

# Compendium to the "As Is State" Matrix

## Descriptions of Programs, Services and Funding Identified in the "As Is State" Matrix

**Afterschool Initiative:** Each Child Care Resource and Referral agency in Ohio has an Afterschool Specialist who is committed to working with all persons and programs that have school age children as part of their program. This translates to all 88 Ohio counties having access to the expertise these persons bring to the table. When we say “afterschool” we refer to anytime outside the regular school day. Before/after school and weekends are all times when children and youth need to be engaged in activities while not in their parents care.

**Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional (ASQ:SE),** A Parent-Completed, Child-Monitoring System for Social-Emotional Behaviors: Created in response to feedback for the Ages & Stages Questionnaires, the ASQ:SE gives users a tool with a deep, exclusive focus on children’s social and emotional behavior. This research-validated screening system helps home visitors, educators, caregivers and service providers assess children’s social-emotional development at 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, and 60 months. Professionals can quickly recognize young children at risk for social or emotional difficulties identify behaviors of concern to caregivers and identify any need for further assessment.

**Autism Scholarship Program Part B:** Ohio's Autism Scholarship Program is a program of the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). The program allows ODE to pay a scholarship to the parents of a qualified child with autism. Through the scholarship, parents have a choice of seeking services for their child with a registered private provider, rather than the child's resident school district to receive the services outlined in the child's individualized education program (IEP). Passed as a pilot as part of the 2003 Budget bill, the program became permanent law as part of HB699, the Capital Bill, passed in late 2006. The amount of the Autism Scholarship is capped at \$20,000 and to be eligible a student must be identified with autism, enrolled in their public district of residence, have a current and agreed upon IEP, and have no administrative or judicial mediations or proceedings pending regarding the IEP.

**Child and Family Health Services (CFHS):** Program is designed as an organized community effort to eliminate health disparities, improve birth outcomes and improve the health status of women, infants and children in Ohio. This goal is addressed by assessing and monitoring maternal and child health status; informing and educating the public and families about maternal and child health issues; providing leadership to assure the health of women, children, youth and their families; linking women, children and youth to services, and assuring access to health care; and evaluating the effectiveness, accessibility and quality of health care services. CFHS includes the following five components: Community Health Assessment and Planning (required), Child and Adolescent Health, Family Planning, Perinatal Health and the Ohio Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative (OIMRI). Services are provided through grant awards to local agencies in 79 counties. While the majority of these agencies are local health districts, CFHS also provides services through Community Action Agencies, Federally Qualified Health Centers, hospitals, a college of medicine, a Family and Children First Council, a County Board of Developmental Disabilities and Planned Parenthood.

**Child Care Advisory Committee:** The Ohio Child Care Advisory Council (CCAC) was formed by Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 5104.08. The purpose of this council is to advise and assist the department in the administration of ORC chapter 5104, and in the development of child day-care. The council consists of twenty-two members appointed by the director of job and family services with the approval of the governor. The Child Care Advisory Council advises the director on matters affecting the licensing of centers and type A homes and the certification of type B homes and in-home aides. The council makes an annual report to the director of job and family services that addresses the availability, affordability, accessibility, and quality of child care and that summarizes the recommendations and plans of action that the council has proposed to the director during the preceding fiscal year. Appointments are for three-year terms. Members of the council serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for necessary travel expenses.

**Child Care Development Fund (Federal CCDF):** CCDF has made available \$5 billion to States, Territories, and Tribes in fiscal year 2008. This program, authorized by the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act, and Section 418 of the Social Security Act, assists low-income families, families receiving temporary public assistance, and those transitioning from public assistance in obtaining child care so they can work or attend training/education.

**Child Care Eligibility (part of CRIS-E) [Under Development]:** Primary system used by the ODJFS county staff to determine eligibility of applications applying for subsidized child care. The system also authorizes specific time slots for eligible children for specific providers.

**Child Care Information Data System (CCIDS/3299):** The CCIDS is the primary system for the support of families and children receiving subsidized child care in Ohio. The system maintains demographic, eligibility, authorization and payment information regarding the families and children receiving subsidized child care, is the primary interface to external systems and reporting, and the repository for all child care providers in Ohio except those with less than 6 children and those not accepting subsidy. The system contains license data for all providers and certification data for all providers serving subsidized children.

**Child Care Information System (CCIDS/Licensing):** The primary repository for information regarding child day care provider licensing and inspection information. The primary interface to the Child Care Web site.

**Child Registry Information System (CRIS-E):** CRIS-E is an automated system used by over 15,000 caseworkers and administrators in support of the state and Federal programs for Ohio Works First (OWF); Prevention, Retention and Contingency (PRC); Food Assistance (FA); and Medicaid benefits to eligible Ohio recipients. Core operations in support of these users include application intake, eligibility determination, and issuance of benefits to clients.

**Child Care Payment [Under Development]:** Provides the child care provider and/or the County Department of Job and Family Services staff with the ability to enter hours that a child participated at a child care facility and to calculate payments. This system is used primarily for those providers not participating in the swipe card technology.

**Child Care Licensing:** The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) are responsible for licensing preschool and school-age child care (SACC) programs in Ohio and assessing compliance with minimum health and safety standards.

**Child Care Resource & Referral Services:** Child care resource and referral service organizations, serving twelve service delivery areas, under contract/grant agreement with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) shall provide the following services: support providers of early care and education in increasing the supply and quality of early care and education services; assist families in accessing early care and education services that meet both the developmental needs of children and the employment-related needs of families; support community involvement in improving the early care and education system; and provide ODJFS policy makers and community partners with reports and statistics on early care and education.

**Child Care Time & Attendance / Payment Calculation [RFP Under Development]:** Vendor supplied system that utilizes swipe card technology to capture the actual hours that a child is attending a day care facility. The system has a real time interface to Eligibility. The system has the capability to provide billing information and will interface via a batch process to the Child Care payment system.

**Child Care Updates:** Web site to subscribe to updates to child care information through Really Simple Syndication (RSS) Reader.

**Child Day Care Search:** The Child Day Care Locator is a website that parents and guardians of young children can use to search for available child care in Ohio and allows the user to view Inspection Reports about child care facilities.

**Child Fatality Data System:** A system used to identify the contributing factors associated with child fatalities in Ohio and to develop data-driven recommendations, both local and state, to reduce the number of child fatalities in Ohio.

**Client Registry Information System-Enhanced (CRIS-E):** This system contains information regarding the eligibility of Medicaid recipients. The initial health care date entered into CRIS-E becomes the current health care date for both systems. Any changes to the beginning health care date after the first submission cannot be done via CRIS-E.

**Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP):** The Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) is a unified grants application and verification system for use by school districts that consists of two parts: the Planning Tool and the Funding Application. The Planning Tool contains the goals, strategies, action steps and district goal amounts for all grants in the CCIP. The Funding Application contains the budget, budget details, nonpublic services and other related pages. There are six Funding Applications in the CCIP: Consolidated, Competitive, Student Intervention, Career-Technical and Adult Education, Adult Basic and Literacy Education and Community School.

**Connected Ohio Records for Educators (CORE):** A computerized network that addresses all aspects of an educator's qualifications, including licensure. The CORE products available today include Web-Based Recruiting and Entry Year. Web-Based Recruiting allows educators to apply online for jobs throughout the state by completing an online application form. Entry Year (SAFE account required for access) allows school districts to track participation in the Entry Year program for new educators and to apply for state funding online.

**County Departments of Job & Family Services Quality Allocation:** Each of Ohio's 88 County Departments of Job & Family Services receives an allocation, based on a statewide funding formula that can be spent to meet the goals of the Child Care Development Fund.

**Early Head Start:** The Ohio Early Head Start program for pregnant women, infants, and toddlers and the Ohio Head Start program for children aged 3-5 help to insure healthy prenatal outcomes for pregnant women and facilitate the development of infants, toddlers and young children. These Ohio programs also assist parents to be the best possible parent they can be.

**Early Childhood Advisory Council:** An Early Childhood Advisory Council was convened in August 2008 to advise the Cabinet and the Governor's Office on policy and resource development priorities; suggest options for the Cabinet's consideration; assist with communication strategies; and ensure compliance with the requirements of the 2007 Head Start Act reauthorization. The Council merged an early childhood group assisting with Governor Strickland's transition and the Build Ohio board, with the addition of some new members to meet the 2007 Head Start Act requirements. The 45-member Council includes a diverse array of primarily private stakeholders from early childhood programs, schools, higher education, foundations, and other groups. Beginning in September 2008, directors of the Head Start State Collaboration and the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems projects began to share the responsibility of staffing the Advisory Council and Cabinet, along with the director of the Cabinet. The Advisory Council will also serve as the advisory group for both projects.

**Early Childhood Cabinet:** In March 2007, newly elected Governor Ted Strickland signed an executive order establishing an Early Childhood Cabinet to set state policy and coordinate programs serving Ohio children from prenatal through kindergarten. This action united key state agencies around a common goal of promoting school readiness. The Cabinet is composed of the heads of the departments of alcohol and drug addiction services, education, health, job and family services, mental health, and mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

**Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS):** Early childhood comprehensive systems (ECCS) are collaborations implemented by states or localities, which aim to coordinate multiple early childhood services -including early care and education- to better promote child development by supporting families and communities. These comprehensive systems also seek to ensure that children are healthy and ready to learn at school entry by reducing disparities in access and quality of early care and improving services for those at highest risk. Efforts to form ECCS partnerships involve a range of public and private early childhood agencies, parents, and communities. The key components of these programs are: child health and the medical home; early care and education; mental health and social-emotional development; family support; and parenting education.\*

**Early Childhood Education:** State funding for the Early Childhood Education (entitlement) and Early Childhood Education (formerly public preschool) programs is designated for school districts to provide education and comprehensive services for children of income-eligible families. Children eligible for these services must be at least age 3 and not yet age-eligible for kindergarten. Districts receive funding to serve families up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

**Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMH) Professional Development:** Professional development is an integral part of continuing to support the ECMH consultants to be well-trained and supported in best practice consultation services. Professional development support is essential to the ability of ECMH consultants to provide quality services to children, families and care givers. Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH) has provided the administrative and training support to address the capacity necessary to meet the professional development and technical assistance needs of ECMH consultation providers in Ohio.

**Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC) Program:** Ohio implemented the Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC) Program in 2000. The primary goal of ECMHC is to increase knowledge, awareness, resources and skills necessary for communities to meet the behavioral health needs of young children and their families. The programs objectives are to build protective factors in young children, increase skills of parents and promote the competencies of early childhood providers, especially for children ages birth to six years who are at risk for abuse, neglect and poor social and emotional health. ECMHC targets the healthy social and emotional development of all young children in Ohio to ensure they thrive and are ready for school. Services provided by early childhood mental health professionals and are targeted to child care and head start centers. Services include: ECMH consultation to identified centers, including mentoring, coaching, and classroom observation; training and educational sessions; and work with families of children who have been identified as being at-risk of removal from their early childhood setting due to behavioral issues.

**Early Childhood Q-net:** Q-net has offered technical assistance and professional development services to Head Start and the early childhood community. Current projects operated by ECQ-net in Ohio focus on early literacy, school readiness, and emergent content knowledge. Professional development modules developed with support from the Ohio Department of Education provide continuing education credits and optional university credits for all early education and childcare staff, teachers, and administrators.

**Early Intervention Consultants:** Early Intervention Consultants are employees of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and assist the lead agency for Part C/Early Intervention in providing technical assistance to and monitoring of local early intervention programs, including those provided through County Boards of Developmental Disabilities, as outlined in the ODH/DODD interagency agreement.

**Early Intervention Specialist Certification:** Minimum qualifications through registration and certification standards for staff working in early intervention specialist positions (including aides and supervisor) at county boards of developmental disabilities or their contract agencies. These standards apply to persons directly providing, supervising the provision of, or assisting in the provision of early intervention specialist services, who are employed by county boards of developmental disabilities or agencies contracting with a county board to provide early intervention services. The duties of the Early Intervention Specialist are defined in the Early Intervention program rule (5123:2-1-04) and mirror those in the Federal Part C of IDEA regulations for “special instruction.”

**Early Learning Content Standards:** Measure student progress toward meeting standards, serve as checkpoints of cumulative knowledge and skills over a grade band, vary depending on content area, are assessed on achievement tests, are specific statements of knowledge and skills at each grade level, serve as checkpoints that monitor progress toward benchmarks, and are assessed through diagnostic tests.

**Early Learning Integrated Suite of Applications (ELISA):** This Ohio Department of Education application was formerly used by Early Learning Initiative (ELI) agencies and currently by a group of volunteer Federal Head Start agencies. Agencies enter agency, site, teacher credentials (professional development, degree, license, and experience), classrooms, child demographics and child assessment (Get, Got It, Go literacy assessment) information in ELISA. The application is linked to Connected Ohio Records for Educations (CORE) to ensure that teacher license and certificates are checked for Pre-Kindergarten teachers.

**Early Learning Program Guidelines:** Ohio's early learning program guidelines have been crafted with an eye to the future. The desired outcomes are grounded in current research and evaluation studies, developed out of the wisdom and guidance of experts, and inspired by the good work of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Head Start Performance Standards (HSPS), and the Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC). The sense of urgency to accomplish what may be beyond our reach exists because our children deserve our attention and, as early childhood leaders, teachers, friends and mentors, we are part of the hope for a brighter future. We have an obligation to give the very best to our children and to their families because the investment in children is not only about the future, but also about what matters "right now in the present."

**Early Track:** Early Track (ET) version 3.0 is a Web-based application designed to allow decentralized data entry and the collection of information to accomplish comprehensive birth to 3 program oversight. It allows counties the ability to access ET anywhere in the user's county and thus move beyond the need for a centralized data entry function. Decentralizing the data entry responsibility to the people responsible for the outcomes recorded improves the timeliness and accuracy of the data.

**Education Management Information System (EMIS):** A statewide data collection system for Ohio's primary and secondary education, including demographic, attendance, course information, financial data and test results.

**Even Start:** This program offers grants to support local family literacy projects that integrate early childhood education, adult literacy (adult basic and secondary-level education and instruction for English language learners), parenting education, and interactive parent and child literacy activities for low-income families with parents who are eligible for services under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and their children from birth through age 7. Teen parents and their children from birth through age 7 also are eligible. All participating families must be those most in need of program services.

**First Steps:** The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Bureau of Child Care & Development in partnership with the Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association make available infant and toddler specialists through each of the 12 regional child care resource and referral agencies to provide coaching, mentoring and training to caregivers. First Steps promotes the school readiness of infants and toddlers by strengthening the knowledge and practices of caregivers. We focus on the importance of responsive relationships, optimal environments and intentional experiences through coaching and care giving supports.

**Head Start State Collaboration Office:** The purpose of the collaboration project is to create a visible collaborative presence at the state level that can assist in the development of significant, multi-agency and public-private partnerships. The project coordinates federal, state and local policy to support an efficient, effective and coordinated early care and education system within a continuous improvement model by facilitating activities with the governor's office, key state departments and early childhood agencies, associations and advocacy groups. Funding supports the Head Start community, the child care community and state agencies by disseminating information, assisting with data collection and promoting partnerships between Head Start and child care providers. The project also funds professional development activities, provides resources to the early childhood community and supports a parent information Web site, [www.oh-pin.org](http://www.oh-pin.org). The Parent Information Network provides essential early care and education information to parents of young children from birth to age 6.

**Healthy Child Care Ohio (HCCO):** The Healthy Child Care Ohio (HCCO) program is a collaborative effort of health care professionals, child care providers and families working in partnership to improve the health of children in child care settings. It is a national effort of the Healthy Child Care America Campaign and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with the American Academy of Pediatrics. The campaign is based on the principle that families and child care providers can promote the healthy development of young children in child care and increase access to comprehensive and coordinated health care services. HCCO coordinates a statewide Child Care Health Consultant network through a contract with the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association. This network provides child care health consultants to work with child care providers on health and safety issues. Child care health consultants (CCHCs) are registered nurses who promote health and safety in child care programs and help link families and child care providers to the health care community. CCHCs offer consultation and technical assistance to child care providers on site or via phone regarding a wide range of health and safety topics. The CCHCs also offer training which can be counted toward in-service requirements.

**Help Me Grow (HMG):** Ohio's birth to 3 system that provides state and federal funds to county Family and Children First Councils to be used in conjunction with state, local and other federal funds to implement and maintain a coordinated, community-based infrastructure that promotes trans-disciplinary, family-centered services for expectant parents, newborns, infants and toddlers and their families. The Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Early Intervention Services (BEIS) is the lead agency administering HMG program in Ohio.

**Help Me Grow Advisory Council:** The Ohio Help Me Grow Advisory Council is a State Interagency Coordinating Council as defined under section 641 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C - Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers. The council is composed of representatives of a broad cross-section of stakeholders and service providers, including parents, state and local agencies, and medical professionals. The council's role is to assist, advise and make informed and supportive recommendations to the lead agency for Part C in Ohio, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). The Ohio Help Me Grow Advisory Council provides direction and guidance in policy and program implementation issues to ODH. The Council makes nonbinding recommendations to ODH and does not have independent rule-making authority.

**Help Me Grow training program:** The Bureau of Early Intervention Services' (BEIS) Help Me Grow program offers many professional development opportunities for county Help Me Grow personnel. Training is offered for the purpose of providing county staff with the necessary knowledge, resources and support to provide appropriate services to program consumers. Some of the trainings are required for staff credentials.

**Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B/Section 619:** Preschool Special Education Programs are designed to meet the needs of preschool children identified with a disability. The programs are a requirement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, Public Law 108-446 (IDEA); section 619 of IDEA addresses services for preschool children. Preschool special education programs serve children ages 3 through 5 years with eligibility based upon the child's age as of the age-entry date determined by the district (the date may be Aug. 1 or Sept. 30). In Ohio, a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for preschool children with disabilities is provided through center-based and itinerant teacher service-delivery options. A preschool special education teacher and/or related service personnel may provide the services while the child attends an ELI program, Head Start, public or community preschool, or child care. Related services include, but are not limited to, speech/language therapy; occupational or physical therapy; orientation/mobility training; and audiology. Districts are to provide programs and services in accordance with Chapter 3301-51 of the Ohio Administrative Code, Operating Standards for Ohio's Schools Serving Children with Disabilities (revisions effective July 2008) and the licensing requirements in Chapter 3301-37 of the code, Rules for Preschool Programs. (To find the rules online, see Web site under "For more information" below.) Service requirements for federal reporting include: (1) transitioning children from early intervention services to preschool services; (2) providing special education services to preschool children with disabilities in settings that include nondisabled peers; (3) ensuring the qualifications of staff; and (4) assuring that children participate and progress in a curriculum aligned to state early learning standards.

**Interagency Work Group on Autism (IWGA):** As designated by the Strickland Administration, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities convened an Interagency Work Group on Autism. The group is comprised of leadership representing the: Governor's Office, Office of Budget and Management, Executive Medicaid Management Administration, Rehabilitation Services Commission, Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence; and state agencies including Education, Mental Health, Jobs and Family Services, Health, and Developmental Disabilities. The group identifies opportunities to coordinate and create system improvements to build services and supports for individuals with autism spectrum disorders that are responsive, effective and an integral part of Ohio's public system for serving all individuals with developmental disabilities.

**Major Unusual Incident (MUI):** County Boards of Developmental Disabilities (CBDD) and Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) providers are required to report major unusual incident (MUIs) as required in OAC 5123:2-17-02. There are nineteen types of incidents defined in the rule that are considered MUIs. All of the incidents require that immediate action is taken to protect individuals served by the DODD from further harm, that an investigation is conducted to determine the cause of the incident and contributing factors, and that a prevention plan is developed to reduce the likelihood of future occurrences.

**Multi-Agency Community Services Information System (MACSIS):** An automated payment and management information system for mental health services. It is a collaborative effort of ODMH, the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services and community boards. The combined ODMH/ODADAS outpatient payment information system compiles behavioral health care services for both Medicaid paid and non-Medicaid paid services.

**Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC):** Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) activities are “...those activities that are necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the Medicaid State Plan.” MAC is a set of activities that improve access to the Medicaid program; improve the use of the Medicaid services by Medicaid-eligible population; and improve the overall delivery of Medicaid services.

**Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program (MEDTAPP) Project:** In September of 1995, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the Ohio Board of Regents (OBOR) entered into an interagency agreement to promote health services research related to the Ohio Medicaid Program at Ohio's institutions of higher education. As a result of this agreement a Medicaid Technical Assistance and Policy Program (MEDTAPP) committee was formed with representatives from OBOR, the Health Services Research Task Force (HSRTF) of the Ohio Medical School Council of Deans, and ODJFS with overall authority for administering the policy relevant services.

**National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP):** An independent academy of state health policymakers working together to identify emerging issues, develop policy solutions, and improve state health policy and practice. NASHP provides a forum for constructive, nonpartisan work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health issues facing states. It is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-membership organization dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. NASHP's funders include both public and private organizations that contract for services.

**Office of Ohio Health Plans (OHP(Previously Medicaid)):** Provide health coverage to over 2 million consumers each year, work with about 77,000 health care providers, infuse more than \$11 billion into Ohio's economy each year, and coordinate services and payment through at least seven state agencies. Their mission is to improve health care outcomes in Ohio by assuring access to quality health care for eligible Ohioans. OHP will provide quality, cost effective health care to eligible Ohioans through excellence in health care operations and reform.

**Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA):** The OCCRRA promotes the positive development of all children, especially those in out-of-home learning environments. OCCRRA's membership consists of resource and referral agencies providing services to families, early childhood professionals, and communities throughout Ohio. Each member agency maintains a regional database of child care providers, provides families with information on how to select care, increases the quality effectiveness of providers by offering professional development opportunities, and provides information to policy and decision makers.

**Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Professional Development:** The ODJFS supports a number of professional development activities with Child Care Development Fund quality dollars. These activities include but are not limited to: Ohio Professional Development Registry, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Ohio and technical assistance networks (infant and toddler and afterschool).

**Ohio Education Directory System (OEDS):** A relational database system for the collection of directory information for educational entities and individuals that is Web-based for both updating and information retrieval.

**Ohio Educational Television Stations (OETS)/Public Broadcasting Stations (PBS):** A total of eight public television licensees operate twelve stations across the state reaching more than 4.3 million viewers each week. Located in every major city in Ohio as well as rural areas, the broadcast and service areas of the 12 stations cover the entire state. Ohio's public television stations provide the most utilized source of lifelong learning for all Ohioans and serve as a valuable link between the education field and the community. Ohio's public television stations were established, in large part, to provide instructional broadcast programming and support services to all Ohio districts and schools. Additionally, each public television licensee has close ties with higher education institutions in its region. Ohio's public television stations are uniquely qualified to produce multi-media content specifically geared to support Ohio teachers in the K-12 classroom. Because the productions are developed in conjunction with Ohio educators for the express purpose of serving their needs, the stations can assure the content is correlated to academic standards, visually engaging, dynamic and targeted to educators' professional development. The stations are serving their communities through their broadcasts, websites, coverage of community meetings and forums, special events for children and adults, as well as the creation of education resources.

**Ohio's Maternal Depression Program (MDP):** Ohio's mental health service providers are working diligently to increase awareness of the effects of maternal depression through general training for early child care providers and by identifying and linking services for at-risk families. Ohio's Maternal Depression Program (MDP) implements screening programs through a collaborative effort involving county Help Me Grow systems and community mental health (CMH) providers. Identified mental health professionals in each local program provide consultation and accept referrals for services as appropriate. This was a pilot program of ABC with 17 participating counties, but as of FY 2010 is expanding to a statewide program.

**Ohio Parent Information Network (OH-PIN):** The purpose of the OHIO Parent Information Network is a website designed to provide essential information to Ohio parents on early education and care issues of children birth through age six. The information and resources are provided by several partnering state agencies and early childhood associations. A list of participating partners can be found by clicking on "Partner Agencies" in the top menu. OH-PIN is funded and managed by the Head Start State Collaboration Office and administered by the Ohio Department of Education, the Center for Students, Families and Communities, and the Office of Early Learning and School Readiness.

**Ohio Professional Development Network Registry (OPDN):** The Ohio Early Childhood Professional Development Network provides a forum for input and involvement of early childhood advocacy and professional organizations, and their public and private partners to examine early childhood professional development initiatives. This collaborative partnership continues its efforts to strengthen and build a system that provides support for the continued growth, learning, and advancement of early childhood professionals in Ohio.

**Ohio Resource Center (ORC):** ORC enhances teaching and learning by promoting standards-based best practices in mathematics, science, and reading for Ohio schools and universities. ORC serves as a trusted source of easily accessible, peer-reviewed, high-quality, and effective resources.

**Ohio Works First (OWF):** was established to provide time-limited cash assistance to eligible families through Ohio's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program which emphasizes employment, personal responsibility and self-sufficiency. Applications are completed and processed at county departments of job and family services and cash assistance is provided to eligible families for up to 36 months. For child-only cases, there are no time-limits for cash assistance. Each county agency develops its own policies for hardship and good cause extensions. After a 36 month time-limit, cash assistance is not available unless the county department of job and family services approves an extension. A family may apply for a hardship extension at any time after their 36 month time-limit has ended. A family may apply for a good cause extension after a 24 month waiting period following the 36 month time-limit.

**Ohio's Child Care Licensing:** Licensing regulations currently consist of basic requirements to prevent harm to children's health, safety and development. The regulations cover areas that include space requirements, staff/child ratios, staff requirements, program, equipment, policies and procedures, safety/discipline, health procedures, children's records, infant care, hand washing/diaper changing, and nutrition.

**Ohio's Infant and Toddler Guidelines:** The guidelines serve as a starting point for getting to know individual infants as well as an ongoing point of reference as children grow and learn and are designed to be utilized for three broad yet critically important constituencies: parents, providers and policy makers. The guidelines broaden the knowledge of how young children progress through three distinct ages of infancy and where they stand developmentally.

**Ohio's Early Care and Education Conference:** The Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children and the Ohio Department of Education invite thousands of early care and education professionals and fellow colleagues to showcase their products or services at an annual Early Care & Education Conference.

**Ohio Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative (OIMRI):** The OIMRI programs are funded to provide community-based outreach and care coordination services in targeted communities with high-risk, low-income African-American pregnant women and families. When a disparate health condition affects the general population, it affects low-income and people of color at a higher rate and more severely.

**Ohio's Early Childhood Core Knowledge and Competencies:** The core knowledge and competencies designed for Early Childhood Professionals is based on the understanding that there are critical areas of knowledge and skills that are necessary for early childhood professionals to have if young children are to thrive under their care and strives to clearly communicate the nature of these critical areas of professional practice. They are designed to be useful to anyone who is interested in the competency of early childhood professionals, whether it is those working or considering work in the field, those families who depend upon early childhood services, or those who make decisions and policies about early childhood professionals. Core knowledge and competencies define what all adults who work with young children need to know, understand and be able to do in order to ensure that children have the best possible environments, experiences and relationships in which to grow and learn. Core Knowledge is based upon all that we currently know about young children's development, care and learning through research as well as the combined wisdom of leaders in our field.

**Operating Standards for Ohio Schools:** Under section 3301.07 of the Revised Code, the purpose for adopting operating standards for Ohio elementary and secondary schools is to assure that all students are provided a general education of high quality.

**Part C Stimulus Funds:** The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) (Public Law 111-5) appropriates significant new funding for programs under Parts B and C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Part B of the IDEA provides funds to state educational agencies (SEAs) and through them to local educational agencies (LEAs) to help them ensure that children with disabilities, including children aged three through five, have access to a free appropriate public education to meet each child's unique needs and prepare each child for further education, employment, and independent living. Part C of the IDEA provides funds through the Grants for Infants and Families program to each state lead agency designated by the Governor to implement statewide systems of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary interagency programs and make early intervention services available through early intervention service (EIS) programs to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.

**Perinatal Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) Surveillance System:** HIV/AIDS Surveillance System provides information on the occurrence of HIV and AIDS in Ohio to state and local AIDS prevention and service programs, to the public, and to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The program also analyzes the data to help interpret changes in the epidemic. The data supports continued HIV testing at sites around the state, the allocation of funds for HIV treatment and services, and efforts to prevent the spread of infection.

**Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS):** A surveillance project of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health departments. PRAMS collects state-specific, population-based data on maternal attitudes and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy.

**Preschool Special Education Units (GRF):** For preschool special education unit funding to be approved, school districts and educational service centers are to submit staff and student data through the Education Management Information System (EMIS). Boards of Developmental Disabilities (DDs) are to submit staff and student data as of Dec. 1 to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) through a Web application.

**Preschool Special Education Units IDEA, Part B, Section 619:** Preschool Special Education Programs are designed to meet the needs of preschool children identified with a disability. The programs are a requirement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, Public Law 108-446 (IDEA); section 619 of IDEA addresses services for preschool children. Preschool special education programs serve children ages 3 through 5 years with eligibility based upon the child's age as of the age-entry date determined by the district (the date may be Aug. 1 or Sept. 30). In Ohio, a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for preschool children with disabilities is provided through center-based and itinerant teacher service-delivery options. A preschool special education teacher and/or related service personnel may provide the services while the child attends a Head Start, public or community preschool, or child care. Related services include, but are not limited to, speech/language therapy; occupational or physical therapy; orientation/mobility training; and audiology. Districts are to provide programs and services in accordance with Chapter 3301-51 of the Ohio Administrative Code, Operating Standards for Ohio's Schools Serving Children with Disabilities (revisions effective July 2008) and the licensing requirements in Chapter 3301-37 of the code, Rules for Preschool Programs.

**Preschool Licensing:** Authority for preschool program licensing is in Sections 3301.52 to 3301.59 of the Ohio Revised Code. Section 3301.53(B) of the Ohio Revised Code requires: The state board of education in consultation with the director of Ohio Department of Job and Family Services shall ensure that the rules adopted by the state board under sections 3301.52 to 3301.58 of the Revised Code are consistent with and meet or exceed the requirements of Chapter 5104 of the Revised Code with regard to child day care centers. The original Rules for Preschool Programs were effective on Aug. 5, 1988; then the rules were revised again in 2004. The most recent revision went into effect on July 1, 2009, and is limited to statutory and rule changes with some technical revisions and minor clarifications recommended by stakeholders.

**Publicly Funded Child Care and Regulatory Compliance Data:** Data is captured in several systems and reports are developed for the purpose of management of programs, projection of budgets, and utilization for planning purposes.

**Ready School Initiative:** Through a partnership between the ODE, Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators and the Spark Ohio Initiative with funding support from the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Ohio's developed a Ready School framework consisting of seven components. These components are based on an extended review of research and national initiatives as well as on survey information collected from Ohio's elementary school principals. While some components may evoke a greater sense of urgency than others for a particular school, all are important, interrelated and complementary. Thus, concerted efforts in one area are likely to bring improvements in other areas. Likewise, major gaps in one area may impede progress in certain other areas.

**Really Simple Syndication:** TechNet provides RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds for its security bulletins, advisories, magazine features, and other security-related alerts for IT professionals. There are also less-technical security feeds designed for users at home. See the list of available feeds at the bottom of this page. All you need to take advantage of these feeds is an RSS-compatible browser or “feed reader,” such as the ones listed in the section below. RSS feeds deliver new content to you on the topics in which you are interested. RSS provides a convenient way to syndicate information from a variety of sources, including news stories, updates to a Web site or important bulletins. Most people take advantage of some form of feed-reader software to monitor updates to RSS feeds.

**Ready to Learn PBS:** To extend the impact of PBS KIDS programs, PBS Ready To Learn is designed to build partnerships with local community organizations such as child care centers, schools, libraries, businesses, civic groups, and government agencies to extend the value of children’s educational television. Ready To Learn stations conduct thousands of workshops annually for parents and early childhood professionals working with children birth to eight years old and distribute half a million books to children each year.

**Restraint Policy Work Group:** Seven state departments joined together to create a work group dedicated to researching issues related to the use of physical and chemical restraints within their systems. Those seven departments include the Ohio Departments of Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Youth Services, Education, Jobs and Family Services and Health. This workgroup made recommendations to the Governor’s office regarding policy restrictions on the use of restraint, including a recommendation to ban the use of the prone restraint across all systems. These recommendations led to Governor Strickland’s issuance of Executive Order EO-13S which banned the use of the prone restraint procedure, expanded the scope of these recommendations to include an additional seven state departments, and created the Ohio Policy Committee on Restraint and Seclusion (OPCRS) to address all types of restraint and seclusion and propose a single state-wide policy on their use. The OPCRS is comprised of 14 state departments. The departments named to this committee are Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health, Education, Youth Services, Alcohol and Drug Addition Services, Job and Family Services, Health, Public Safety, Veterans Services, Natural Resources, Commerce, Board of Regents, Aging, and Rehabilitation and Corrections. Three subcommittees have been formed to address the specific areas outlined in the executive order: Identification of Risk, Training, and Tracking and Reporting. Proposed policy recommendations are expected to be presented to the Governor’s office by the summer of 2010.

**School Age Licensing Standards:** According to sections 3301.52 (J) and (K) of the Revised Code, a school-age child care program (SACC) means a child day care program only for school children that is operated by a school district board of education, county Board of Developmental Disabilities (CBDD) or eligible nonpublic school and has the same meaning as in section 5104.01 of the Revised Code. Section 5104 of the Revised Code, the licensing requirements for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), defines a school child care program as providing child day care for school children only and does either or both of the following: Operates only during that part of the day that immediately precedes or follows the public school day of the school district in which the center is located; Operates only when the public schools in the school district in which the center is located are not open for instruction with pupils in attendance. Section 3301.59 of the Revised Code requires that any school child care program that receives state or federal funds specifically allocated for school child care programs be licensed. That license may be granted by the ODE or the ODJFS depending upon the entity responsible for operating the program.

**State Advisory Panel on Exceptional Children (SAPEC):** The SAPEC shall advise the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) on the education of children with disabilities. The panel's purpose is to provide a broad base of input to the Office for Exceptional Children (OEC) and State Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding policies, practices, and issues related to the education of children and youth with disabilities aged birth through twenty-one. In addition to the required federal mandates, the SAPEC will investigate best practices and anticipate future needs for special education in Ohio.

**State Board of Education:** The Ohio State Board of Education is the governing body of the Ohio Department of Education, the state education agency of Ohio.

**State Support Team (SST):** Ohio is committed to the implementation of a unified state system of support directly focused on improving the academic achievement of all students. Ohio's statewide system of support includes State Support Teams and Educational Service Center personnel who use a connected set of tools to improve instructional practice and student performance on a continuing basis.

**Step Up to Quality (SUTQ):** Ohio's voluntary quality rating system designed to support and recognize early care and education programs licensed through the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). Programs that exceed quality benchmarks above the minimum health and safety standards can earn one, two, or three stars. Benchmarks include Ratio/Group Size, Staff Education and Qualifications, Specialized Training, Administrative Practices, and Early Learning. The goals of SUTQ are to increase the number of high quality early care and education programs serving children, provide an easy to use tool for parents so they can choose high quality care and education for their children, and recognize and support programs that achieve higher levels of quality.

**Step Up to Quality (SUTQ) (online application part):** Allows Child Day Care providers to apply for a "Set Up to Quality" rating; allows JFS staff to view/print the applications. Languages: ASP.NET 1.1, C#, JavaScript, HTML, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), XML Architecture: Windows 2003 Server, IIS 6.0, .NET Framework 1.1, Oracle 9i Client, Oracle 10g database, IntelliReach SMTP Relay Host; Step Up To Quality is a voluntary rating system for early care and education centers in Ohio. Participating centers earn a one, two or three star rating by meeting an extensive list of quality benchmarks that exceed licensing standards. Experts say these benchmarks improve the growth and development potential of children. The rating system also provides a useful tool for selecting quality early childhood programs. These benchmarks include low child-to-staff ratios, group size, accreditation, staff education, specialized training, improved workplace characteristics and early learning standards.

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** This program helps low-income people and families buy the food they need for good health. Recipients apply for benefits by completing a State application form. Benefits are provided on an electronic card that is used like an ATM card and accepted at most grocery stores.

**System to Achieve Results for Students (STARS):** STARS is a Web-based application that provides for planning and management of professional development and technical assistance programs for Ohio educators.

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):** The following programs and services are supported through the TANF program: Ohio Works First - OWF provides time-limited cash assistance to needy families with (or expecting) children, by furnishing parents or specified relatives with work, training, and other support services they need in order to attain permanent self-sufficiency while meeting the family's ongoing basic needs. Prevention, Retention and Contingency - PRC is a state-supervised, county-administered program that serves every political subdivision in the State. PRC provides ongoing services and nonrecurring short-term benefits designed to accomplish one of the four purposes of TANF by addressing supports needed by working families and by addressing the needs of families with barriers to self-sufficiency. Other TANF-Funded Benefits and Services - Ohio also uses TANF funding to support many different Title IV-A programs or program components which serve TANF-eligible individuals. TANF funds must be reasonably calculated to achieve one of four purposes, as indicated by federal law. Family Supports - A very important component in moving people away from public assistance and toward self-sufficiency is the provision of adequate family supports. As families move into regular, meaningful employment, it is imperative that they are given the opportunity to access support services that help them maintain their jobs. Assistance with buying food, getting health coverage, paying for child care and transportation are all family supports that assist families in their pursuit of success.

**The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP):** A Federal program that helps low-income people, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost.

**Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):** A Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. WIC helps income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, women who recently had a baby, infants and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition. The program improves pregnancy outcomes by providing or referring to support services necessary for full-term pregnancies; reduces infant mortality by reducing the incidence of low birth weight (infants under 5 ½ pounds are at greater risk of breathing problems, brain injuries and physical abnormalities) and provides infants and children with a healthy start in life by improving poor or inadequate diets. WIC provides nutrition education, breastfeeding education and support; supplemental, highly nutritious foods such as milk, eggs, cheese, juice, cereal, beans, peanut butter and iron-fortified infant formula; referral to prenatal and pediatric health care and other maternal and child health and human service programs (examples: Head Start, Medicaid and Food Stamps).