

# **Regional and Local Financing Strategies to Create Inclusive Options for Young Children with Disabilities**

**Preschool LRE  
Community of Practice**

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# Federal and State Focus

- **In promoting early education partnerships:**
  - **To provide accessible early education programs that meet the needs of low-income parents, especially those transitioning from welfare to work**
  - **To provide all families with access to high-quality, comprehensive, early education services that prepare children to succeed in school**

Source: *Early Care and Education Partnerships: State Actions and Local Lessons* (February 2003), by Diane Schilder, Ellen Kiron, & Kimberly Elliott, published by the Partnership Impact Research Project, Education Development Center, Inc. Funded by Child Care Bureau, ACF/Dept. of Health and Human Services.

# Promoting Collaboration

**“[The U.S. Department of Education (ED)] will spotlight and share information on what is working in early childhood education. The components ED plans to look for include...creative partnering with corporate and community-based organizations for maximum utilization of financial resources and support; unique efforts to use multiple government funding streams in highly cost-effective ways...”**

# Promoting Collaboration

**“[The] Administration is promoting collaboration across the different programs in the ECE field—including child care, Head Start and Pre-k programs. Programs...have led the way by working together to share facilities, professional development activities and other resources...When collaboration works, as it should, families receive comprehensive, quality services on a full-day, full-year basis that meets the needs of working parents.”**

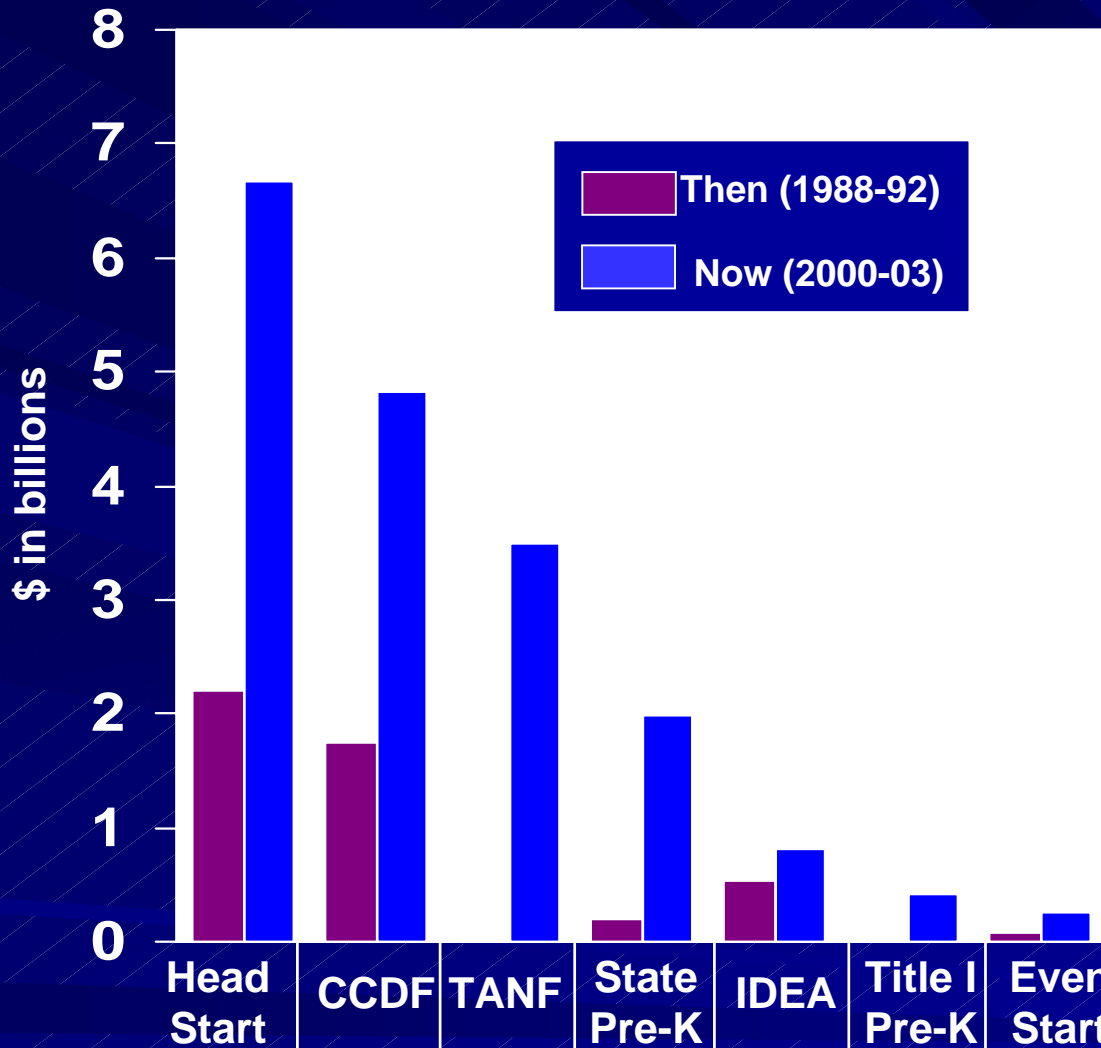
# Partnership Trends

- Funders encourage partnering with many providing incentives
- Interest in high-quality/outcomes, full cost, and blended funding
- Impact of rapid growth in State Pre-k
- Coordination of systems at the local, State, and Federal level
- Desire to affect and work with family child care and kith & kin

# Focus on ECE has resulted in...

- **Accountability, shared outcomes and results**
- **Increased competition for children at the local level**
- **Multiple providers for children—often creating continuity issues**
- **Local decision-making or coordinating bodies**
- **Need for partnerships**

# Promoting Collaboration



- Head Start Federal funding triples to \$6.7 billion
- CCDF triples to \$4.8 billion
- TANF Transfer & Direct: \$3.5 billion
- State Pre-K increases tenfold to \$2 billion
- IDEA (Part C & Section 619): Increases 52% to \$400 million
- Title I Pre-K: \$400 million
- Even Start: \$250 million

Sources: **Head Start (FFY1992, FFY2003)**: 1992 Head Start Program Fact Sheet, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); 2003 Head Start Program Fact Sheet, HHS. **Child Care and Development Fund (FFY1992, FFY2002)**: 2000 Green Book, U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Ways and Means; FY 2002 CCDF Final Allocations and Earmarks for States and Territories, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. **TANF (FFY2002)**: Table A - Combined Federal Funds Spent in FY 2002, Spending from Federal TANF Grant in FY 2002 through the Fourth Quarter, HHS. **State-funded Prekindergarten (1988, 2000)**: Prekindergarten Programs in the States: Trends and Issues (2001), Anne Mitchell, Early Childhood Policy Research. **IDEA (FFY1992, FFY2003)**: State Funding History Tables: FY 1991—FY 2001, U.S. Department of Education (ED); Department of Education Fiscal Year 2003 Congressional Action, ED. **Title I Preschool (SY1999-2000)**: Title I Preschool Education: More Children Served, but Gauging Effect on School Readiness Difficult (September 2000), General Accounting Office. School year 1999-2000 estimates. **Even Start (FFY1992, FFY2003)**: State Funding History Tables: FY 1991—FY 2001, U.S. Department of Education (ED); Department of Education Fiscal Year 2003 Congressional Action, ED.

# Current Reality

- **Economic downturn**
- **Tight budgets at State and Federal levels**
- **No significant increases in Federal or State early care and education funding**
- **Growing demand for child care subsidies**
- **Growing demand for high-quality early care and education**
- **Increased focus on accountability**

# **Early Education Partnership Structures**

- I. A single program or agency blends funds from multiple sources to serve children at a single site.**
  
- II. Two or more agencies, which are separate legal entities, partner to serve children at a single site.**
  
- III. A program or agency partners with family child care provider/s.**

# Key Elements of Successful Partnerships

## PEOPLE

- Shared vision
- Mutual respect
- Attitude, beliefs & values
- Skills
- Knowledge

## SYSTEMS

- Effective communication systems
- Detailed, comprehensive planning
- Service delivery
- Policies
- On-going evaluation and improvement

## RESOURCES

- Adequate funding
- Resource management
- Time
- Staffing
- Environment—facility, space

# Finance Considerations

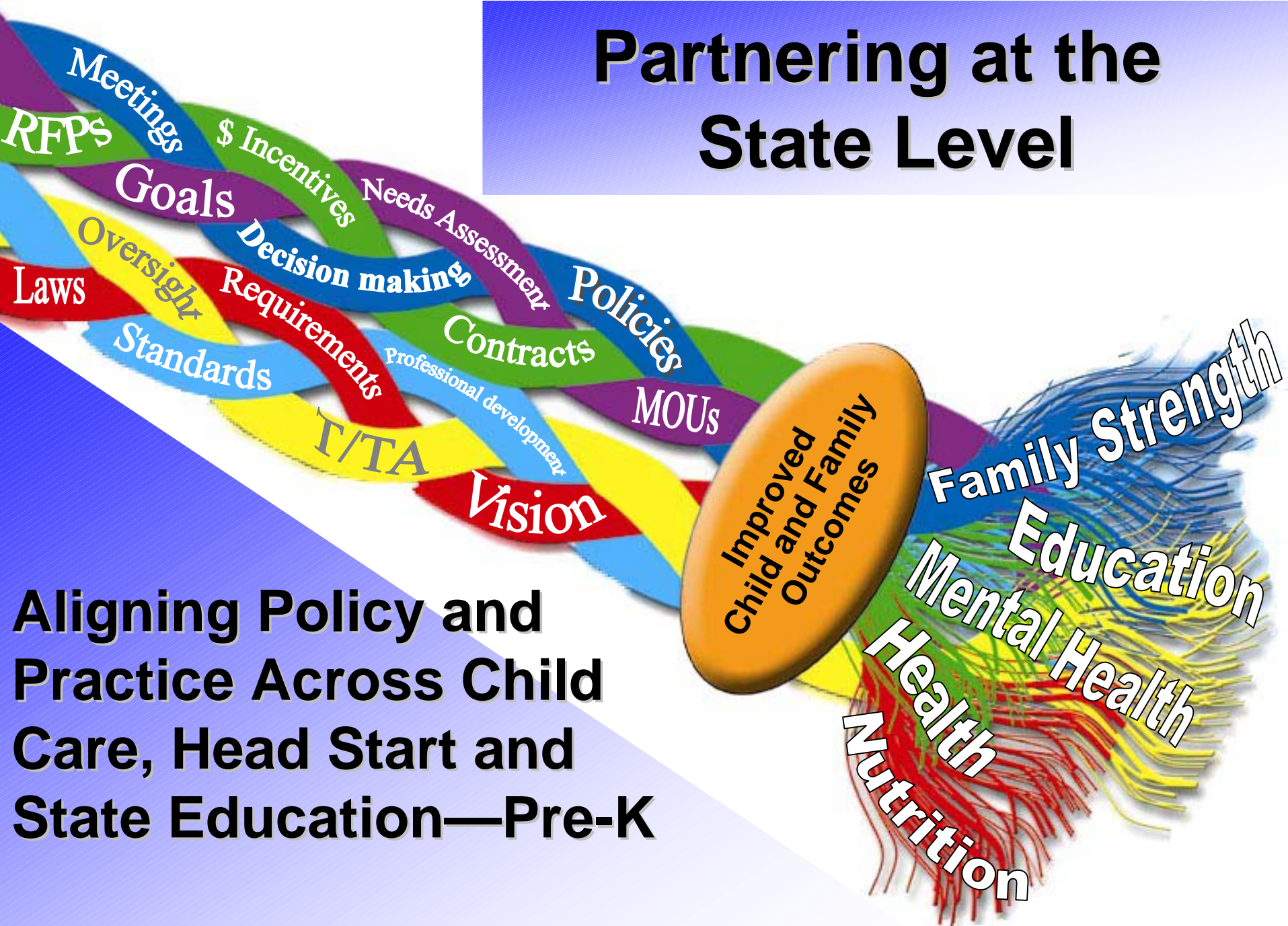
- **Create a win-win situation for all—children, families, programs, and communities**
- **Maximize resources and funding from all public and private sources**
- **Be fair, thoughtful in determining revenue allocations**
- **Express interests of both/all parties**

# Finance Considerations

## Cost sharing tips . . .

- ➔ **Work out the financial agreement in advance**
- ➔ **Involve all key players including independent auditors and Federal regional officials**
- ➔ **Provided detailed information in the Head Start grant, including budgets**
- ➔ **Ensure documentation provides auditors with sufficient detail**

# Partnering at the State Level



**Aligning Policy and Practice Across Child Care, Head Start and State Education—Pre-K**

# Partnering at the Local Level



**Braiding Funding and Resources in Child Care, Head Start, and Pre-K**

# Partnering at the Local Level



**Braiding Policy and Practice Among Child Care, Head Start, and Pre-K**

# Next Steps/Challenges

- **Continue to identify and reach out to partners in other agencies and systems**
- **Blend funding streams and coordinate service delivery to maximize the number of children/families served given limited resources**
- **Align systems—i.e., administrative rules, policies, and program outcomes**

# Resources

## Federal Initiatives and T/TA Systems:

- *Good Start, Grow Smart (GSGS)*, No Child Left Behind
- National Child Care Information Center (NCCIC)
- Quality In Linking Together: Early Education Partnerships (QUILT )
- National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

## Other Organizations or Entities:

- Alliance for Early Childhood Finance
- The Finance Project
- Foundation Initiatives, e.g., BUILD, The Trust for Early Education (TEE)
- Center for Law & Social Policy (CLASP)
- Smart Start National Technical Assistance Center