

San Francisco's Family Child Care Quality Network

**Because Subsidized Families and Children
Deserve the Best Care Possible**



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Children's Council of San Francisco
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Presenters and Topics

- ⦿ Overview of SF's Quality Child Care System
 - ⦿ Jason Holthe, Senior Analyst, San Francisco Human Services Agency, Child Care Policy and Planning
- ⦿ Organizational Considerations and Philosophical Inspirations
 - ⦿ Michael Williams, MSW, Deputy Director of Programs, Children's Council of San Francisco
- ⦿ Program Implementation and Community Partnerships
 - ⦿ Jessica Boehme , MA, Provider Support Services and Quality Network Manager
Children's Council of San Francisco

Overview of SF's Quality Child Care System

- ⦿ “Target Subsidies” child care
- ⦿ Quality support system
- ⦿ Connecting families to quality



SF “Target Subsidy” Child Care

- ⦿ ACCESS
- ⦿ Family & Children’s Services (child welfare)
- ⦿ City Child Care



Quality Support System

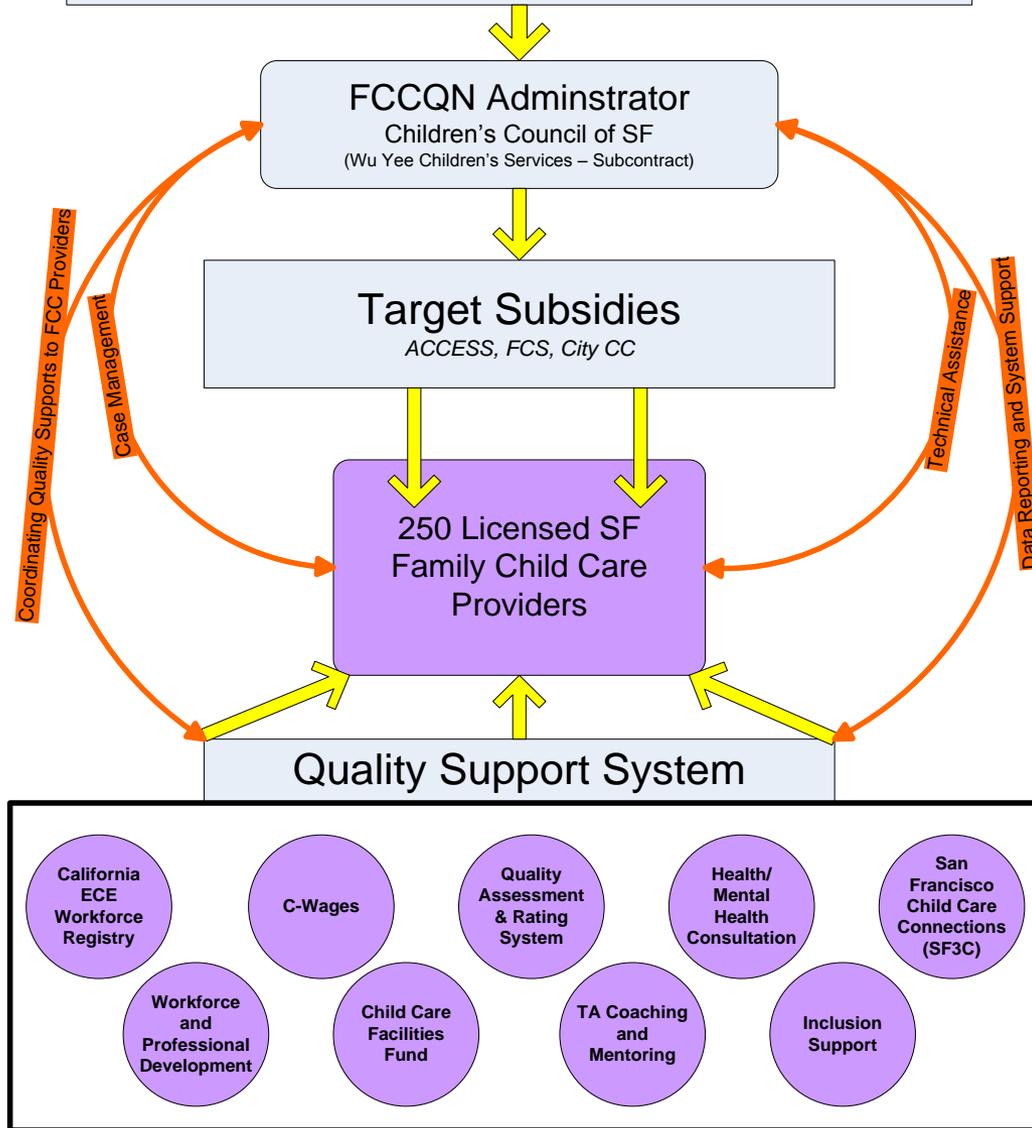
- ⦿ Health/Mental Health consultation
- ⦿ Inclusion support
- ⦿ TA coaching and mentoring
- ⦿ Quality assessment and rating system
- ⦿ Workforce and professional development
- ⦿ C-WAGES compensation support
- ⦿ Child care Facilities Fund
- ⦿ San Francisco Child Care Connections (SF3C)



Connecting Families to Quality

- ⊙ Targeted resources
 - ⊙ ACCESS model
- ⊙ FCCQN - A research driven initiative
 - ⊙ Many FCC homes function in almost total isolation
 - ⊙ Quality child care is particularly important for children from low-income families
 - ⊙ Only 40% of children with City funded vouchers were receiving care from providers connected to quality supports
 - ⊙ Regular and supportive interactions between specially trained network staff and providers raises quality
- ⊙ FCCQN creation and design

Family Child Care Quality Network (FCCQN)



Mission Considerations for FCCQN

- ⦿ As an R&R: Supporting the supply of quality care for all children and families
- ⦿ Entry point and partner for providers, especially FCC
- ⦿ Reduction/realignment in City and State funding as catalyst for reflection on funding has driven services
- ⦿ FCCQN allows deeper partnership with providers in improving care for children
- ⦿ Losses to Children's Council: Centers, TA coordination, non-network FCCs
- ⦿ New program development: core strengths and unmet needs

Philosophical Inspiration: Alameda Quality Counts

- ⦿ Partnering with providers
- ⦿ Strengths-based approach
- ⦿ Reflective practice
- ⦿ Holistic view
- ⦿ Relationships over time



Research Basis for our Program Design

e.g., Erickson Institute:

Higher quality scores for Family Child Care providers in networks that provide:

- ⦿ Specially trained staff coordinators
- ⦿ Regular and supportive communication and interactions
- ⦿ Direct training
- ⦿ Visits to child care homes

Philosophy and Research in Action

- ⦿ Provider vision and goals
- ⦿ Reflection on FCCERS results
- ⦿ Quality Improvement Plans
- ⦿ Collaboration with QRIS
- ⦿ Pragmatic approaches to City funding, quality improvement



Key Milestones and Outcomes for FCCQN

- ⊙ Half improve FCCERS by .25 points (.5 for <3) by 2014
- ⊙ 90% City subsidized children in quality care by 2014 (from baseline of 40%)
- ⊙ 250 in Network by June 2013 (from baseline of 168)
- ⊙ 150-160 (out of first 180) providers receive site visits and establish program vision and goals by Feb. 2013

The FCCQN System



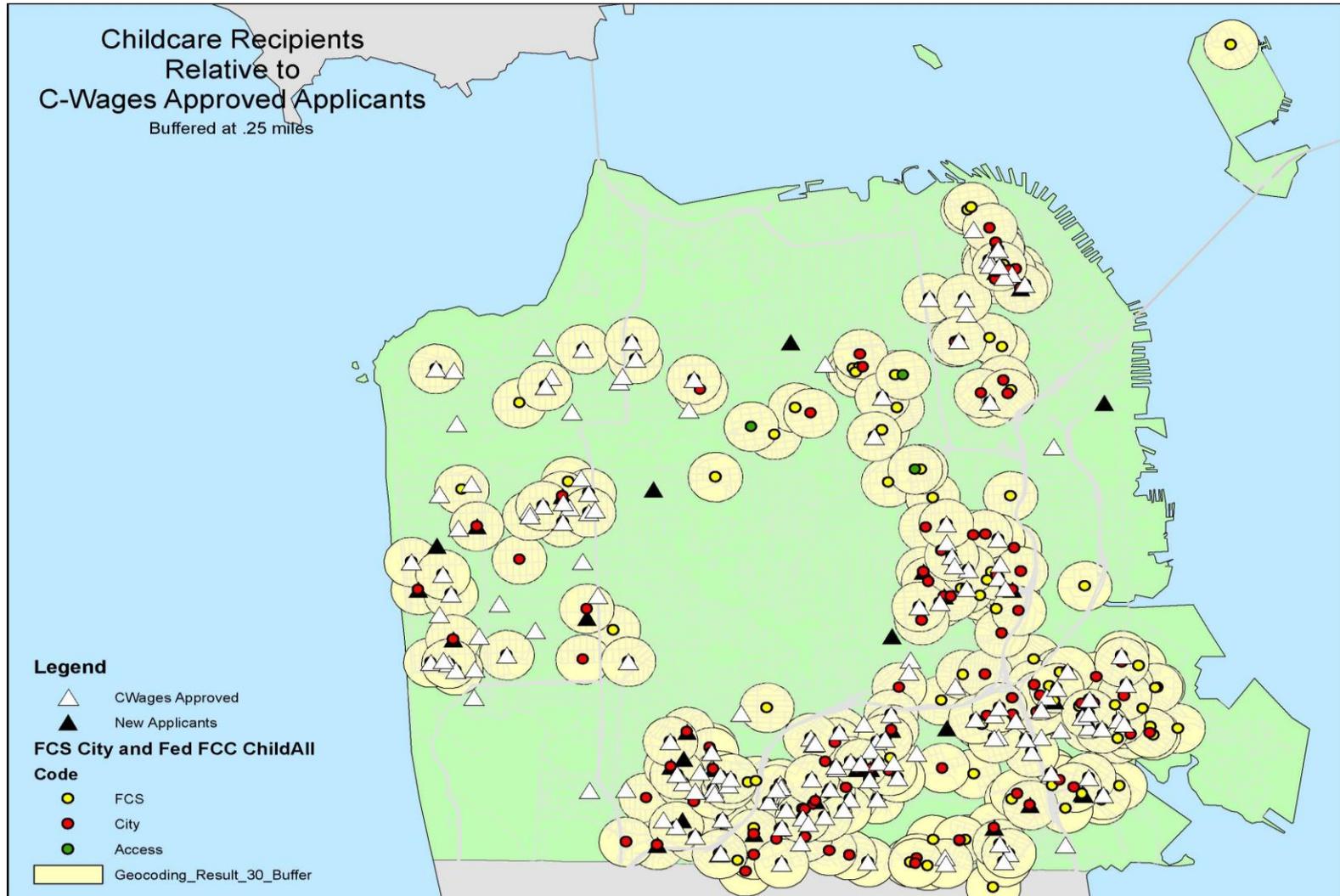
Program Implementation

- ⊙ Program goals and objectives
- ⊙ Training to support providers, staff and program goals
- ⊙ Case management based support system
 - ⊙ Minimum of 4 visits per year, depending on existing scores
 - ⊙ Provider trainings
 - ⊙ Business and marketing supports
 - ⊙ Professional development opportunities

Community Partnerships

- ⦿ Looking to external and internal partnerships
- ⦿ Working with our local Family Child Care Association
- ⦿ ECE Leadership Conference
- ⦿ Ways to support providers who are not in the Quality Network, e.g. the Network will support 250 providers and San Francisco has 700 licensed Family Child Care Providers

FCCQN Providers and Target Subsidy Children



How the FCCQN is developing

- ⦿ Staffing, hiring and work with providers
- ⦿ Challenges
- ⦿ Progress
- ⦿ Plans for our future



Discussion

- ⦿ Please share your experiences with local programs and initiatives to improve program quality.
- ⦿ What are the successes and lessons learned from these?
- ⦿ How have you measured progress and results?

Further Reading

Coaching for Quality Improvement: Lessons Learned from Quality Rating and Improvement Systems

Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, February 2011. K. Trout, T. Isner, & M. Zaslow

Staff Support Networks and Quality in Family Child Care: The Family Child Care Network Impact Study

Erickson Institute, December 2008. J. Bromer, M. Van Haitsma, K. Daley, & K. Modigliani

A Model for Expanding Community Resources

Child Welfare League of America/Mills Consulting Group, 2012.
B. Hirschfield, A. Moeller, & A. Cohen

Alameda Quality Counts

First 5 Alameda, February 2009 PowerPoint. www.first5ecc.org