CHILD CARE DATA CENTER

WHAT IS THE CHILD CARE DATA CENTER (CCDC)?

CCDC is a Child Care Aware® of America project designed to address the lack of strong, standardized data about child care in the U.S. The end product will be an interactive website that:

- Allows users to enter, store and interact with meaningful child care data.
- Allows users to access customized data visualizations to tell the story of child care in their state or local community.
- Offers actionable advocacy tools.

The project is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

WHY DOES THE CHILD CARE FIELD NEED THE CCDC?

As things are now, it's difficult to find data to answer even basic questions about community-level child care – including questions about access, cost and quality. One consequence is that decisions about child care systems, policies and funding are made without strong data. Some investments in child care don't reach the families and child care providers most in need of support. This can deepen the disparities in child care access, affordability and quality. Strong data could allow decision makers to target a community with interventions they actually need.

HOW WILL YOU DECIDE WHAT KINDS OF DATA TO INCLUDE?

Fortunately, we don't have to do this alone. In March 2018, we launched Phase 1 of the CCDC project by contacting many CCAoA members, state partners and national leaders in the child care field. We asked for their ideas about what types of data to include, how to engage state and national data partners and what types of reports and data visualizations would support the work of advocates, researchers and policymakers.

Now in Phase 2, we continue to gather the critical input of state and national partners. The project will continue to evolve as we collect more data, which will help us tell and visualize more child care stories.

WHEN WILL THE CCDC BE AVAILABLE?

We expect to launch the website in March 2020 with data from nine CCDC pilot states: Arkansas, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin. These states are sharing their expertise and data with us to help us better understand the child care landscape. We will work closely with them throughout the year to build, populate and test all aspects of the CCDC including the navigation, user interface and advocacy tools we develop. Our goal is to make the site as useful and user-friendly as possible.

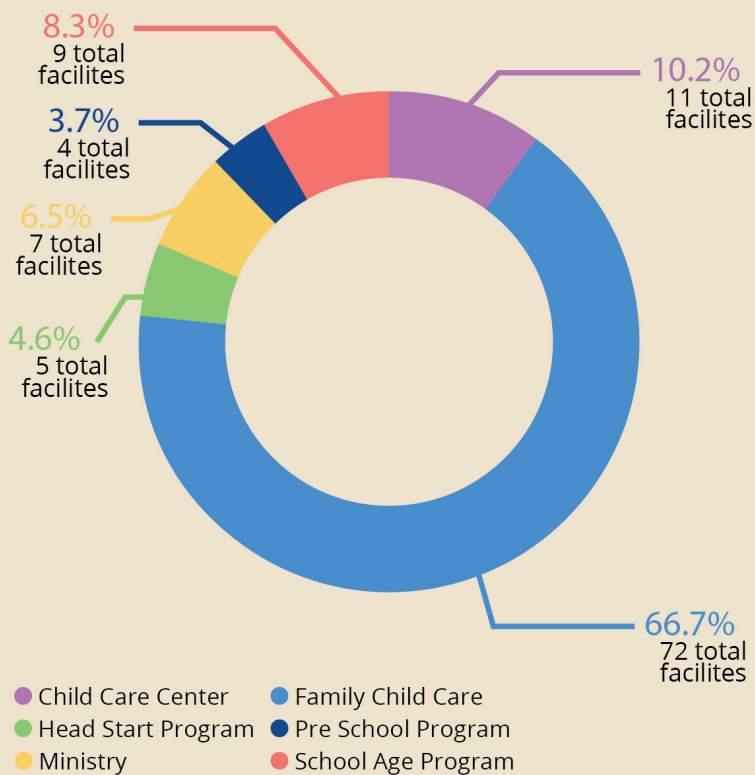## CAN YOU GIVE AN EXAMPLE OF DATA VISUALIZATIONS AND ADVOCACY TOOLS?

The CCDC will allow users to transform their data into dynamic visual representations. Visual data has more impact on the reader than simple tables. It allows advocates to demonstrate to policymakers the true scope of the need in their state. These visualizations may be useful when working with advocates and policymakers.

For example, the simple graphic below shows the prevalence of different types of child care in one county.

Types of Child Care

- 8.3%
  9 total facilites
- 3.7%
  4 total facilites
- 6.5%
  7 total facilites
- 4.6%
  5 total facilites
- 10.2%
  11 total facilites
- 66.7%
  72 total facilites

- ● Child Care Center
- ● Family Child Care
- ● Head Start Program
- ● Pre School Program
- ● Ministry
- ● School Age Program

Advocacy

What Can We Do

Take the next step and use this data to make the case for more accessible and affordable child care for everyone in your community. Explore the tools below and take action; connect the data to stories, educate elected official and support current legislation.

TAKE ACTION