

# Child Care & Early Education **RESEARCH CONNECTIONS**

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## **Provider Experiences of the Child Care Subsidy System: Research-to-Policy Resources**

The federal child care subsidy system supports low-income working families with child care financial assistance through the Child Care and Development Fund, which is administered by the Office of Child Care (OCC), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The most recently available data from OCC show the federal child care subsidy system in the United States served 1.4 million children in 847,400 families in fiscal year 2015 (U.S. Office of Child Care, n. d.). An extensive body of research has studied numerous aspects of their experiences in the subsidy system, including continuity and duration of subsidies, the quality of subsidized child care, and the association of subsidy use to child and family outcomes (Forry, Daneri, & Howarth, 2013). The Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), ACF, HHS, has been one of the most prominent funders of research into the child care subsidy system.

However, a component of the system that has been comparatively less-studied is the experiences of the participating providers, who numbered 339,000 in fiscal year 2015 (U.S. Office of Child Care, n. d.), particularly their decisions to participate in and their experiences of the child care subsidy system. OPRE has sponsored two research projects on provider experiences: *Essential but Often Ignored: Child Care Providers and the Subsidy System* and *Insights into the Black Box of Child Care Supply: Predictors of Provider Participation in the Child Care Subsidy System*.



This Research-to-Policy Resource List compiles publications in the *Research Connections* collection on providers' experiences of the child care subsidy system, including the products of OPRE-funded research. Only research that collected data directly from providers about their experiences is included. Following an overview document and research conducted in multiple states, the remaining resources are grouped by individual state.

### **Overview**

Rohacek, M. (2012). *A summary of research on how CCDF policies affect providers*. (OPRE Report No. 2012-25, Child Care and Development Fund--Research Synthesis Brief Series Brief No. 02). Washington, DC: U.S. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

### **Multistate**

Adams, G., Rohacek, M., & Snyder, K. (2008). *Child care voucher programs: Provider experiences in five counties*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Adams, G., & Snyder, K. (2003). *Child care subsidy policies and practices: Implications for child care providers*. (Series A, No. A-57). Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Adams, G., Snyder, K., & Tout, K. (2003). *Essential but often ignored: Child care providers in the subsidy system*. (Occasional Paper No. 63). Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Rohacek, M., & Adams, G. (2017). *Providers in the child care subsidy system: Insights into factors shaping participation, financial well-being, and quality*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Rohacek, M., Adams, G., & Snyder, K. (2008). *Child care centers, child care vouchers, and faith-based organizations*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Snyder, K., Bernstein, S., & Adams, G. (2008). *Child care vouchers and unregulated family, friend, and neighbor care*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

### **Georgia**

Sotolongo, J., Gebhart, T., Early, D., & Maxwell, K. (2017). *Voices from the field: Providers' experiences with implementing DECAL's Quality Rated Subsidy Grant Pilot Program*. Chapel Hill, NC: Child Trends.

### **Massachusetts**

Giapponi, K. (2017). *Insights into the black box of child care supply: An examination of provider participation in the child care subsidy system*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Brandeis University, Waltham, MA.

Giapponi, K., Warfield, M., Joshi, P., Ha, Y., & Hodgkin, D. (2017). Insights into the black box of child care supply: Predictors of provider participation in the Massachusetts child care subsidy system. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 79, 148-159.

Isaacs, J. B., Katz, M., Minton, S., & Michie, M. (2015). *Review of child care needs of eligible families in Massachusetts*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Washington, V., Marshall, N. L., Robinson, C., Modigliani, K., & Rosa, M. (2006). *Keeping the promise: A study of the Massachusetts child care voucher system: Final report*. Boston: Bessie Tarrt Wilson Children's Foundation.

Washington, V., & Reed, M. L. (2008). A study of the Massachusetts child care voucher system: Impact on children, families, providers, and resource and referral agencies. *Families in Society*, 89(2), 202-207.

### **Oklahoma**

Mayer, A. K., Cullinan, D., Calmeyer, E., & Patterson, K. (2015). *Engaging providers and clients: Using behavioral economics to increase on-time child care subsidy renewals*. (OPRE Report 2015-73). Washington, DC: U.S. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

### **New York**

Hurley, K. (2016). *Bringing it all home: Problems and possibilities facing New York City's family child care*. New York: Center for New York City Affairs.

### **Oregon**

Weber, R., & Grobe, D. (2015). *Contracted Slots Pilot program evaluation: Final report*. Corvallis: Oregon State University, Family Policy Program.

Weber, R., & Grobe, D. (2014). *Director's survey for Contracted Slots Pilot Program: At the end of year 1*. Corvallis: Oregon Child Care Research Partnership.

Weber, R., & Grobe, D. (2013). *Initial director's survey for Contracted Slots Program*. Corvallis: Oregon Child Care Research Partnership.

## References

Forry, N. D., Daneri, M., & Howarth, G. (2013). *Child care subsidy literature review*. (OPRE Brief 2013-60). Washington, DC: U.S. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

U.S. Office of Child Care. (n. d.). *CCDF quick facts: FY 2015 preliminary data*. Washington, DC: U.S. Office of Child Care.

*Prepared by: Daniel Ferguson*

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