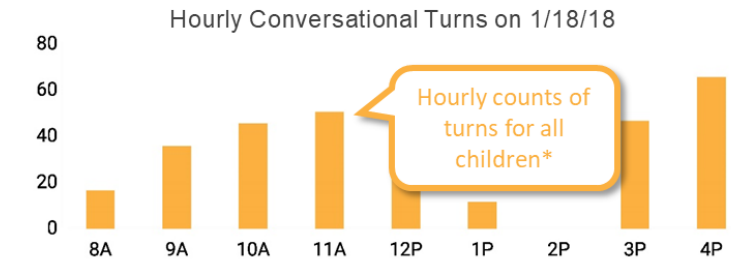
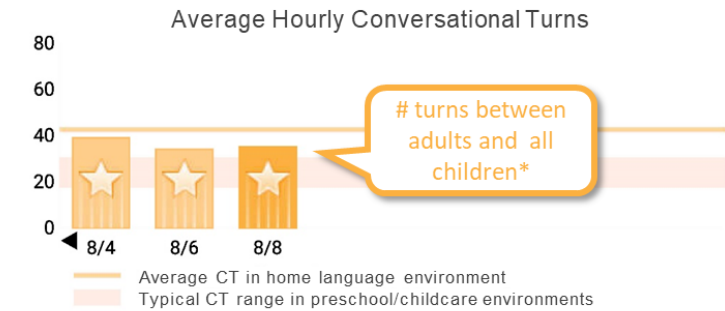
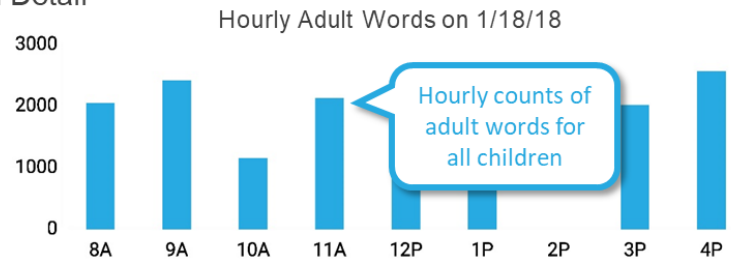


Total Stars Earned

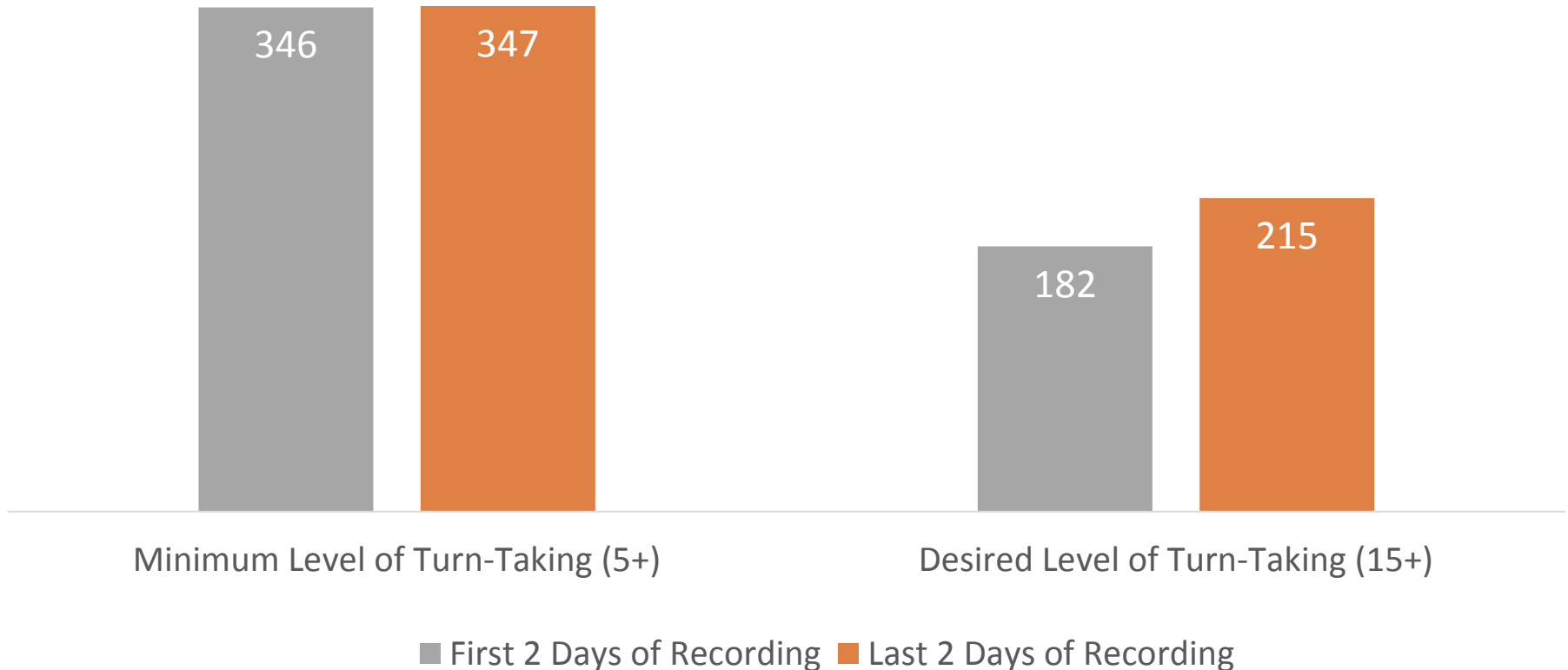




Room Detail



61 % Percent of Children (N=354) Experienced the Desired LENA Level of Turn-Taking



Next Steps



- 2019 Grants
 - Continuation
 - New and Expansion
- Partnerships
 - Governor's Office of Student Achievement
 - Sandra Dunagan Deal GA Center for Early Language and Literacy

Questions & Comments from Board





Infant/Toddler Early Language Literacy Grant Update

Dr. Sharona Fountain
Director of The Learning Station



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THE LEARNING STATION

INFANTS AND TODDLERS

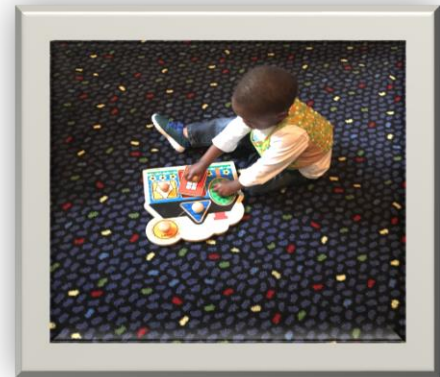
Early Language Literacy Grant



Quality infant care is centered on relationships. Young children learn and grow in the context of secure, trusting relationships with caring adults.

Active Ingredient Human Relationships





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

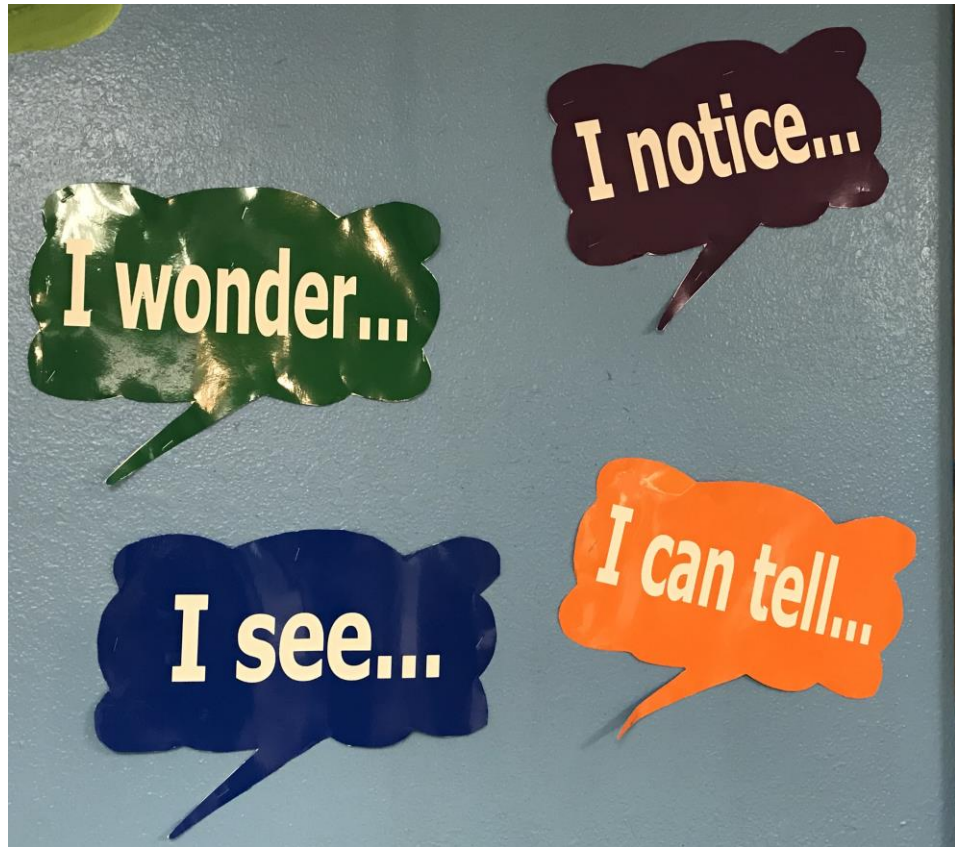
- Weekly Coaching Sessions
- PLC (Professional Learning Communities)
- Institute Trainings
- Rollins Center



Intentional Talking and Simple Interactions



Teachers
must
TUNE IN!



LENA GROW

Lena Grow provides an innovative approach to increasing interactive talk in an early learning program through professional development.





BENEFITS

- Classroom Equipment and Supplies
- Teacher Leader
- Professional Development for Teachers
- Building an Infant and Toddler Network of Professionals
- Helping our center maintain Quality

WE ARE THE
BRIDGE TO
THE CHILDREN
AND TO THE
PARENTS!



BREAK
(10 minutes)



Commissioner's Update

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner



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2018-2019 Pre-K TOTY

- Applications:
 - Applications reviewed and scored by outside readers:
 - 40 applications received
 - School system: 19 applications
 - Private providers: 21 applications
- Finalists:
 - 6 total finalists; 3 for each program type
 - Participate in additional activities including interview and classroom observation in August 2018

2018-2019 Pre-K TOTY Finalists – Public



- 1 – Becky Thomas-Haden, Mulberry Creek Elementary School, Harris County
- 2 - Kiley Bosworth, Hilltop Elementary School, Houston County
- 3 – Cindy Tahler, Naomi Elementary School, Walker County

2018-2019 Pre-K TOTY Finalists – Private



- 1 – Ashley Stewart, Kids R Kids #28, Fulton County
- 2 – Stephanie Weshافر, Georgia Kids Academy, Jackson County
- 3 – Rickia Jordan, The Sheltering Arms, Gwinnett County

2018-2019 Pre-K TOTY Next Steps

- **Winners:**
 - One winner for each program type; public/ private
 - Announced in September 2018
 - Prizes include individual cash awards and classroom supplies and materials
- Pre-K Teacher of the Year will represent the program throughout the 2018-2019 school year.

2018 Summer Camp Campaigns

- Partnership with Quality Care for Children to help parents find summer camps and child care programs for the summer
- Promoting www.qualityrated.org and 1-877-ALL-GA-KIDS
- Produced advertising for print, broadcast, and social media
- Purchased TV airtime in Albany, Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Macon, Savannah
- Georgia News Network (136 stations statewide) is donating airtime through June
- Media coverage in Atlanta, Savannah, Macon, Albany, Georgia News Network
- Print ads in Parent Publications/Online in Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Savannah



Summer Camps PSA

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPA4XwF3-00>



2018 Look Again Event

- Governor Nathan Deal and First Lady Sandra Deal
- Tuesday, May 29, 2018, 10:30 AM
- State Capitol, North Wing

New Look Again Logo

LOOK AGAIN
GA • USA



NEVER LEAVE A CHILD
ALONE IN A VEHICLE

WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV



Child Care Services Update

Kristie Lewis
Assistant Commissioner of Child Care Services



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FY '18 Statistics

Between July 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018

- Total of 11,005 visits to licensed facilities
- Total of 352 visits to exempt facilities and informal caregivers



FY '18 Statistics (continued)

- Types of visits conducted included, but was not limited to:
 - 3,954 Monitoring visits
 - 4,120 Licensing studies
 - 1,193 Complaint related visits
 - 949 Technical assistance visits
 - 195 Incident investigations
 - 273 Amendment visits
 - 321 POI Follow up visit

 - 287 Exempt Monitoring visits
 - 65 Informal Monitoring visits

FY '18 Compliance Statistics

- As of April 30th – 4,667 licensed providers

Facility Type	Good Standing	%	Support	%	Deficient	%
CCLC	3,015	97.99%	43	1.40%	9	0.29%
FCCLH	1,579	99.31%	10	0.63%	1	0.06%
Total	4,594	98.44%	53	1.14%	10	0.21%

*Remaining 10 providers do not have a current compliance zone (i.e. permit or temporary license)



Child Care and Development Fund State Plan

Ira Sudman
Chief Legal Officer



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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CCDF Plan Organizational Categories

1. Define CCDF Leadership and Coordination with Relevant Systems
2. Promote Family Engagement Through Outreach and Consumer Education
3. Provide Stable Child Care Financial Assistance to Families
4. Ensure Equal Access to Child Care for Low-Income Families

CCDF Plan Organizational Categories- continued

5. Establish Standards and Monitoring Processes to Ensure the Health and Safety of Child Care Settings
6. Recruit and Retain a Qualified and Effective Child Care Workforce
7. Support Continuous Quality Improvement
8. Ensure Grantee Accountability

Timeline for CCDF State Plan



CCDF Public Hearings

Atlanta

- **Saturday, 5/19/18** – 10 a.m.
- Quality Care for Children
- 2751 Buford Hwy. NE, Atlanta

Albany

- **Tuesday, 5/22/18** – 7 p.m.
- CCR&R of SW Georgia-Albany State University
- 2400 Gillionville Rd., Albany

Savannah

- **Wednesday, 5/23/18** – 6:30 p.m.
- Savannah Technical College – Auditorium
- 190 Crossroads Pkwy., Savannah

Proposed Plan/ Comments

- Proposed plan posted on DECAL website at:
<http://www.decals.ga.gov/BftS/CCDFPlan.aspx>
- Public comments can e-mailed to:
CCDFstateplan@decals.ga.gov



System Reform Update

Kristin Bernhard
Deputy Commissioner of System Reform



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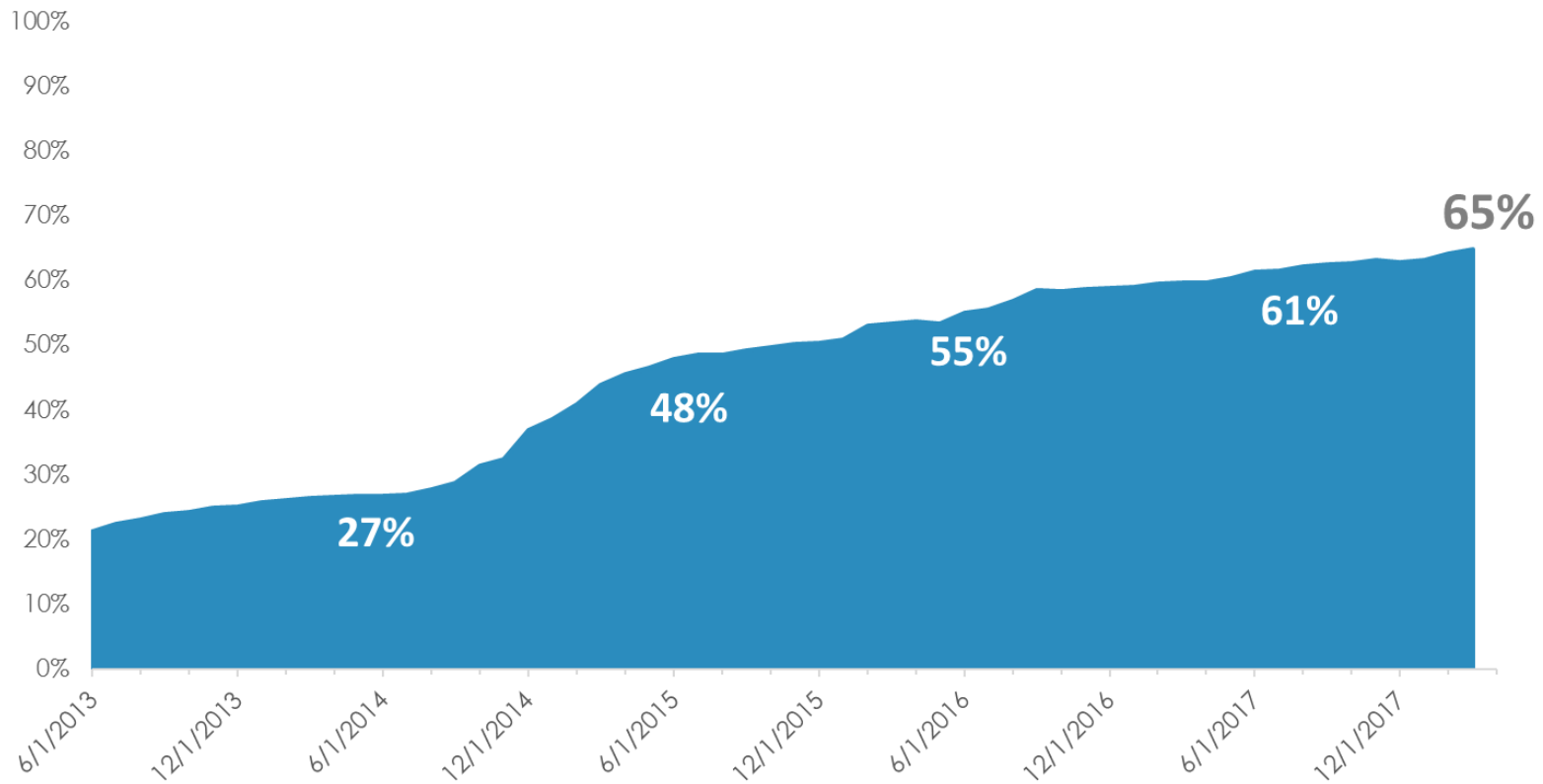
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As of
April 2, 2018...

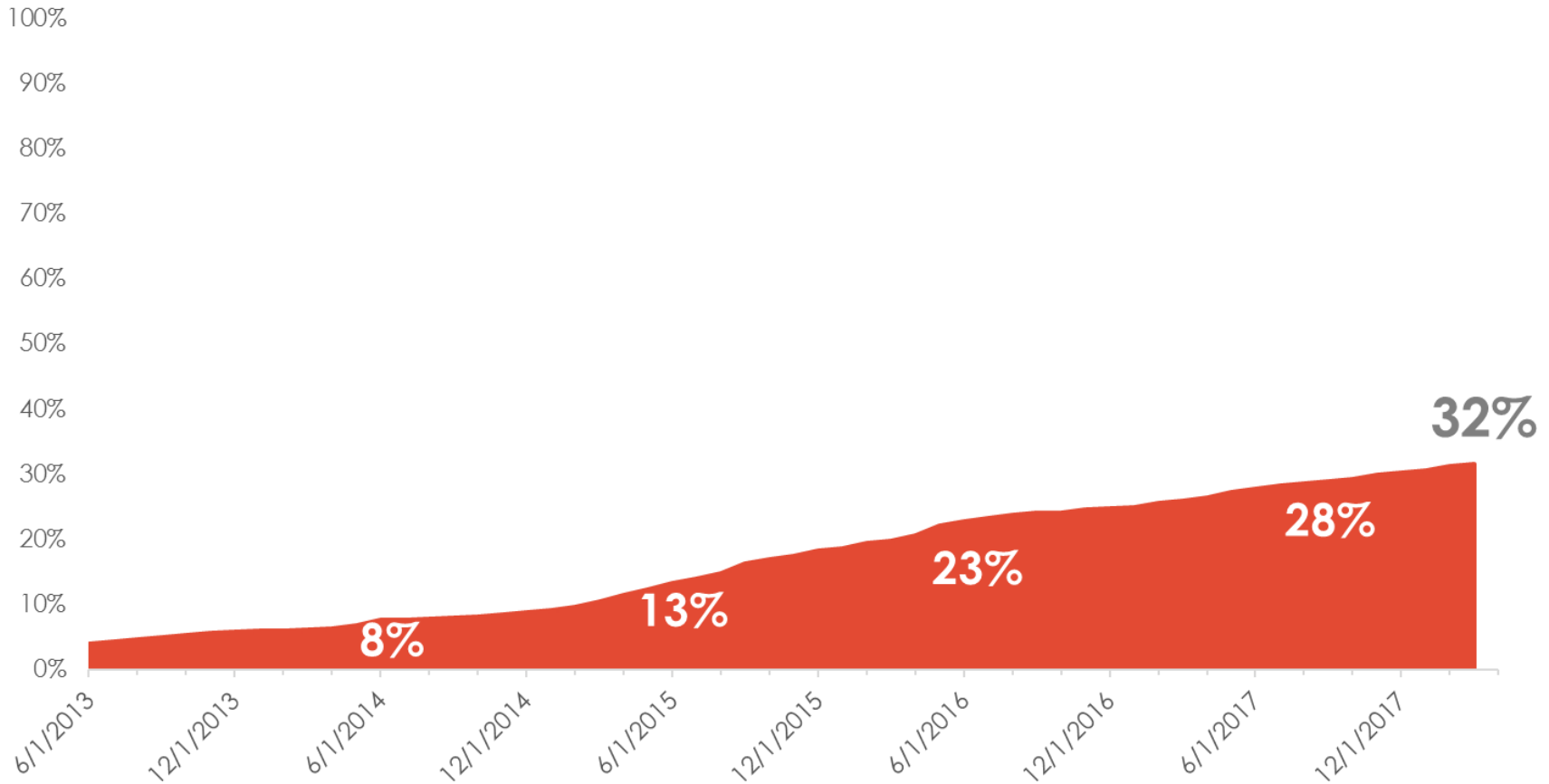


	Participating	Rated (1-3 stars)
Licensed Family Homes	51%	25%
Licensed Centers	73%	35%
All Eligible Programs	65%	32%

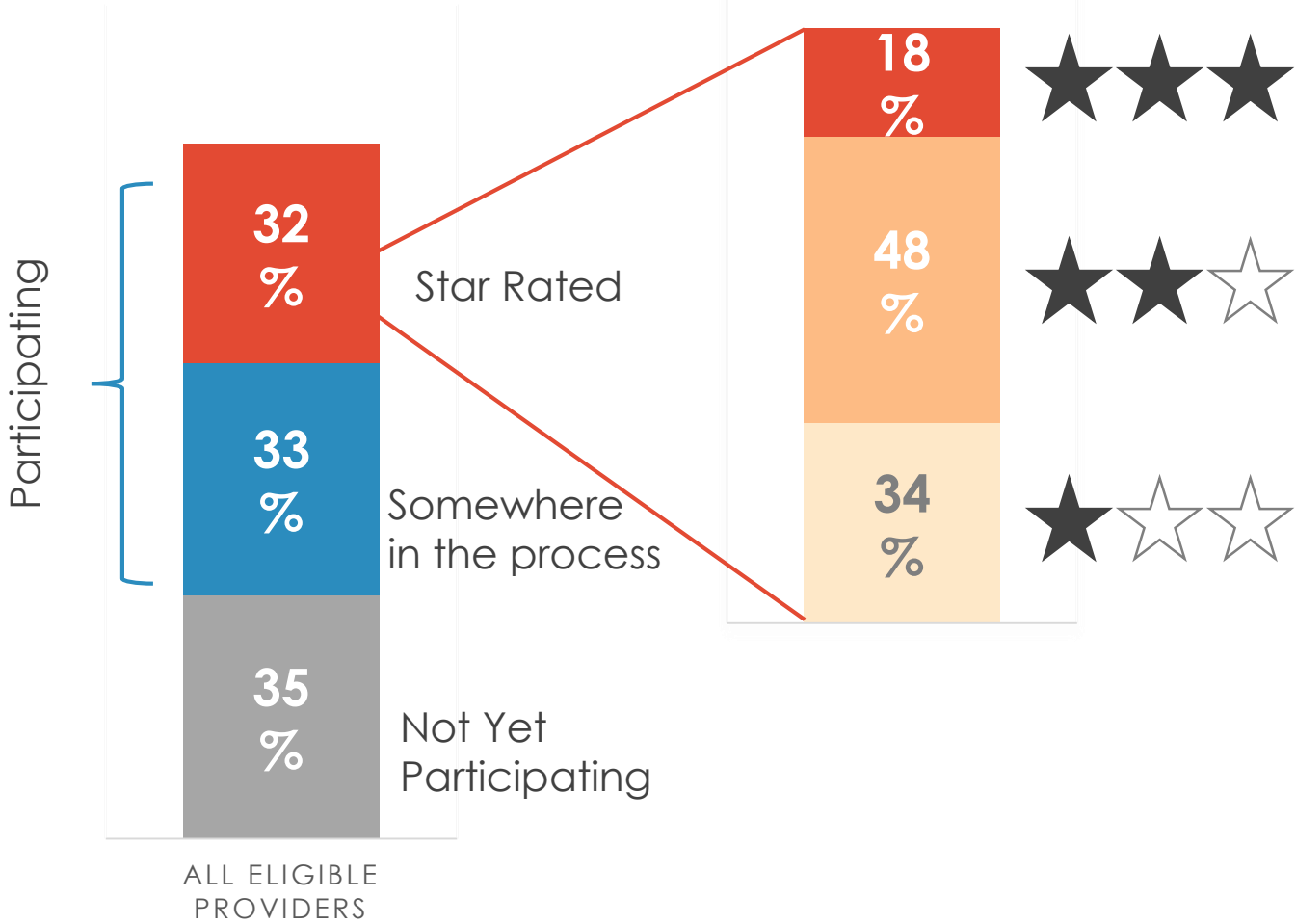
65% of eligible programs are currently Participating in Quality Rated.



32% of eligible programs are currently Quality Rated.



Of the 4,827 Eligible programs in Georgia, 1,525 are Star Rated.





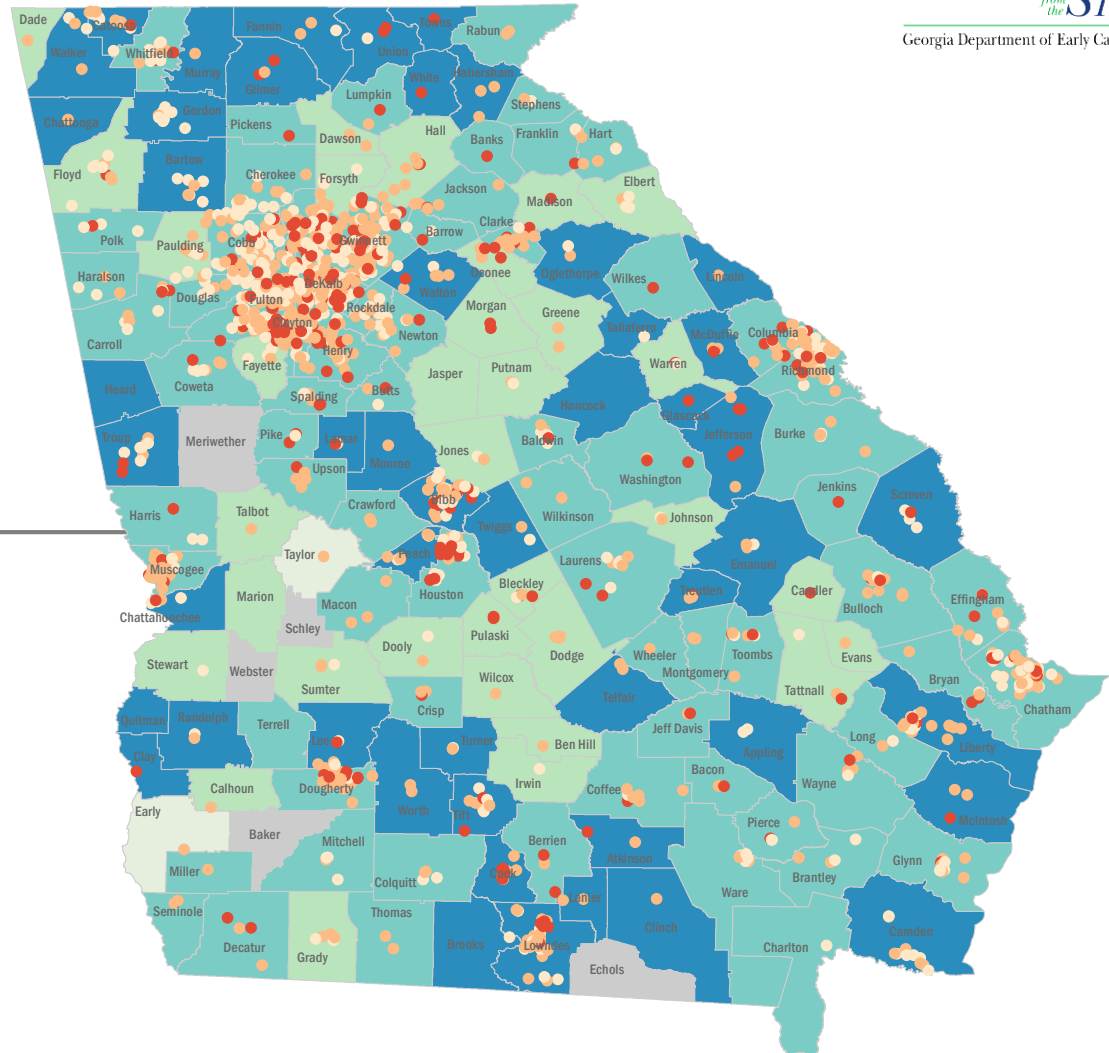
April 2, 2018
Rated Facilities & County
Participation Rates

Quality Rating
(count of facilities rated)

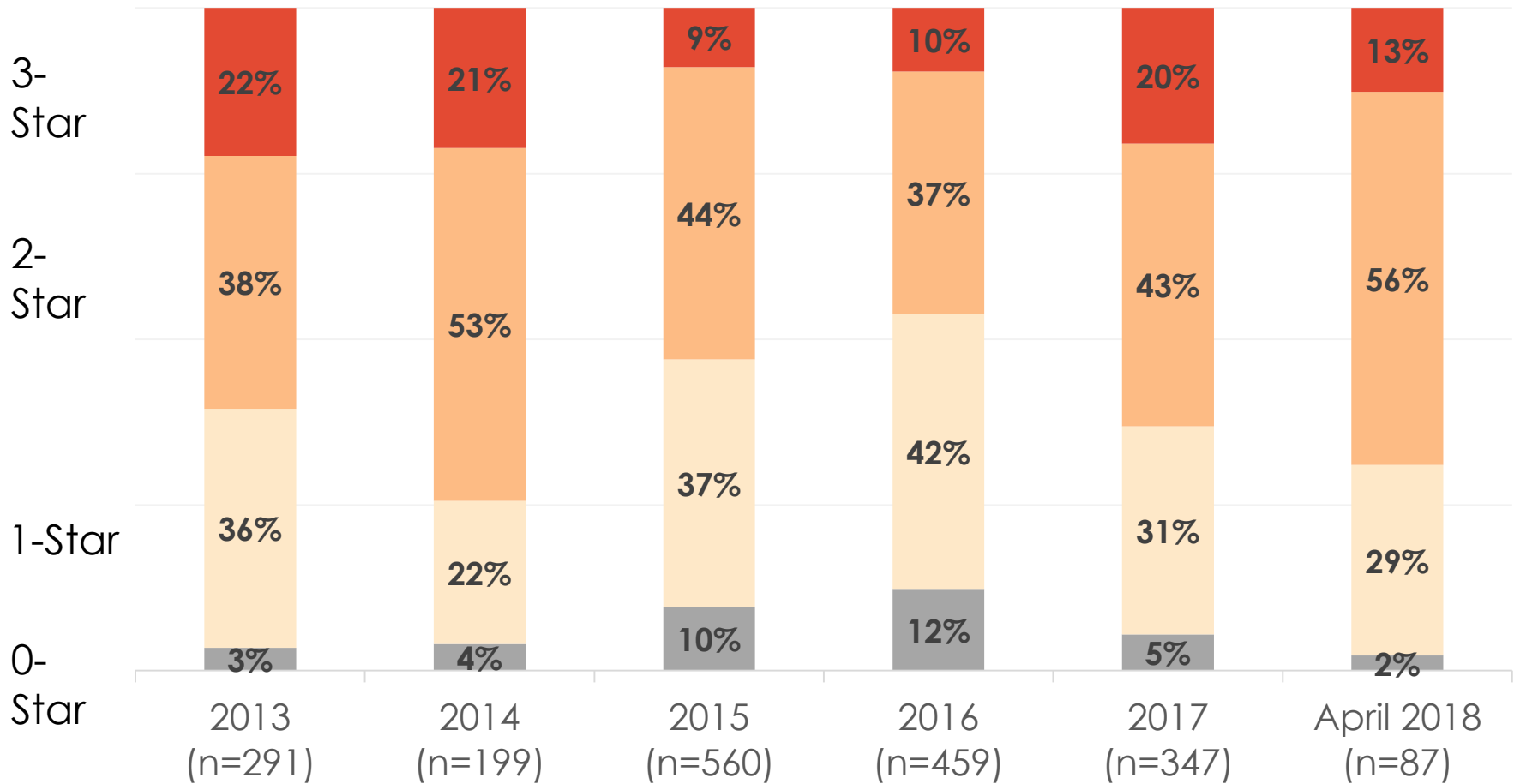
- 1 Star (512)
- 2 Star (736)
- 3 Star (277)

% Participating
(count of counties)

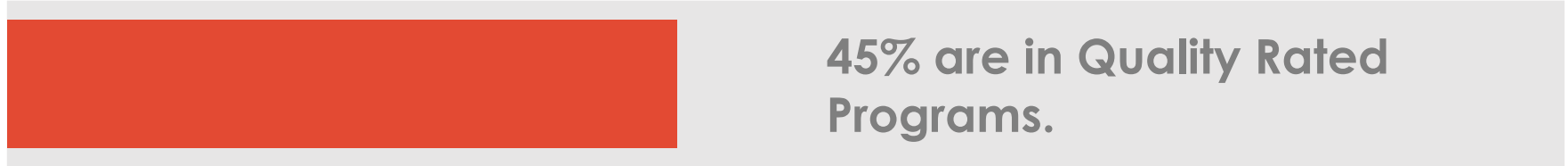
- 0% (5)
- 1% - 25% (2)
- 26% - 50% (33)
- 51% - 75% (70)
- 76% - 100% (49)



Initial Ratings by Year Rated



Out of all children receiving child care subsidy, how many are in a rated or participating child care program?



Child Care Business Resources Initiative

- Began under the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant in January 2014 to “develop infrastructure which would provide child care facilities resources to identify and promote usage of existing economic development incentives.”
- Selected by First Children’s Finance to participate in the Early Childhood Education Business Collaboratory in Fall 2017 to sustain and expand that work.
- Current project plan is to:
 - Map the business needs of child care providers.
 - Map the available and existing resources.
 - Identify the gaps.
 - Strengthen & connect existing resources.
 - Develop new resources.



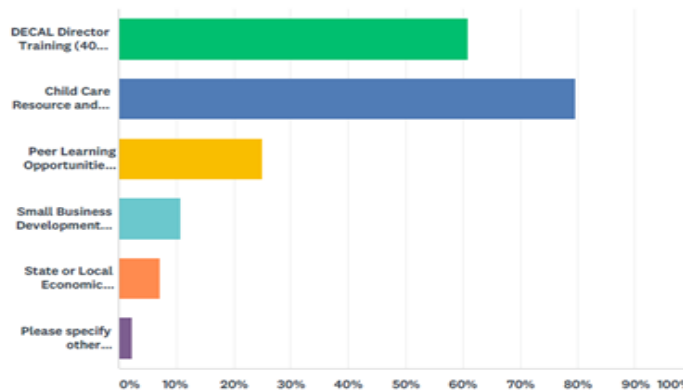
Survey Background & Results

- Sent out an electronic survey in March to all licensed providers to open the dialogue on what business services and resources child care providers need and want.
- As of March 26, 2018:
 - 1,411 responses received - 30% response rate
 - Respondents represented Suburban (40%), Rural (33%), and Metro (27%) settings.
 - Almost all respondents identified as the owner or director. 37% of providers surveyed served in a dual role as both.
 - 58% reported 10 or more years in their current role.
 - 60% of respondents did not have previous experience running a business prior to their current role.

The majority of respondents had never used peer support opportunities, small business development centers, or state & local business development resources.

Q14 Have you ever used any of the following business-related resources? (Select all that apply.)

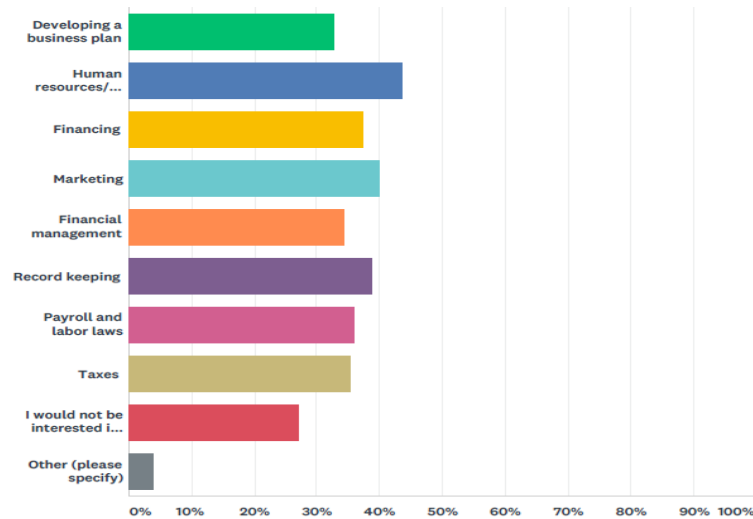
Answered: 1,060 Skipped: 351



More than 70% of respondents wanted additional training, especially in human resources, marketing, and record keeping.

Q16 Would you be interested in receiving additional training and/or support in any of the following areas? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 1,189 Skipped: 222



Respondents reported filling slots, collecting parent fees, managing expenses, payroll and HR functions, and taxes as key areas of program operations that needed improvement.

Themes in Provider Comments

1. Difficulty with hiring and retaining qualified staff.
2. Need assistance with grant writing and finding additional funding sources.
3. Need support with CAPS.
4. Difficulty collecting parent fees.
5. Need support marketing their program.

Feedback from Providers

“Thanks for asking! I wish Early Childhood Education received the business support and public support it deserves. We're important. These are demanding jobs.”

“I would love for the state to work with me and teach me good ideas for my childcare facility.”

“This would be a welcomed education.”

“Can't wait to learn about additional resources.”

The reoccurring themes in the data and comments suggest the following key areas of business support needed by child care providers:

Funding	Human Resources	Record-Keeping	Business Development
Small Business Loans	Managerial Training	Accounting Software	Business Plan Writing
Grants	Staffing	Attendance	Marketing
Scholarships	Peer Support	Taxes	Mentoring

United Way of
Greater Atlanta



Atlanta



Urban League of
Greater Atlanta



Small Business
Development Center
at Clayton State University
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



Lunch

(Pick up in Entry Area)

Committee Meetings

Programs – Oak

Budget/Finance – Oak

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
- Programs
- System Reform

Board Meeting Dates 2018

~~February 15, 2018~~

~~May 10, 2018~~

August 16, 2018

November 15, 2018