ONLINE TRAININGS: Through these initiatives, online trainings were provided at no or low cost to Delaware child care providers. Better Kid Care On Demand (BKC) online training modules were completed by 926 providers, totaling 1467 training hours as of Jan. 2013. Participants rated on a scale from 1 (Not much at all) to 4 (Quite a lot) how much they learned and were able to use in their work, resulting in averages of 3.49 and 3.42 (see chart to the right).

FACE-TO-FACE TRAININGS: Between September 2011 and January 2013, CYTTP sponsored two Family Child Care: Getting Started trainings that reached four individuals interested in started a family child care business. Also, nine Better Kid Care (BKC) training events were delivered:
- One Art Appreciation 101 for Young Children training reached 50 providers
- Two Avoid Behavior Problems - Teach Self-Control trainings reached 64 providers
- One Creating Special Moments with Infants and Toddlers training reached 22
- One Healthy Air + Healthy Spaces = Healthy Children training reached 50 providers
- Two Math for Every Age training reached 40 child care providers
- One Parents: Friends or Foes training reached 35 providers
- One What Does "Time" Mean to Children? training reached 50 child care providers
- The BKC trainings were attended by 315 individuals and their training survey responses are summarized in this report.

Better Kid Care Participants: One BKC participant was male; 166 were female. They on average had approximately 18 years of experience working with children and families and had been working in their current positions on average for about 14.5 years. There was much variation in the number of children their child care center serves in a typical year, ranging from 0-487 with a median number of children cared for at 9. The number of military-connected children their child care center serves in a typical year ranges from 0-50, with a median number of children cared for at 0.

Most BKC participants reported learning information during the training that applies to their work (92.0%) and felt that what they learned can be used in their childcare settings (87.9%). Most of the providers were satisfied or very satisfied with the program & instructors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality of BKC Trainings</th>
<th>Very little</th>
<th>Little</th>
<th>Much</th>
<th>Very much</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How much did you learn today that applies to your work in childcare settings?</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>44.0%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How much of what you learned will you be able to use in your childcare setting?</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very unsatisfied</th>
<th>Not satisfied</th>
<th>Satisfied</th>
<th>Very satisfied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How satisfied were you with this program?</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How satisfied were you with the on-site instructors?</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>76.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When asked what they want to know more about, the areas they discussed include:
- How to address children’s behaviors (biting, crying, putting things in mouth, hitting)
- Learning more about science, “toddler math,” and art techniques for children of different age (music, dancing, painting, fiber art)
- More on how to work with children with special needs (children with ADHD, eating disorders and other childhood diseases)
- Keeping a safe environment for children (using "greener cleaner", cleaning mold, chemicals and poisoning, pest control )
- Sign language and food for infants

BKC Training Outcomes: The providers who participated in the trainings were eager to do the following based on what they learned:
- Incorporating math and art activities in curriculum (painting, music), and encouraging children to use imagination
- Checking pest entryways, and reading labels on cleaning products to make sure they are safe and used appropriately
- Trying to convey understanding to children by listening attentively and asking open-ended questions
- Communicating more with parent for their input
- Allowing children to identify ways to problem-solve

Retrospective pre- and post- training survey responses indicate that the providers in the trainings felt more confident in using the strategies discussed in the professional development program after finishing the trainings.
STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIPS: Partnerships are critical for system’s change that improves the quality of childcare in Delaware. A link to an online survey was sent to external partners identified by the state Military Child Care Liaison (MCCL). Fourteen partners completed the surveys to describe the landscape and context of child care systems.

The partners are a fairly experienced group, and on average, have been working with child care issues and initiatives in Delaware for 16 years. As the chart indicates, most are working in the area of “Education and professional development” for childcare workers; five serve as “Resources”; two partners’ organizations play “other” roles involved with quality rating improvement systems (QRIS), policy work and program development.

About Delaware’s Childcare System:
All partners agreed or strongly agreed that Delaware has a statewide vision for quality child care. As partners noted:

“Delaware has had a comprehensive early childhood vision and strategic plan since 2000, continually updating the plan and pursuing implementation of the plan over the past 12 years.”

“Early Childhood Council-State wide- meets monthly to review and support …. agencies in Delaware that impact the lives of young children.”

“We have implemented a broad based quality rating and improvement system framework focused on both center-based, family child care and school age facilities.”

Partners were asked to rate the quality of child care systems from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent). State’s regulatory system and educational training in the state received highest ratings with almost half responses at 4. The quality of child care in general, resources and referral systems, provider quality and child care for off-installation military families have most respondents giving 3 or below.

Rate your states overall child care system using the scale 1 to 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The quality of child care services in general</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your state’s regulatory system</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and training in your state</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource and referral systems</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider quality</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child care for off-installation military families</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When asked how the child care system can be improved, the partners offered the following:

- Continue providing professional development opportunities and technical assistance
- Have statewide conversations about simpler and stronger licensing regulations
- Encourage more child care centers and providers to get licensed and participate in the QRIS system
- Advocate for the needs and advancement of child care providers

Connection to CYTTAP and MCCL:
Seven out of eight partners noted they were somewhat knowledgeable about the MCCL Initiative. Seven of nine partners indicated they were knowledgeable about the CYTTAP. All the partners are also connecting with CYTTAP and MCCL partners on a fairly regular basis. Some ways in which partners collaborate with CYTTAP or MCCL members include:

- Collaborating through state meetings and committees to improve the quality of child care, especially for off-installation families
- Staying informed about initiatives, opportunities and resources in Delaware
- Share information about and attend training sessions for professional development

The partners offered these suggestions to improve quality childcare for military families:

- Continuing the initiative of having on-site technical assistance
- Getting to know more about the needs of off-installation military families
- Developing mechanisms to track and evaluate changes as Delaware enhances its child care services

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