



# Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children

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# Today's Agenda

## **Presentation**

- School Readiness Rubric Evaluation Presentation

## **Business Agenda**

- Recommendation: To expend School Readiness Supplemental Administrative Funds
- Recommendation: Reallocate funds from Metzner Early Learning Center to Boys & Girls Club

## **Administrative Updates**

- Co-Chair Report

## **Agenda**

- DFCYR Early Learning Division Presentation
- Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children Working Groups
- Mayor's Cabinet Mission/Vision
- Early Childhood Bills

# School Readiness Approvals

- Reallocate 10 School Readiness slots from Metzner Early Learning Center to Boys and Girls Club Early Learning Center
- School Readiness Supplemental Administration Funds
  - Data Project- Hartford children birth through age 5
  - Learning and evaluation consultant to design a training and capacity building program to help these centers strengthen their plans, make them actionable, and understand what goes into strategic planning, professional development, and evaluation (Drive Evaluation Studio)
  - Supplemental Support Guides for the Monitoring Rubric- Teacher, Monitor, Coach, Administrator (Sue Vivian and ShawnMarie Dumond)
  - Training and coaching for DFCYR and Early Learning Network
  - Facilitation for Mayor's Cabinet (Mission and Vision)



# Administrative Updates

- Superintendent Torres-Rodriguez
- Mayor Bronin



# Launch into Career

## Early Childhood Education-Pilot Program

Students received various support services from DFCYR and Early Childhood Partners such as;

- Office of Early Childhood Licensing Training
- CT Early Learning and Development Standards Training
- Mandated Reporter Training
- Completion of background check and fingerprinting
- 10 hours of student teaching
- Individual mentoring and coaching (wrap-around services)

# Launch into Career Early Childhood Education-Pilot Program

## Academic Update

- ECE Program: 12 college-credit program students that needed an extension were granted the opportunity for additional courses to ensure successful completion.
- DFCYR in collaboration with Capital Community College is refining practices and beginning the planning process for Cohort 2.
- 6 Confirmed interest in retaking PSY 204
- 3 Confirmed by CCC as enrolled for PSY 204
- 2 Pending enrollment by CCC in PSY 204
- 1 Pending student confirmation to be enrolled in PSY 204

## Workforce Development Update

- DFCYR is currently curating and connecting interested and qualified students with job openings throughout Hartford's Early Learning Network.
- Current Employment Opportunities
  - 32 Full- Time Teacher Assistant Positions
- Next steps are placing 7 of the students who have confirmed interest
- DFCYR is conducting a post survey to ensure youth voice is heard.

# Hartford Talks

## LENA GROW

- Winter classes provides coaching to 40 children in childcare settings.

## LENA START

- Winter classes are currently supporting and providing engagement and coaching for 16 families.

Hartford Talks is currently in the process of collaborating with The Dolly Parton Imagination Library.





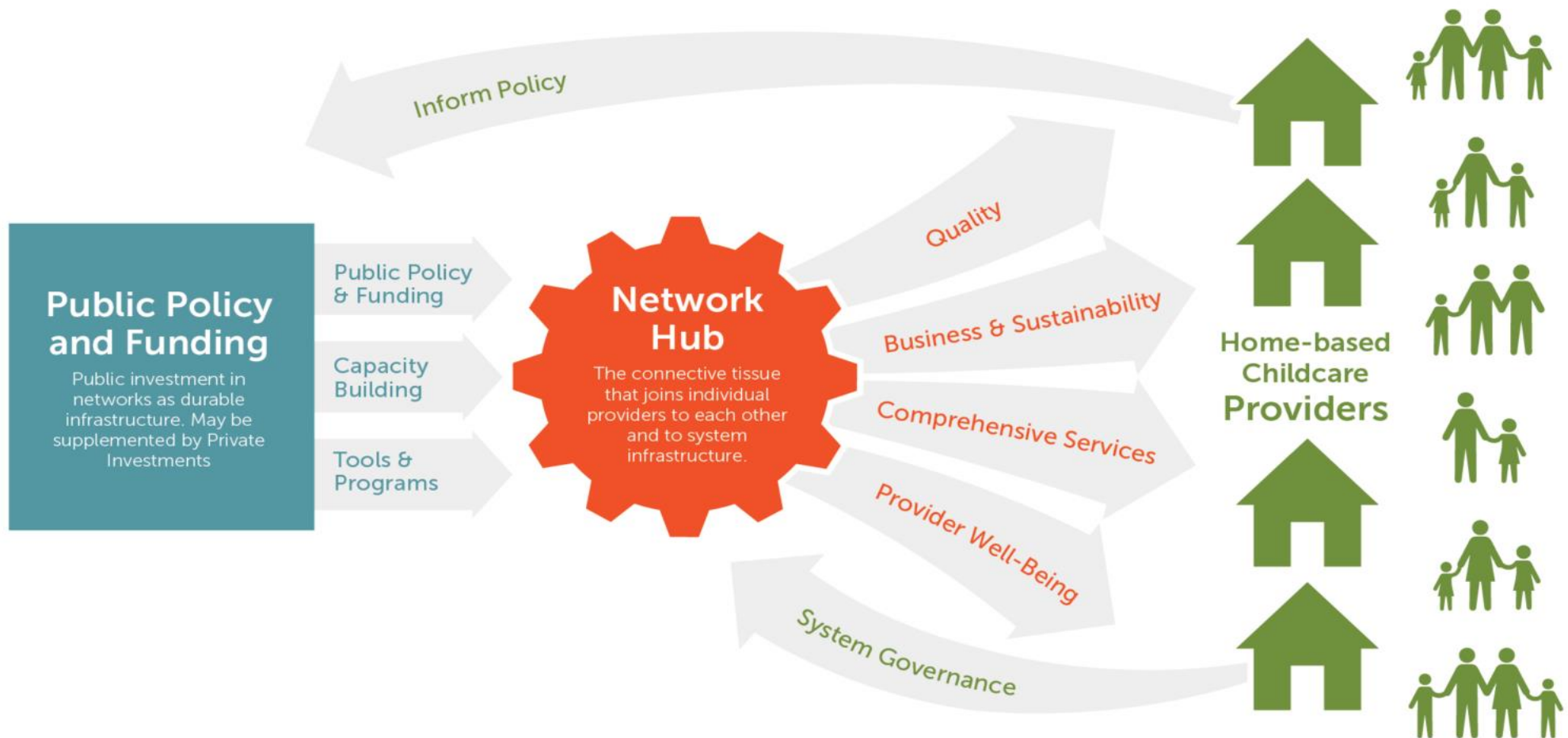
On December 19, 2023, the SFCCN held a press conference to highlight its partnership with United Way of Connecticut's 211 Child Care. Over a three-year period, United Way will contribute approximately \$575,000 to Family Childcare providers.

- 102 providers have attested to being a member of the Network.
- Currently 2 new providers are in the OEC licensing process.
- More than 50% of members have attended Professional Development classes such as
  - Health
  - Safety
  - Record keeping
  - Marketing
  - Fiscal Management
- 10 providers are currently seeking NAFCC accreditation and have received financial assistance, resources, and mentorship.



# Home Grown Implementation Plan For SFCCN

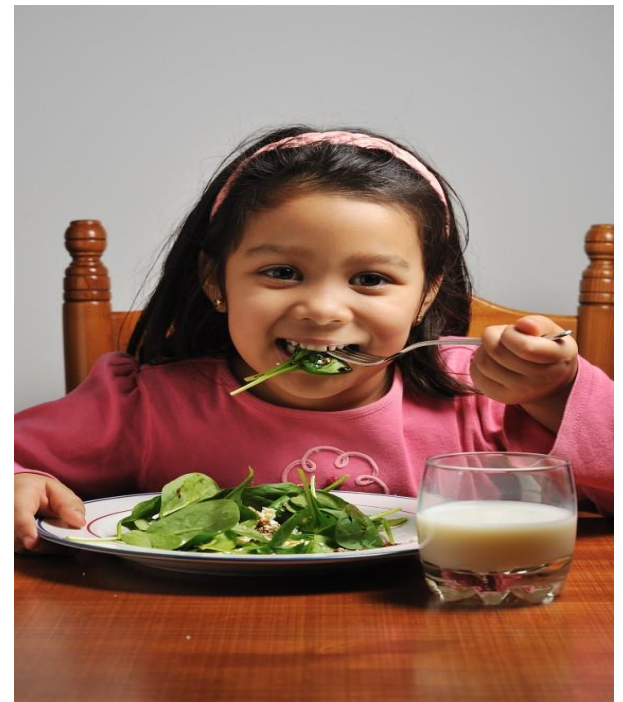
## Comprehensive Network Strategy



# Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

CACFP is currently serving providers in Region 2 and is expected to expand the amount of providers within the program.

- November to date we have 210 children enrolled in the program
- 34 Family childcare providers in the Greater Hartford Region are participating in CACFP
- Total meal cost for Nov was \$23,180.28
- Total meal cost for Dec was \$22,965.02



# Parent Cabinet

## Early Learning Parent Cabinet

- Currently the working groups for the Cabinet have been structured with a Parent Ambassadors being a Chair for each:
  - Leadership Academy & Training
  - Recruitment, Communications & Marketing
  - Fatherhood Initiative
  - Events & Incentives
- The Parent Cabinet Members are hosting a Family Fun Night in April
- The Fund of Greater Hartford has granted \$5,000 to support parent leadership



# Early Learning Network

## Screening and Assessment Training

On December 15, 2022, training around developmental screening and assessment was facilitated by Office of Early Childhood, United Way 211 Child Care Info Line, & UCONN UCEDD (*University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities*) for the Early Learning Network

## 2022 Year End Review

The Early Learning Network is comprised of 18 community-based organizations that provide care to approximately 1,500 children birth to five citywide.

Below is the Network 2022 year in review slideshow:

[Early Learning Network Powerpoint](#)

# Early Learning Network

**Enrollment Grant-** Supplemental funding for Child Day Care and School Readiness Programs, DFCYR was notified of funding in December 2022.

Child Day Care and School Readiness programs are required to attest that > 50% of children enrolled in School Readiness and Child Day Care funded spaces across all program sites live at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

- School Readiness \$1,113,440
- Child Day Care \$89,880

**Supplemental Administrative Funds-** notified of funds January 2023. Grant period FY23.

Support the role of the liaison in the coordination, program evaluation and administration of the School Readiness Grant. Enhance monitoring and support program quality improvement. (\$155,600).

- Data Project- Hartford children birth through age 5
- Learning and evaluation consultant to design a training and capacity building program to help these centers strengthen their plans, make them actionable, and understand what goes into strategic planning, professional development, and evaluation. (Drive Evaluation Studio)
- Supplemental Support Guides for the Monitoring Rubric- Teacher, Monitor, Coach, and Administrator. (Sue Vivian and ShawnMarie Dumond)
- Facilitation for Mayor's Cabinet of Young Children (Mission and Vision)
- Training and Professional Development for Early Learning Network and DFCYR staff)



# Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children Working Groups

## Transition to Kindergarten

- Focuses on the promotion of kindergarten registration in addition to supporting families with navigating through the process.
- Annual Calendar to support year long process around kindergarten transition.
- Roundtable discussions between kindergarten and preschool programs.
- Review Kindergarten Inventory Screening to inform group on continuous community support.

## Mental and Behavioral Health

- Focus on joint professional development between Hartford Public Schools and Community Based professionals for Fall 2023.
- Followed up with creating a multi-year plan that focuses on meeting the needs of the early childhood community.
- Community Leadership Team Pyramid Model (PBIS support at a community level).

# Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children Working Groups

## Early Language and Literacy

- Developing a framework to increase adult interactions which will enhance children's language and literacy skills.
- Key areas include:
  - Language acquisition
  - Appreciate books
  - Drawing and beginning to write

## Infant and Toddler Development

- Current focus is on creating a Hartford Diaper Bank and formula distributions to support all young children and families in Hartford.
- Developing a partnership around the baby bundle initiative with Bridgeport and CTDATA.

# Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children Working Groups

## Healthy Children

- The objective is to advocate for family solutions and creating healthy habits for children and families



## Community Outreach and Engagement

- Currently the focus is creating a parent resource guide to support early learning within the City of Hartford
- Connecting families with events and activities city wide

# Mayor's Cabinet for Young Children

## Discussion

### Mission

*Mission statement defines the organization's business, its objectives, and how it will reach these objectives.*

**What do we want our mission to be?**

### Vision

A City that nurtures every child and creates an environment where young children are healthy, safe, and find early success in school, and life. (*Hartford Blueprint for Young Children, 2005*)

# Early Childhood Bills

<b><u>HB-5540</u></b>	AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.
<b><u>SB-255</u></b>	AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR SCHOOL READINESS AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.
<b><u>SB-893</u></b>	AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH-QUALITY AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.
<b><u>HB-6017</u></b>	AN ACT CONCERNING EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CARE 4 KIDS PROGRAM.





Thank you!

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