



Statewide Family Child Care Workforce Pilot Program Overview

The [New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority](#) (CDFA) has been allocated resources to support family-based child care providers across New Hampshire.

The Statewide Family Child Care Workforce Pilot Program will focus efforts on supporting family-based child care providers to increase equitable access to quality, affordable child care for New Hampshire families. The pilot program will also provide an understanding of the current landscape of supports and opportunities for family-based child care providers to help inform how New Hampshire may approach the development and implementation of a [Staffed Family Child Care Network](#) as a long-term solution for the sector.

Family-based child care providers are a distinct, essential and valued early care and education setting for New Hampshire's children and families that require a unique and intentional focus. CDFA is centering equity in this work and prioritizing delivering resources in a way which provides communities, families and individuals what they need to grow and prosper in New Hampshire. We believe this will provide the highest care to families and encourages the long-term sustainability of providers as small business owners in New Hampshire. A strong network of family-based child care providers supporting our communities enables New Hampshire families to participate in the workforce, increasing their ability to access economic opportunities while growing the state's economy.

Key Program Elements

The pilot program will focus on engaging new and existing family-based child care providers to deliver services and support including:

- Assess the health and readiness of the provider for start-up or expansion;
- Deliver business technical assistance and training;
- Create connections to sector-specific resources for training and mentoring;
- Focus intentionally on a community-based, culturally grounded and equity-centered service delivery; and
- Provide access to a child care provider start-up or expansion funding grant program.

Outreach and engagement will be focused specifically on family-based providers, including:

- *Family Group Child Care Homes*: a child care program operated in a home in which the provider resides. In a family group child care home one provider and one family child care worker or assistant may care for 7 to 12 preschool children plus up to 5 children enrolled in a full-day school program. The number of children younger than 36 months of age that may be cared for is limited.
- *Family Child Care Homes*: a child care program operated in a home in which the provider resides. In a family child care home one provider may care for a maximum of 6 preschool children plus up to 3 children who are enrolled in a full-day school program. The number of children younger than 36 months of age and 24 months of age that may be cared for is limited.
- *License-Exempt Child Care Homes*: a non-licensed home-based program where providers care for no more than 3 children other than their own and meet additional minimal requirements by the state.
- *Informal Family Child Care Providers*: those who may be currently providing family-based child care but are not currently licensed or licensed-exempt with the State of New Hampshire.

CDFA will engage with statewide, regional and community-based organizations, networks and consultants to accomplish program goals, including:

- *Business and Quality Support Providers*: Conducts business health assessment for new or existing family-based child care providers; analyze how to accelerate business models for existing providers; provide technical support, trainings, mentorship, grants and stipends relevant to business and early childhood

education needs.

- *Community Partners*: Conducts outreach to family-based child care providers not currently or formally engaged with New Hampshire's system; demonstrates deep connections within the communities they are serving and the ability to engage with potential or current providers that could benefit from access and connection to the Business and Quality Support Providers.
- *Community Anchor*: Serves as a placed-based anchor and convener for family-based providers, Community Partners and Business and Quality Support Providers. Community Anchors will provide access to child care to enable family-based providers to engage in onsite trainings and business technical assistance.

Those interested in learning more about the program, and other CDFA resources, can sign up to receive updates by visiting <https://nhcdfa.org/signup/>.

Phases of Program Activities

CDFA is approaching this work with a focus on ingenuity and adaptability. We will continue to engage diverse partners and communities throughout the grant period and uplift key learnings and practices as they emerge. CDFA is taking a phased approach to leverage resources in a way that makes the most significant long-term impacts while supporting family-based child care providers with services.

Phase 1: Resource Development

CDFA will engage organizations, networks and consultants that can develop resources and materials that will be critical to supporting planned activities for 2024 and beyond. Key components include the development of the following materials:

- Feasibility framework for family-based child care providers to outline various business models and pathways for prospective and existing providers;
- Comprehensive family-based child care provider business health assessment;
- Family-based child care licensing guide;
- Research agenda and policy improvements that address challenges, opportunities, and informs long-term solutions/service delivery and center equity in moving towards positive outcomes for providers, children and families.
- Comprehensive evaluation framework.

Phase 2: Support Existing and Emerging Pilot Programs Across the Regions

Existing regional infrastructure to support family-based child care providers varies widely and is in different stages of development and sophistication. CDFA will capitalize on the momentum of pilot programs that are demonstrating progress and showing promise towards meeting the Department of Health and Human Services' long-term goals and supporting family child care providers today.

CDFA aims to provide resources to each of the seven Early Childhood. This will help inform additional efforts to build capacity across the state to support family-based child care providers, as well as increase the understanding of where adaptation of successful regional efforts can be expanded statewide.

CDFA's Investment in New Hampshire's Child Care Sector and Small Businesses

Investing in New Hampshire's child care sector is a high priority for CDFA and advances the equity and community impact goals outlined in the organization's new Living Strategic Plan, as well as leverages the organizations role as a statewide convener. Since state fiscal year 2014, CDFA has invested more than \$16 million to support child care services and facilities in New Hampshire at various stages of project development. The Statewide Family Child Care Workforce Pilot Program also builds on CDFA's long-standing history of investment in small businesses throughout New Hampshire.