



DECAL Stakeholder Network

Quality Initiatives Advisory Committee

July 17, 2013



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

www.dec.al.ga.gov

AGENDA

- Welcome
- DECAL Stakeholder Engagement and Advisory Network
- Departmental Priorities
- DECAL Programs Overview
- Quality Initiatives Update
- Wrap Up and Next Steps



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Bobby D. Cagle, MSW
Commissioner

DECAL Stakeholder Advisory Network

- Launched January 2012
- Made up of 10 committees
- Engages over 200 Georgia citizens interested in early childhood education and care
- Fosters improved communication with the community

Advisory Network Goals and Objectives

- Provide targeted stakeholders with the opportunity to speak directly with me and other members of Senior Leadership on a regular basis
- Identify and discuss the impact of statewide trends
- Inform the department of local issues with DECAL programs
- Provide feedback on proposed program and rule changes

Your Feedback

- What is DECAL doing well?
- What is DECAL doing that could be improved?
- What is DECAL not doing that we should be doing?

Departmental Priorities

- **Health and Safety**

- Promote safe and healthy early care and learning programs

- **Quality**

- Improve quality of early care and learning programs

- **Organizational Excellence**

- Foster organizational excellence through stakeholder engagement, enterprise solutions, and workforce development





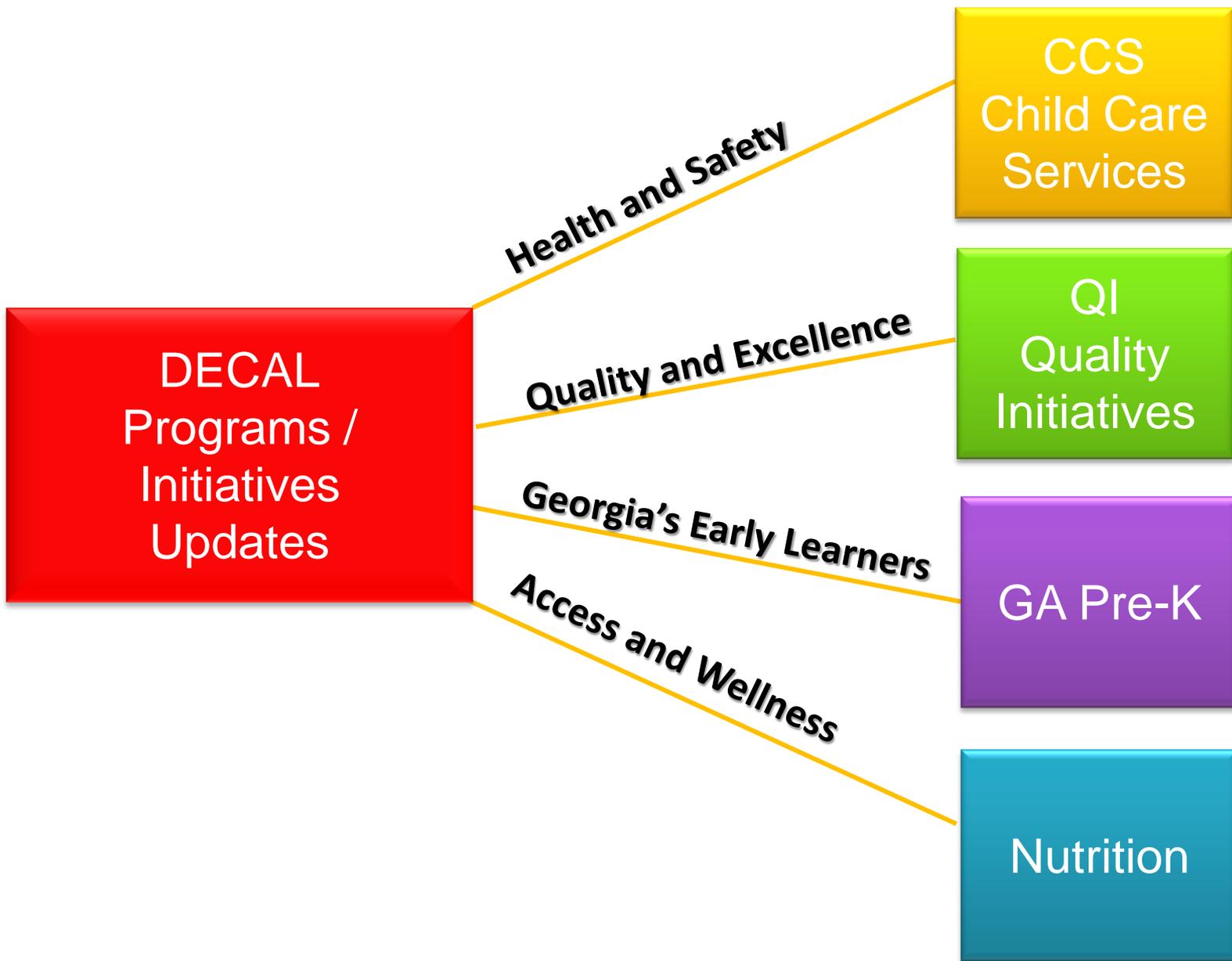
DECAL Programs Overview

Keith D. Bostick, LCSW
Deputy Commissioner for Programs



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Reminder

If you have questions or comments, please
type them in by using the chat feature





Quality Initiatives Update

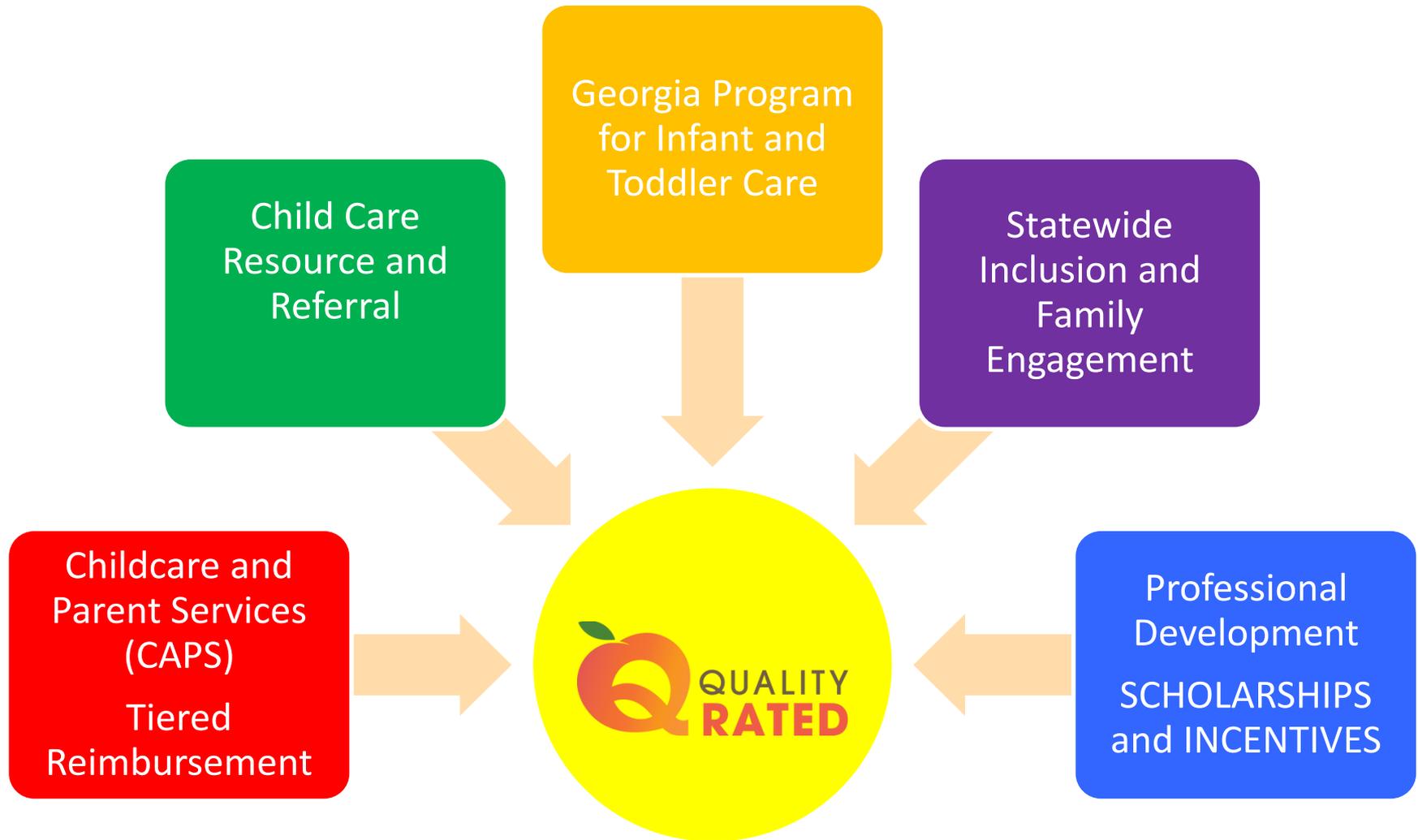
Carol Hartman
Assistant Commissioner for Programs



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Quality Initiatives



Childcare and Parent Services

- Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS)
 - CAPS Task Force
 - Summer Initiative
 - Quality Rated Tiered Reimbursement



**Childcare and Parent
Services**

Quality Rated Tiered Reimbursement

- Tiered reimbursement is a bonus based on the number of Quality Rated stars.
 - 1 Star = 2% quality bonus
 - 2 Stars = 5% quality bonus
 - 3 Stars = 10% quality bonus
- Quality bonus is based on the net CAPS reimbursement multiplied by x%.
 - The net CAPS reimbursement is the state rate minus the family's assessed CAPS fee.

- Department of Human Services' Business Operations Process (BOP)
 - Phased in Implementation in 15 DHS Regions
 - Statewide Implementation by December 31
 - Toll-free number is 1-877-423-4742
 - Select option 2
 - Select option 2 again at the prompt
 - Provide zip code and select option 5 at the prompt
- DECAL CAPS Assistance
 - CAPS.Support@decals.ga.gov

- 2014-2015 Child Care and Development Fund State Plan for Georgia
- Notice of Federal Proposed Rulemaking
 - Comment period ends August 5
 - www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/news/acf-announces-proposed-changes-to-child-care-regulations

SCHOLARSHIPS and INCENTIVES

● SCHOLARSHIPS

- Provides educational assistance for Georgia's early childhood educators pursuing credentials or degrees in early childhood education or child development
 - 1,544 unique recipients in SFY13

● INCENTIVES

- Provides a salary supplement to reward early childhood educators for their educational attainment and for remaining employed in the same child care program for 12 consecutive months
 - 1,376 unique recipients in SFY13

Quest for Quality Inclusion

- Statewide Inclusion Network
 - 10 Inclusion Coordinators
 - Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
 - Professional Development
 - Support for Teachers, Directors and Families
 - Resources
 - Linkage to Services



Autism Training Project

- 1 in 88 children born in the US will be diagnosed with autism
- Intervention before **3** is best, but average age of diagnosis is **4.5-5.5** years of age
- Collaboration between DECAL and experts at Marcus Autism Center
- 12-month training curriculum: modules, individual and group coaching and support for DECAL TA providers, infant toddler teachers, and child care directors
- Goals:
 - Increased skills and knowledge in DECAL TA providers and targeted infant toddler teachers to recognize red flags, make referrals, and support the child's success in the classroom.

Family Engagement Specialist

- Strong connection between family engagement in early childhood and the child's later school success
- DECAL recognized need for intentional focus on families
- Family Engagement Specialist will
 - develop comprehensive plan to identify and network family engagement activities across the state
 - provide technical assistance, training, and resources on family engagement and support to DECAL staff, early childhood educators, and other partners

Georgia Program for Infant and Toddler Care

- Eight Specialists
 - Technical Assistance
 - Professional Development
 - 12 Statewide Conferences
- Website- www.gapitc.org
- Mentor Program
- Partnerships with SC and VA
- Partnership with GA AAP
- Online Learning





Georgia's systemic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early education and school-age care programs.

Quality Rated as of July 10, 2013

Rated Facilities by Type:	Not Rated	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	Total
Child Care Learning Center	7	67	61	26	161
Family Day Care Home	1	19	21	27	68
Group Day Care Home	0	1	1	1	3
Other	0	1	0	1	2
Total	8	88	83	55	234

Questions & Comments



Your Feedback

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Important Websites and Phone Numbers

- **Georgia Dept. of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)**
 - www.decals.ga.gov
- **Georgia Program and Infant and Toddler Care (GAPITC)**
 - www.gapitc.org
- **Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)**
 - www.gelds.decals.ga.gov
- **Quality Rated**
 - www.qualityrated.org or 877-ALL-GAKIDS
- **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)**
 - For info on becoming an SFSP sponsor, visit www.decals.ga.gov/BftS/SFSPBecomingASp.aspx

Facebook and Twitter

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Twitter at www.twitter.com/gadep tearlycare

or on

Facebook at www.facebook.com/brightfromthestart or
www.facebook.com/qualityrated

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