

Quality Progress Report (QPR) For Kansas FFY 2021

1) Overview

To gain an understanding of the availability of child care in the State/Territory please provide the following information on the total number of child care providers. Please enter N/A when necessary.

1.1 State or Territory Child Care Provider Population

Enter the total number of child care providers that operated in the state or territory as of September 30, 2021. These counts should include all child care providers, not just those serving children receiving CCDF subsidies. Please enter N/A when necessary.

☒ Licensed center-based programs

757

☐ N/A.

Describe:

☐ License exempt center-based programs

#

☒ N/A.

Describe:

Legally exempt center-based care is not tracked in Kansas. The Kansas Department for Children and Families has a memorandum of understanding with one federally regulated center. However, this center has been closed since March 2019 and remains closed as of September 2021.

☒ Licensed family child care

1289

☐ N/A.

Describe:

☐ License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home)

#

☒ N/A.

Describe:

Except for relative care providers who meet the required definition, child care providers in these situations are not eligible to receive CCDF subsidy. The following situations DO NOT require a license, and are considered "inconsequential care" in Kansas:

when child care is provided for children in their own home

when child care is provided for children who are relatives of the child care provider

when child care is arranged between friends or neighbors on an irregular basis

when child care is provided for not more than two children unrelated to the child care provider for not more than 20 hours a week as determined by adding the hours each child is cared for during the week.

#

☐ In-home (care in the child's own home)

☒ N/A.

Describe:

In-home care is not tracked in Kansas. Child care providers in these situations are not eligible to receive CCDF subsidy unless they meet the definition of relative care and are enrolled with the Kansas Department for Children and Families to provide child care.

☒ Other.

Explain

of In-Home Relative Providers-68

of Out-Of-Home Relative Providers-328

☐ N/A

1.2 Goals for Quality Improvement

Based on Question 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 from the FFY2019-2021 CCDF State Plan, please report your progress on the State or Territory's overarching goals for quality improvement during October 1 to September 30 of the last federal fiscal year. You may include any significant areas of progress that were not anticipated in the Plan, as well. For

each goal listed, briefly describe the improvement with specific examples or numeric targets where possible.

Links to Quality (L2Q) completed a two-year pilot which began in April 2018 and ended in May 2020. At the end of the pilot, programs were given the option to continue with Links to Quality as part of the transition with the addition of work groups to help maintain the provider voice in the modifications to the program. The program was created with the support of early childhood organizations across the state and was led by the Kansas Department for Children and Families. The pilot was a trial run to ensure that all Links to Quality materials and procedures operate as planned. We chose three topic links which contained indicators identified as contributing to high-quality child care. Our quality indicators are built on the foundation of licensing. The original quality indicators were chosen based on findings from research and stakeholder meetings. These indicators/links included: program leadership, family partnerships, and learning and development. Within each indicator there were benchmarks, or processes, a child care provider must engage in or complete to satisfy the requirements of that indicator. The child care provider submitted evidence through an online system to support the activities required in each benchmark.

Links to Quality is innovative in design to recognize quality. We have chosen to value our providers and the programs they implement and support them as they commit to continuous quality improvement. Through the portfolio review process, we utilized Appreciate Inquiry to provide feedback on evidence submitted to meet Links to Quality indicators. Providers were encouraged and motivated by this feedback that honored their accomplishments. During the pilot, we evaluated and started modifications on each link before considering broader implementation. As these modifications were underway, it was determined the third link that focused on Health and Safety along with Learning and Development be separated into two links to allow for more focus on each critical area of child care. No provider's program was awarded the three-foundation links during the pilot, as the pilot was looking at procedures and processes.

Links to Quality is structured into five learning communities. Members of each learning community include child care providers, community consultants and other early childhood professionals. These communities meet monthly to share common goals and work collaboratively to improve their program quality and progress through the Links to Quality indicators. Learning communities are in five county clusters in 17 counties. Starting in July 2020, programs were encouraged to invite other programs into their learning communities.

Our pilot participants include both family and center based child care programs. During and after the Links to Quality pilot, participants were given various technical assistance based on their need. These included: peer-to-peer meetings, coaching, mentoring, technical assistance, training (online and face-to-face), reviewing and assessing.

Community consultants have specifically provided the following technical assistance from October 2020 to September 2021.

On-site (in person) 19

Phone 195

Email 169

Technology Based 158 (text)

Virtual 40

Each participant was eligible for financial incentives and grants throughout the pilot and into the transition. Providers were receiving a monthly stipend to use for expenses such as substitute pay, travel and other expenses incurred as part of their participation within their learning community. Grants were awarded through a grant application process to promote opportunities to achieve professional goals identified in self-assessments and quality improvement plans. Grant funds could be utilized as follows: purchasing supplies, developing

and copying materials, paying substitutes, distributing parent surveys, hosting family engagement activities and completing professional development. The awarded amount varied depending on the licensed capacity of each program. Recognition incentives were the final method used to increase motivation to complete the pilot. This incentive was to reward Links to Quality child care providers when they reached program milestones during the Links to Quality journey. The grant opportunities for Links to Quality were only available during the pilot. The providers who have continued with Links to Quality during this transition have continued to receive the monthly stipends. Recognition incentives include but are not limited to the following: positive and motivational appreciation notes and tokens, and spotlight on the program's success in printed publications, such as newsletters and social media posts.

On-going stipends to participants in Links to Quality (QRIS)

Licensed Home and Center-based Programs \$23,244

Links to Quality pilot participants used several trainings and assessment tools throughout the pilot. Additionally, all participants had access to Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC). This tool assisted child care providers in comparing their nutrition and physical activity practices to best practice standards. Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care is an interactive tool that allows child care providers to complete and save their self-assessments online. The self-assessment tool offers action plans, goal setting, and tips and materials to guide them in their nutrition and physical activity journey.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Self-Assessments by Topic:

Family Child Care Homes

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 28

Child Nutrition 76

Farm to Early Care and Education 24

Infant and Child Physical Activity 42

Outdoor Play and Learning 36

Screen Time 20

Oral Health 23

Child Care Centers

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 4

Child Nutrition 9

Farm to Early Care and Education 3

Infant and Child Physical Activity 7

Outdoor Play and Learning 5

Screen Time 4

Oral Health 4

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Action Plans:

Family Child Care Homes 89

Child Care Centers 8

Leadership training titled "Create Inclusive Leadership Groups that Work" was also offered to the providers participating in Links to Quality. During this professional development

opportunity participants learned the basic principles of effective peer learning communities that increase cooperation and build group members individual leadership skills. The course addressed the importance and implementation of building trusting relationships and shared leadership within groups to achieve cohesiveness and build strong working groups where all members are welcomed.

This 4-hour training was received by:

Family Child Care Homes 14

Child Care Centers 4

Baseline information and objective measurements obtained from the pilot will ensure the quality indicators have the greatest impact on the quality of services, avoid any duplication of

existing standards and requirements, and serve as a tool to unite early childhood programs under a common vision of quality that applies to all settings and sectors. After the pilot was completed, a comprehensive evaluation and a needs assessment were completed by implementation and evaluation partners. The results included recommendations and considerations for future statewide implementation.

2) Supporting the training and professional development of the child care workforce

Goal: Ensure the lead agency's professional development systems or framework provides initial and ongoing professional development and education that result in a diverse and stable child care workforce with the competencies and skills to support all domains of child development. Please select N/A when necessary.

2.1 Lead Agency Progression of Professional Development

2.1.1 Did the lead agency use a workforce registry or professional development registry to track progression of professional development during October 1 to September 30 of the last federal fiscal year?

☐ Yes.

If yes, describe:

☒ No.

If no, what alternative does the lead agency use to track the progression of professional development for teachers/providers serving children who receive CCDF subsidy? Describe:

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Child Care Licensing requires 16 clock hours of annual training for licensing renewals. Kansas currently has regulations for all health and safety topics within the CCDBG Act of 2014. These topics are addressed throughout orientation and/or pre-service training. Required training is available through various training organizations. Documentation of health and safety trainings are reviewed during Kansas Department of Health and Environment licensing surveyor monitoring visits.

The Department for Children and Families (DCF) supports workforce training and professional development through our agreements with Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities, Inc. (KCCTO). Through the Workforce Professional Development (WFD) agreement Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities provides professional development to child care programs through a Canvas learning management system that interfaces with a database system to provide quantitative data for contractual reporting. The required Kansas Department of Health and Environment health and safety training is available to providers in one 18-hour, 2-week module. Department for Children and Families subsidy providers are required to have four hours of their annual training requirement meet ongoing health and safety requirements. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities offers 12 ongoing health and safety courses. Certificates of completion provide verification to Kansas Department of Health and Environment child care licensing surveyors that the requirements have been met. Surveyors report to Department for Children and Families when the ongoing health and safety requirement has not been met.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities partners with Kansas Inservice Training Services to provide services to families with infants and toddlers through our Department for Children and Families agreement for the Infant Toddler Specialist Network (ITSN). The Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities learning management system allows both the Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network staff to offer a variety of professional development options for child care programs. Online and virtual training offerings include health and safety training and a variety of

content topics including social emotional, cognitive and physical development; behavior management, challenging behaviors, and reducing expulsion and prevention; cultural and linguistic responsiveness through family engagement and learning environments aligned with the Kansas Early Learning Standards; strengthening business practices and caring for and supporting the development of children with disabilities and developmental delays.

In addition to online and virtual training, Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development staff have launched additional quality building supports for child care programs and guide them in their professional advancement include these Training and Technical Assistance instructional activities:

- Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Facebook Peer Networking group launched as a community to provide additional support for early childhood professionals. At least once per month, there is a Facebook live event to provide real time support to small groups. Additionally, each month a Training and Technical Assistance Specialist facilitates discussion and provides resources and topics highlighting a focus topic and topics that are a focus on the members interests. There are currently 117 members in the peer group.
- Professional Development Partner launched as an additional way to connect early childhood professionals with a Training and Technical Assistance Specialists as their PD partner. A quarterly technical assistance newsletter is provided to all participating professionals. There are currently 885 early childhood professionals who have opted into the program. Professionals who opt-in to this program have access to support individualized to their preferences, needs and interests as well as their preference for level of support. Examples of support include but are not limited to the following:

Activity ideas, personalized assistance finding in-service and training opportunities, personalized assistance with the specific challenges you face, such as children's behavior, communicating with families, and other challenges that are part of early care and education work, personalized assistance developing an Individualized Professional Development Plan (IPDP), personalized assistance with resources, toolkits, and strategies, and assistance identifying and connecting with local, state, and national organizations such as, but not limited to, Tiny-K (early intervention and individual family supports and services for young children with exceptional needs), Child and Adult Care Food Program, Department for Children and Families, National Association for the Education of Young Children, and local and state organizations.

- Foundations for Safe and Healthy Early Care Facilities Module adapted to include an application project. Participants have six projects to select two they will

complete and submit. The apply projects require participants to being to apply the health and safety information in the module into their practice with children. Then, participants reflect on what they learned through completing the apply project.

The Individualized Professional Development Plans (IPDP) is a tool staff and providers can use to for track their professional education and training and setting goals for future professional growth. Individualized Professional Development Plans are available to providers who utilize Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities training and can be used to provide guidance on self-assessments, setting goals and tracking professional education.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development offers scholarships to child care providers. Currently, eligibility requirements include completion of an Individualized Professional Development Plan. This gives staff and providers a tool for tracking their professional education and training and setting goals for future professional growth. Scholarships are also offered to providers for the Child Development Associate course and assessment fees. Providers can track their progression to certification through the Child Development Associate Training Track. Providers on the training track receive technical assistance to guide them through the credentialing process.

Department for Children and Families' agreement with Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities for Infant Toddler Specialist Network also tracks professional development progression through written technical assistance plans. The Quality Improvement Plans (QIP) include descriptions of the program's current status and proposed status, anticipated outcomes, activities to be implemented resources needed, persons responsible, timelines, and measurable/observable results with documented data and/or products. Infant Toddler Specialist Network specialists' role is to help programs prioritize where their major efforts will be invested.

2.1.2 Are any teachers/providers required to participate?

☐ Yes.

If yes, describe:

☒ No.

If no, describe:

There are no requirements for teachers/providers to participate in alternatives to a workforce registry.

2.1.3 Total number of participants in the registry as of September 30, 2021 # 0

2.2 What supports did the lead agency make available to teachers/providers to help them progress in their education and professional pathway between October 1 and September 30 of the last federal fiscal year (check all that apply)? If available, how many people received each type of support?

☒ Scholarships (for formal education institutions)

10

☒ Financial bonus/wage supplements tied to education levels

22

☒ Career advisors, Mentors, Coaches, or Consultants

137

☒ Reimbursement for training

4

☐ Loans

#

☐ Substitutes, sick/annual leave, release time, etc. for professional development

#

☒ Other.

Describe:

Child Development Associate Scholarships 7; Trainer Mini Grants 12

☐ N/A

Describe:

2.3 Please report on the number of staff by qualification level as of September 30, 2021. Count only the highest level attained by staff.

2.3 Licensed child care providers

a. Total number

Licensed child care center directors: #:
Licensed child care center teachers: #:
Licensed family child care center providers: #:

b. How many had a Child Development Associate (CDA)?

Licensed child care center directors: #: 0
Licensed child care center teachers: #: 0
Licensed family child care center providers: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

c. How many had an Associate's degree in an early childhood education field (e.g., psychology, human development, education)?

Licensed child care center directors: #: 0
Licensed child care center teachers: #: 0
Licensed family child care center providers: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

d. How many had a Bachelor's degree in an early childhood education field (e.g., psychology, human development, education)?

Licensed child care center directors: #: 0
Licensed child care center teachers: #: 0
Licensed family child care center providers: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

e. How many had a State child care credential?

Licensed child care center directors: #: 0
Licensed child care center teachers: #: 0
Licensed family child care center providers: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

f. How many had State infant and toddler credentials?

Licensed child care center directors: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers: #: 0

Licensed family child care center providers: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

g. How many had an "other" degree?

Define "other" degree:

N/A

Licensed child care center directors: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers: #: 0

Licensed family child care center providers: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable

2.4 Please report on the number of staff by qualification level as of September 30, 2021. Count only the highest level attained by staff.

2.4 Licensed CCDF providers

a. Total number

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

b. How many had a Child Development Associate (CDA)?

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

c. How many had an Associate's degree in an early childhood education field (e.g., psychology, human development, education)?

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

d. How many had a Bachelor's degree in an early childhood education field (e.g., psychology, human development, education)?

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

e. How many had a State child care credential?

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

f. How many had State infant and toddler credentials?

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

g. How many had an "other" degree?

Define "other" degree

NA

Licensed child care center directors who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed child care center teachers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

Licensed family child care providers who serve children who receive CCDF subsidy: #: 0

☒ N/A

If N/A, explain:

Kansas does not have a workforce registry. This data is unavailable.

2.5 How many providers received the following additional forms of professional development from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a) Business practices

Total: 365

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

b) Mental health

Total: 319

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

c) Diversity, equity, and inclusion

Total: 326

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

d) Other:

Describe:

Includes all other training

Total: 18826

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

2.6 Spending:

2.6.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources to support the training and professional development of the child care workforce during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☒ Yes.

Amount spent: \$ 1,347,130.01

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

This amount included only items identified specifically for Workforce Development.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development

Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☐ No

☒ N/A

Describe:

Kansas Children's Initiative Funds were used for Early Childhood Block Grant funding provides support for participation of children birth-3 in classrooms or with homecare providers, support for child care for training/professional development, coaching, curriculum materials and classroom supplies.

Preschool Development Grant funds were used to develop an aligned professional development system. This comprehensive approach includes the following initiatives:

Selection and implementation of an early childhood care and education workforce registry, which has access to key data about the Kansas early childhood workforce (e.g. demographics, credentials and training histories, and training needs); clear career pathways that acknowledge multiple entry points or on-ramps and include connections to the high school level and two- and four-year institutions of higher education; and quality indicators and standards that include culturally and linguistically appropriate information.

Development of career pathways for all early childhood care and education professionals.

Selection and adoption of core competencies.

Alignment of professional development opportunities mapped to both the career pathway and the core competencies.

Alignment of state-level scopes of work for professional development activities.

Detailed amounts spent on these activities are not available to the lead agency.

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

2.7 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

The Lead Agency funds multiple contracts that include measures to evaluate professional development progress of the child care workforce. Current funding is provided to Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Kansas Early Head Start (KEHS), Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities (KCCTO) Workforce Development (WFD) and Infant Toddler Network Specialist (ITSN), and Child Care Aware of Kansas, Links to Quality. Quality data collected is based upon data requested within the Federal QPR report and contractual outcomes and performance measures. Kansas Department of Health and Environment Infant-Toddler supports professional development through the Kansas In-service Training System (KITS). Kansas In-service Training System is a program of the University of Kansas Life Span Institute designed to provide a training and resource system for early intervention networks and early childhood special education program staff through collaborative training and technical assistance activities on a comprehensive statewide basis. Department for Children and Families supports the statewide Infant Toddler Specialist Network, a subcontracted partnership between Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities and Kansas In-service Training System.

Links to Quality Pilot participants used several trainings and assessment tools throughout the pilot. Additionally, all participants had access to Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC). This tool assisted child care providers in comparing their nutrition and physical activity practices to best practice standards. Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC) is an interactive tool that allows child care providers to complete and save their self-assessments online. The self-assessment tool offers action plans, goal setting, and tips and materials to guide them in their nutrition and physical activity

journey.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care by Topic:

Family Child Care Homes

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 28

Child Nutrition 76

Farm to Early Care and Education 24

Infant and Child Physical Activity 42

Outdoor Play and Learning 36

Screen Time 20

Oral Health 23

Child Care Centers

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Child Nutrition 9

Farm to Early Care and Education 3

Infant and Child Physical Activity 7

Outdoor Play and Learning 5

Screen Time 4

Oral Health 4

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Action Plans:

Family Child Care Homes 89

Child Care Centers 8

Leadership training titled "Create Inclusive Leadership Groups that Work" was also offered to the providers participating in Links to Quality. During this professional development opportunity participants learned the basic principles of effective peer learning communities that increase cooperation and build group members individual leadership skills. The course addressed the importance and implementation of building trusting relationships and shared leadership within groups to achieve cohesiveness and build strong working groups where all members are welcomed.

This 4-hour training was received by:

Family Child Care Homes 14

Child Care Centers 4

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities training events are designed using instructional design theories, aligned with Kansas/Missouri Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Professionals and Child Development Associate Credential Subject Areas, and reviewed at development and on an on-going basis. Courses approved for Kansas Department of Health and Environment clock hours by Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities require a Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities approved trainer to implement/facilitate the training. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities utilizes a variety of training formats.

Online: Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development Trainers and Technical Assistance (T/TA) specialists facilitate more than 80 online courses. Trainers and Technical Assistance specialists interact within discussion board posts and score all responses from participants for completion. The courses are interactive with other participants and the course trainer.

Live Virtual: Live virtual training consists of professional development opportunities at scheduled times via Zoom video conferencing. These trainings may include brief follow-up activities in the Canvas learning management system.

In-person: During FFY2021 in-person training events were limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development collects pre-and post-assessment data and course evaluation information for all online and in-person training events. Participant knowledge gain from course content is measured in the change in scores from the pre-test to the post-test. This information is reviewed quarterly to identify areas to improve learning outcomes to be used in course and assessment updates.

Online training events

Total: 945

Online: 905

Live Virtual: 40

In-person training events 3

Online enrollments

Total: 21187

Online Enrollments (duplicated): 20,129

Live Virtual Enrollments (duplicated): 1,058

In-person enrollments 87

Unduplicated online participants

Total: 10200

Online Contacts (unduplicated): 9,428

Live Virtual Contacts (unduplicated): 772

Unduplicated in person training participants 85

Overall average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test +17

Duplicated enrollments in Health and Safety Modules 4,904

Duplicated participants in Health and Safety Modules 4,136

Duplicated enrollments in individual Health and Safety foundation courses 2,237

Unduplicated participants in ongoing Health and Safety courses 2,177

Follow up technical assistance contacts (phone calls, texts, emails) for Health and Safety courses 20

Providers enrolled in the Child Development Associate Training Track 120

New enrollees in Child Development Associate Training Track 56

Child Development Associate completions 43

Child Development Associate Scholarships 7

Child Development Associate technical assistance assists in writing IPDPs 56

Phone/email/text technical assistance contacts 192; 172 contacts non-health and safety related as the primary topic

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities also provides training and technical assistance for infant and toddler programs and providers through Infant Toddler Specialist Network. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities workforce development trainers and Infant Toddler Specialist Network specialists incorporate Kansas Early Learning Standards into site-visits, technical assistance and course development and delivery. , In-person training events were limited during FFY2021 due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network specialists offered online/virtual and in-person infant and toddler trainings.

Online/virtual training events - 178 groups

Online/virtual enrollments - 4,894 enrollments

Unduplicated online/virtual participants - 2,485 contacts

Overall average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test: 16%

Pre- and post-tests are only administered for online courses.

In-person training events - 36 groups

In-person enrollments - 999 enrollments

Unduplicated in-person training participants - 627 contacts

Infant Toddler Specialist Network offers onsite technical assistance to providers. Written technical assistance plans track progression of professional development, but not all providers need intense technical assistance and written plans.

Written technical assistance plans for established providers - 144

On-site coaching visits with established providers (if applicable) - 40

Virtual coaching events for individual established provider technical assistance plans - 475

Established provider written technical assistance plan completions - 116

Infant Toddler Specialist Network's written technical assistance plans includes supports to new providers.

Initial/first time visits with new providers - 97

Consultation and PD advising visits for new providers -149

Written technical assistance plans for new providers - 39

New provider technical assistance plan completions - 51

Several plans written prior to the start of this reporting period were completed during this reporting period.

Number of onsite or virtual technical assistance support for new providers - 28 onsite coaching visits, 161 virtual coaching visits

Providers who received reimbursements for training - 15

Providers who received quality incentives - 145

Additional resources distributed (Virtual Kits, web referrals) - 768 hard copy resources distributed, 2052 digital resources distributed

Includes virtual kits, technical assistance packets, one-pagers and other resources related to Health and Safety, Kansas Early Learning Standards, Program for Infant Toddler Care, Infant-Toddler Mental Health, Adult Self Care, Department for Children and Families subsidy, Family Engagement, Infant Toddler Specialist Network program information and resources shared with outside partners.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network provides training on the Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS) and Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood.

Kansas Early Learning Standards training enrollment 492

KS Family Engagement and Partnership training enrollments 129

Kansas Enrichment Network (KEN) provides the means to strengthen the infrastructure of afterschool programs that target low-income populations and students at-risk of dropping out of school. Kansas Enrichment Network's activities include technical assistance and training opportunities through bi-annual conferences, on-site technical assistance to state-wide school age programs and specialized technical assistance and training opportunities that focus on topics that are appropriate for school age children. Kansas Enrichment Network, and partnering organizations, collaborate with school age program workforce to promote safe, healthy and enriching learning opportunities to prepare students for the future.

Coordinated activities and measures of impact for school age programs include:

Site visits to 21st Century Learning Community Center (CCLC) and Quality Matters 115

Counties represented 36

New Program Directors Meetings 2

Youth Work Methods training 4

Attendees 180

Youth impacted 3,767

Conferences with clock hours provided 2

Attendees 270

Counties represented 105 (all Kansas counties)

Qualifying clock hour training sessions 5

Estimated youth impacted 68,000

Comprehensive services are offered to families through the Kansas Early Head Start (KEHS)

Child Care partnership with plans to target services in areas with significant concentrations of

poverty, unemployment and high out of home placements (foster care). The Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships program

utilizes the Thelma Harms Environmental tool to assess partners. Based upon this tool, 96.97% of the Child Care Center Partners had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021. 92.68% of the Grantee Child Care Centers had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021. 91% of the Family Child Care Partners had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021. Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships grantees had 41 child care partnerships.

3) Improving early learning and development guidelines

Goal: To ensure the lead agency has research-based early learning and development guidelines appropriate for children birth to age 12, including children with special needs and dual language learners that are used to inform practice and professional development.

3.1 Were any changes or updates made to the State or Territory's early learning and development guidelines during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☐ Yes.

If yes, describe changes or updates:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

3.2 Spending:

3.2.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources on the development or implementation of early learning and development guidelines during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

3.3 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities offers Kansas Early Learning Standards training through both Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network.

Kansas Early Learning Standards training events by Workforce Development staff - 6 groups

Enrollments in Workforce Development Kansas Early Learning Standards training - 111 enrollments

Average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-tests - 30%

Kansas Early Learning Standards training events by Infant Toddler Specialist Network Staff - 10 groups

Enrollments in Infant Toddler Specialist Network's Kansas Early Learning Standards Training - 381 enrollments

Average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test - 21%

The Kansas Early Learning Standards and virtual kits are included as resources through Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network. There were 854 Kansas Early Learning Standards distributed in FFY2021.

The Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood are structured to align with Kansas Early Learning Standards and the Kansas School Readiness Framework. The Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood are also linked with indicators from Kansas Early Learning Standards. The Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards were updated in 2019. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network offer an introductory course on the standards as well as courses designed to strengthen family engagement practices.

KS Family Engagement and Partnership Standards training events by Workforce Development staff - 3 groups

Enrollments in KS Family Partnership Standards training events by Workforce Development staff - 47 enrollments (*duplicated*)

Average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test - 7%

KS Family Engagement and Partnership Standards training events by Infant Toddler Specialist Network staff - 6 groups

Enrollments in KS Family Partnership Standards training events by Infant Toddler Specialist Network staff - 82 enrollments (*duplicated*)

Average change in scores measured by pre-post to post-test - 2%

Pre- and post-tests are only administered for online courses

4) Developing, implementing, or enhancing a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) and other transparent system of quality indicator

Goal: To ensure the lead agency implements a quality rating and improvement system, or other quality rating system, to promote high-quality early care and education programs.

Please provide the lead agency's definition of high quality care, and how it relates to the tiers of the QRIS, including a description of all tiers and which are considered high quality (if applicable). *This may include the high quality definition as part of the lead agency's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). If no QRIS exists describe other measures used to assess quality (may include assessment scores, accreditation, or other metric):*

By Kansas' definition, "Quality early care and education provides a safe, stable, and nurturing environment where every child can thrive." Licensing is the base measure of high quality statewide. Because we only completed the pilot process for Links to Quality, we do not yet have a complete definition of the standards for various elements of quality that will be used for the final indicators. Many organizations, stakeholders, and others are working collaboratively through advisory groups, work groups, and research to establish and define a standard for the various elements of quality that will be used in the program.

Links to Quality (L2Q), Kansas's QRIS system, completed a two-year pilot which began in April 2018. It was created with the support of early childhood organizations across the state and led by the Kansas Department for Children and Families. Within the pilot, Links to Quality defined quality indicators within each link to examine with participants. They were program leadership, family partnerships, and learning and development. These quality indicators were built upon the foundation of licensing requirements. The development of these quality indicators is based on findings from research and advisory groups. Within each link, there are requirements a child care program must engage in to meet the indicator.

We have chosen to value our providers and their work. Through the portfolio review process, we utilized Appreciate Inquiry to provide feedback on evidence submitted to meet Links to Quality indicators. Providers were encouraged and motivated by this feedback that honored

their accomplishments. Throughout the pilot, we evaluated and started modifications on each link before considering broader implementation. As these modifications are underway it was determined the third link that focused on Health and Safety along with Learning and Development be separated into two links, to allow for more focus on each critical area of child care. No provider's program was awarded the three-foundation links during the pilot.

Links to Quality is currently structured into five learning communities. Members of each learning community include child care providers, community consultants and other early childhood professionals. These communities meet monthly to share common goals, work collaboratively to improve their program quality and progress through the Links to Quality indicators. Learning communities are in five county clusters in 17 counties. Starting in July 2020, programs were encouraged to be able to invite other programs into their learning communities. Our pilot participants include both family and center based child care programs. During and after the pilot the Links to Quality pilot, participants were given various technical assistance based on their need. These included: peer-to peer meetings, coaching, mentoring, technical assistance, training (online and face-to-face), reviewing and assessing.

At the completion of the Links to Quality pilot in May 2020, participating providers were invited to continue with Links to Quality as part of the transition. The providers continue to receive peer-to peer meetings, coaching, mentoring, and technical assistance as part of their

learning communities. The providers have assisted with the transition of Links to Quality with feedback received from workgroups, focus groups and quarterly webinars. This has allowed Links to Quality to have program voice in the changes and updates to the indicators.

4.1 Indicate the status of the lead agency's quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

- ☐ The lead agency QRIS is operating state- or territory-wide
- ☒ The lead agency QRIS is now operating as a pilot, in a few localities, or only a few levels
- ☐ The lead agency is operating another system of quality improvement. Describe this system

Describe:

- ☐ The lead agency does not have a QRIS or other system of quality improvement.

4.2 What types of providers participated in the QRIS during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021 (check all that apply)?

- ☒ Licensed child care centers
☒ Licensed family child care homes
☐ License-exempt providers
☒ Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy
☐ Early Head Start programs
☐ Head Start programs
☐ State Prekindergarten or preschool programs
☐ Local district-supported Prekindergarten programs
☒ Programs serving infants and toddlers
☒ Programs serving school-age children
☐ Faith-based settings
☐ Tribally operated programs
☐ Other.

Describe:

4.3 For each setting, indicate the number of providers eligible to participate in the QRIS and the number of providers participating in the QRIS as of September 30, 2021?

a. Number of providers eligible for QRIS:

Licensed child care centers: # 11
License-exempt child care centers: # 0
Licensed family child care homes: # 22
License-exempt family child care homes: # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0
Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy: # 27
Other: 0

Describe:

Limit volunteer participation for the pilot.

b. Number of providers participating in QRIS:

Licensed child care centers: # 11

License-exempt child care centers: # 0

Licensed family child care homes: # 22

License-exempt family child care homes: # 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy: # 27

Other: 0

Describe:

Limit volunteer participation for the pilot.

c. N/A:

Licensed child care centers: #

Limit volunteer participation for the pilot. 11

License-exempt child care centers: #

0

Licensed family child care homes: #

Limit volunteer participation for the pilot. 22

License-exempt family child care homes: #

0

In-home (care in the child's own home): #

0

Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy: #

Limit volunteer participation for the pilot. 27

Other, describe:

0

4.4 Is participation in the QRIS mandatory for any group of providers?

- ☐ Yes (check all that apply).
- ☐ Licensed child care centers
- ☐ Licensed family child care homes
- ☐ License-exempt providers
- ☐ Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy
- ☐ Early Head Start programs
- ☐ Head Start programs
- ☐ State Prekindergarten or preschool programs
- ☐ Local district-supported Prekindergarten programs
- ☐ Programs serving infants and toddlers
- ☐ Programs serving school-age children
- ☐ Faith-based settings
- ☐ Tribally operated programs
- ☐ Other

Describe:

- ☒ No
- ☐ N/A

Describe:

4.5 Enter the number of programs that met the lead agency's high quality definition as of September 30, 2021:

- a) Licensed family child care # 22
- b) Legally exempt family child care (care in providers' home) # 0
- c) Licensed center-based programs # 11
- d) Legally exempt center-based programs # 0
- e) In-home (care in the child's own home) # 0
- f) Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy # 0

- ☒ N/A

Describe:

By Kansas's definition, "Quality early care and education provide a safe, stable, and nurturing environment where every child can thrive." Licensing is the base measure of high quality statewide and those numbers were previously provided. Because we

recently completed the pilot process for Links to Quality, we do not yet have a complete definition of the standards for various elements of quality that will be used for the final indicators. Many organizations, stakeholders, and others are working collaboratively through advisory groups, work groups, and research to establish and define a standard for the various elements of quality that will be used in the program.

At the completion of the Links to Quality pilot in May 2020, participating providers were invited to continue with Links to Quality as part of the transition. 33 programs chose to continue on with Links to Quality during this transition. The providers continue to receive peer-to-peer meetings, coaching, mentoring, and technical assistance as part of their learning communities. The providers have assisted with the transition of Links to Quality with feedback received from workgroups, focus groups and quarterly webinars. This has allowed Links to Quality to have program voice in the changes and updates to the indicators.

4.6 Enter the number of CCDF children in high quality care by age grouping as of September 30, 2021:

a. Total number of CCDF children in high quality care # 125

i. Infant # 48

Define age range: Birth to 35 months

ii. Toddler # 0

Define age range: 0

iii. Preschool # 52

Define age range: 36 to 71 months

iv. School-age # 25

Define age range: 72 months or more

b. Other. Describe:

Links to Quality completed the pilot process, and we do not yet have a complete definition of the standards for various elements of quality that will be used for the final indicators

c. N/A. Describe:

Licensing is the base measure of high quality statewide and the CCDF numbers are reported on other reports. Links to Quality completed the pilot process, and we do not yet have a complete definition of the standards for various elements of quality that will be used for the final indicators. Many organizations, stakeholders, and others are working collaboratively through advisory groups, work groups, and research to establish and define a standard for the various elements of quality that will be used in the program. Providers from family child care centers, center child care facilities, and those currently providing child care to families receiving and not receiving child care subsidy participated in the pilot.

Links to Quality shows 27 of 33 pilot programs had at least one child receiving subsidy during the period of October 2020 to September 2021. The average number of CCDF children in care each month during this period:

Birth to 35 months - 48

36 to 71 months - 52

School Aged (72 months or more) - 25

The pilot Links to Quality indicators, however, are not the final definition of the standards for the various elements of high quality that will be used in Kansas.

4.7 Did the lead agency provide one-time grants, awards or bonuses connected to (or related to) QRIS during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? If yes, how many were provided to the following types of programs during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☐ Yes, the following programs received grants..

a. Licensed child care centers #

b. License-exempt child care centers #

c. Licensed family child care homes #

d. License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home) #

e. In-home (care in the child's own home) #

f. Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy #

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

4.8 Did the lead agency provide on-going or periodic quality stipends connected to (or related to) QRIS during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? If yes, how many programs received on-going or periodic quality stipends connected to (or related to) QRIS during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ Yes, the following programs received stipends.

- a. Licensed child care centers # 11
- b. License-exempt child care centers # 0
- c. Licensed family child care homes # 22
- d. License-exempt family child care (care in providersâ home) # 0
- e. In-home (care in the childâs own home) # 0
- f. Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy # 27

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

4.9 Did the lead agency provide ongoing technical assistance related to the QRIS or other quality rating system during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? If so, how many programs received ongoing technical assistance during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ Yes, the following programs received ongoing technical assistance.

- a. Licensed child care centers # 11
- b. License-exempt child care centers # 0
- c. Licensed family child care homes # 22
- d. License-exempt family child care (care in providersâ home) # 0
- e. In-home (care in the childâs own home) # 0
- f. Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy # 27

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

4.10 Did the lead agency provide higher subsidy rates related to the QRIS or other quality rating system during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? If so, how many programs received higher subsidy payment rates due to their QRIS rating during

October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

- ☐ Yes, the following programs received higher subsidy rates.
- a. Licensed child care centers #
 - b. License-exempt child care centers #
 - c. Licensed family child care homes #
 - d. License-exempt family child care (care in providersâ home) #
 - e. In-home (care in the childâs own home) #
 - f. Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy #

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

4.11 Spending:

4.11.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources to support QRIS or other quality rating systems during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☒ Yes.

Amount spent: \$ 707,370

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

This amount included only items identified specifically for Links to Quality, Kansas QRIS system.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☐ No

☒ N/A

Describe:

Children's Initiative funds were used for Child Care Quality Initiative, a program of Child Care Aware of Kansas that provides professional development to child care professionals across the state to help increase the quality of their early learning environments. Services include professional development events, parent engagement events, peer learning collaboratives, and quality assessments. Child Care Quality Initiative seeks to make safe, affordable care more accessible for all Kansas children. As part of the broader initiative, Child Care Aware also offers a year-long intensive coaching program engaging up to 40 home-based child care providers with targeted coaching interactions.

Preschool Development Grant funds were used to support for Links to Quality (L2Q) specialists to support the Kansas QRIS initiative. This effort supports child care providers by offering community consultant and peer learning communities in target regions of the state. Links to Quality provides technical assistance on, and recognition for, the achievement of identified quality indicators within the three-core links: Program Leadership, Family Partnerships, and Learning and Development.

Detailed amounts spent on these activities are not available to the lead agency.

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

 N/A

Describe:

4.12 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

The Links to Quality (L2Q) team completed a two-year pilot which began in April 2018. It was created with the support of early childhood organizations across the state and led by the Kansas Department for Children and Families. The Links to Quality pilot is using several

assessment tools throughout the pilot. Upon the completion of the self-assessment, the providers developed and implemented their Quality Improvement Plans (QIPs) focused on their programs.

Program Leadership was the first link in the pilot. Providers utilized the Business and Program Administrative Scales (BAS/PAS). After revision and modification during the last year the new title is Program Administration Link. Program Administration is focused around comprehensive policies and procedures, efficient and confidential recordkeeping, sound financial practices and positive and professional workplace culture. It is aligned with many state and national standards which include Kansas Licensing, Caring for Our Children, Head Start Performance Standards, National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Association for Family Child Care, Strengthening Business Practices and the Kansas Department for Children and Families Subsidy Handbook and Standards.

Family partnerships was the second link during the pilot and encouraged support and communication with families. Providers utilized the Strengthening Families self-assessment. As part of the revision and modification of Family Partnership link, the focus has continued to be around supporting the wellbeing of the child through 2-way communication, family feedback to guide the program, and encouraging family participation in the child care program. It is aligned with many state and national standards which include Kansas Family engagement Framework and Standards, Caring for Our Children, Head Start Family Engagement Framework, National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Association for Family Child Care, and Division of Early Childhood. Family partnerships also aligned with assessment which include Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale and

Business and Program Administrative Scales (BAS/PAS).

The last two links are currently in the development stage with the creation of a group of state early childhood stakeholders who are considered subject matter experts and will help in this development. The first link will be Health and Safety with a proposed focus on nutrition and physical activity along with emergency preparedness. Next will be the Learning and Development link with a proposed focus on relationships, environment and instruction/curriculum.

During this time of recovery and as the State works on the development of an Early Care and Education Registry, which will also include the portfolio for Links to Quality, we are choosing to move forward with technical assistance and coaching and peer support around business practices while continuing the development of the quality improvement system. Our goal is to help programs strengthen their business practices and policies using resources within the Program Administration link components of business and record keeping skills.

5) Improving the supply and quality of child care programs for infants and toddlers

Goal: Ensure adequate and stable supply of high quality child care with a qualified, skilled workforce to promote the healthy development of infants and toddlers. Please report on all activities funded by quality dollars and infant toddler set-aside.

5.1 Provide the total number of state or territory-funded infant toddler specialists available to providers during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

☒ Yes, specialists are available.

a) Number of Specialists available to all providers # 10

b) Number of specialists available to providers serving children who receive CCDF# 10

c) Number of specialists available specifically trained to support family child care providers # 10

d) Number of providers served # 417

e) Total number of children reached # 0

☐ No, there are no funded specialists.

☐ N/A

Describe:

5.2 Please provide the total number of programs receiving state or territory-funded on-site coaching in infant and toddler practice and the percentage of these programs that served CCDF children.

a. Number of programs receiving on-site coaching:

Licensed child care centers: # 36
License-exempt child care centers: # 0
Licensed family child care homes: # 44
License-exempt family child care homes: # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home) providers: # 0

b. Percent of total programs receiving on-site coaching that served children who receive CCDF:

Licensed child care centers: % 80.6
License-exempt child care centers: % 0
Licensed family child care homes: % 84.1
License-exempt family child care homes: % 0
In-home (care in the child's own home) providers: % 0

c. N/A:

Licensed child care centers, describe:

.

License-exempt child care centers, describe:

.

Licensed family child care homes, describe:

.

License-exempt family child care homes, describe:

.

In-home (care in the child's own home) providers, describe:

.

5.3 Provide the total number of state or territory funded infant and toddler health consultants in the state or territory during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

☐ Consultants available

#

☐ Consultants available to providers serving CCDF children

#

☐ No funded infant and toddler health consultants.

☒ N/A

Describe:

Kansas does not have any Child Care Health Consultants that are specifically funded to focus primarily on working with infant/toddler providers and programs. The state funded consultants work with all programs and ages of children.

5.4 Did the lead agency conduct an analysis of supply and demand for infant toddler slots to identify areas of focus to build supply during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ Yes

Describe (include link to analysis if available):

The 2020 Supply Demand Report Challenges of Child Care in a Pandemic focused on all child care in Kansas. It was found that in 79% of Kansas counties there are at least 10 children under the age of three years old that are competing for every 1 child care space available. [Reports - Child Care Aware](#)

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

5.5 Provide the number of staffed family child care networks supported by CCDF funds through direct agreement with a centralized hub or community-based agency during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

☐ Number of staffed family child care networks:

#

Describe what the hub provides to participating family child care providers:

☐ No staffed family child care networks supported by CCDF funds.

☒ N/A

Describe:

Department for Children and Families does not fund staffed Family Child Care Networks.

5.6 Spending:

5.6.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources, in addition to the 3% infant and toddler set-aside, to improve the supply and quality of child care programs and services for infants and toddlers during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☒ Yes.

Amount spent: \$ 5,501,651.80

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

This amount included only grants identified specifically for Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership that were not included in the 3% infant and toddler set-aside amount.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

5.7 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

The Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities' Infant Toddler Specialist Network provides a variety of support to all levels of early childhood professionals. During FFY 2021 Infant Toddler Specialist Network provided online and in-person training, on-site and virtual visits, short-term and long-term consultations, intensive technical assistance, resources and virtual kits, and opportunities to participate in Communities of Practice.

The Infant Toddler Specialist Network evaluates progress and quality improvement in their online courses through interactive discussion boards, evaluations and pre-test and post-tests. technical assistance plans are written for established providers and newly licensed providers. The plans are designed to meet the needs any individual or group wishing to expand skills in their own child care setting.

Online/virtual training events - 178 groups

Online/virtual enrollments - 4,894 enrollments

Unique online/virtual participants - 2,485 contacts

Overall average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test - 16%

Pre- and post-tests are only administered for online courses.

In person training events - 36 groups
In person enrollments - 999 enrollments
Unique in person training participants- 627 contacts

Written technical assistance plans for established providers - 144 plans written
On-site technical assistance visits with established providers - 40 onsite coaching visits
Virtual technical assistance events for individual established provider technical assistance plans - 475 virtual coaching visits
Established provider written technical assistance plan completions - 116 plans completed

Initial contacts with new providers - 97 first time visits with new providers
Coaching/consultations with new providers -149 consultation visits
Written technical assistance plans for new providers - 39 plans written
Onsite or virtual technical assistance support for new providers - 28 onsite coaching visits, 161 virtual coaching visits
New provider technical assistance plan completions - 51 plans completed
Several plans written prior to the start of this reporting period were completed during this reporting period.

Providers who received reimbursements for training - 15 providers
Providers who received quality incentives - 145 providers
Additional resources distributed (Virtual Kits, web referrals) - 768 hard copy resources distributed, 2,052 digital resources distributed
Includes virtual kits, technical assistance packets, one-pagers and other resources related to Health and Safety, Kansas Early Learning Standards, Program for Infant Toddler Care, Infant-Toddler Mental Health, Adult Self Care, Department for Children and Families subsidy, Family Engagement, Infant Toddler Specialist Network program information and resources shared with outside partners

Providers that were not on a technical assistance plan were supported through virtual and online training, consultation and professional development advising via phone/email/text, Zoom, and Facetime, and the availability of resources such as one-pagers, toolkits, and technical assistance packets.

Providers reached who did not have a technical assistance plan - 207 providers

On-Site consultation visits to providers who did not have written technical assistance plan - 112

Virtual consultations with providers who were not on a technical assistance plan - 33

Other contacts (phone/email/texts) - 553 phone/email/text consultation contacts

The Goal Attainment Scale (GAS) serves as a measurement of the technical assistance plan's long-term outcome(s) and provides a standard measurement of the impact of technical assistance and the sustainability of those changes. Scores are assessed for each goal at the completion of a technical assistance Plan, at 6 months post-completion, and at 12 months post-completion. Some Goal Attainment Scale scores were not assessed due to pandemic related closures, provider turnover, and the inability to conduct on-site visits. There were improvements in 23 Goal Attainment Scale scores.

On-site coaching was suspended until July 1, 2021 due to the pandemic. During FFY2021 Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities staff adapted to the situation and launched opportunities for child care professionals to continue to receive quality infant and toddler training and technical assistance. During this period, Infant Toddler Specialist Network specialists provided coaching via phone, Zoom, and Facetime. Specialists conducted observations of environments and interactions through video calling and used reflective questioning, joint planning, and feedback. Participants in a Mini-Grant program had opportunities to participate in group coaching calls with their peers, providing opportunities to learn from and share with others in addition to the support from the specialist. Quality incentives may be utilized to meet technical assistance plan goals.

Mini-Grant Program: The Infant Toddler Specialist Network project launched a mini-grant program in January 2021. Mini-grant topics included Sensory Play and Integration, Math, Science, Dramatic Play, Nature Based Learning, Infant Toddler Mental Health, Music- and Play-Based Learning. Over 350 applications were received, 156 providers were selected to participate, and 125 providers completed the mini-grant program. Participating providers attended training on their topic area, intentional planning, and the Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS). When asked what they learned, several providers shared that children need large periods of time to explore, observation is critical for intentional planning, and the Kansas Early Learning Standards are a helpful tool in planning. The providers used information from their trainings, coaching, peer-to-peer support, and quality improvement

incentive materials to intentionally plan for the children in their programs. Providers reported they are more confident and skilled in their subject area as a result of their participation.

Director's Alliance: The Director's Alliance was launched in the October 2020 as a support for directors of licensed child care programs in Kansas. Mid-day 1.5-hour Kansas Department of Health and Environment approved trainings are offered monthly, in addition to Zoom Cafés. Zoom cafés are an opportunity for directors to connect with one another for peer learning. The topics of discussion are led by the participants, including staff shortages, what to do with toxic staff members, supporting the infrastructure of childcare, professional development, and grant funding.

Kids These Days Podcast: In collaboration with Workforce Development, Infant Toddler Specialist Network Specialists write, record, edit and publish podcast episodes for the Kids These Days Podcast. Episodes launch weekly on Wednesday mornings. Recent popular episodes include Implementing Free Play, Why Children Lie and How to Handle It, Temperaments, Sharing Isn't Always Caring, and Interview: Sherron Fields - the Mary Poppins of Kindermusik. As of October 6, 2021, the podcast has over 5,000 total downloads. In July 2021, the podcast was highlighted in an Early Childhood Investigations Webinar called " [The Power of the Podcast: How Consultants and Other Experts Can Reach a Wider Audience](#)" with Brian Washburn and Tim Waxenfelter.

6) Establishing, expanding, modifying, or maintaining a statewide system of child care resource and referral services

Goal: Lead agency provides: services to involve families in the development of their children, information on a full range of child care options, and assistance to families in selecting child care that is appropriate for the family's needs and is high quality as determined by the State/Territory.

6.1 Describe how CCDF quality funds were used to establish, expand, modify, or maintain a statewide system of child care resource and referral services during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

Child care consumer education and child care referral services are offered statewide. Services to families include providing individualized referrals and consumer education resources to parents and guardians about quality child care, how to choose quality child care, and to assist parents in locating child care based on their children and family needs.

Four Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies provided services to all 105 Kansas counties. Providers are part of an established referral system to link families with child care providers. Child Care Resource and Referral's provide a wide variety of consumer education materials to child care providers. Through their referral database, Child Care Aware of Kansas collects data regarding childcare program vacancies and other information that will assist parents in meeting the needs of their families. The Child Care Resource and Referral contractor provides services to communities that includes collaboration with organizations that provide direct services to families and child care providers to assure services are provided seamlessly across service area boundaries. Community engagement activities include attending and participating in meetings and events where early childhood is a focus, including public/private partnership events, business/community stakeholder events or meetings or family and providers are represented. The contractor also collects data and provides information for the completion of the annual report on the supply and demand of quality child care services within the state.

6.2 Spending:

6.2.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources to establish, expand, modify, or maintain a statewide CCR&R during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☒ Yes.

Amount spent: \$ 1,076,758.43

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

This amount included only items identified specifically for the Resource and Referral Consumer Education work.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

6.3 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible..

Child care consumer education and child care referral services are offered statewide. Services to families include providing individualized referrals and resources to parents and guardians about child care services to assist them in making good decisions when looking for child care. Providers are part of an established referral system to link families with child care providers. Through the referral database, Child Care Aware of Kansas collects data regarding childcare program vacancies and other information that will assist parents in meeting the needs of their families.

During FFY2021 Child Care Aware of Kansas collected information on services to families, providers and communities throughout Kansas.

Number of all families requesting child care referrals (duplicated) - 14,279

Number of Department for Children and Families households receiving child care referrals - 4,480

Number of all children needing child care 9,932

Number of Department for Children and Families children needing child care 2,767

Child care setting requests by all families seeking child care (families can choose more than one option)

Child Care Center - 10,653

Family Child Care - 16,081

Preschool - 2,492

School Age Program - 1,577

Head Start Program - 2,315

Child care settings sought by Department for Children and Families households seeking child care (families can choose more than one option)

Child Care Center - 2,525

Family Child Care - 3,178

Preschool - 596

School Age Program - 461

Head Start Program - 705

Number by ages of all children in family referrals

Infant 0-17 months - 3,843

Toddler 18 months to Age 3 - 2,262

Preschool Age 3 & 4 - 2,089

School Age Kindergarten Age 5 - 488

School Age (6 and up) - 1,250

Number by ages of Department for Children and Families children in family referrals (infants, toddlers, preschool and school age)

Infant 0-17 months - 904

Toddler 18 months to Age 3 - 641

Preschool Age 3 & 4 - 636

School Age Kindergarten Age 5 - 155

School Age (6 and up) - 433

Number of all family referrals by shift

Weekend, evening or overnight - 2,679

Number of Department for Children and Families referrals by shift

Weekend, evening or overnight - 1,339

Each family receives a referral packet that is individualized based on the needs of the families. Families receive packets in print form and electronically.

Number of consumer education materials distributed to families through the resource center (electronic and printed) - 41,588

Each family receives the opportunity to complete a survey to evaluate referral services. Child Care Resource and Referral staff send the survey electronically and make follow-up calls. The survey asks the families if they found child care through the referral list.

Number of families who completed the survey - 1,943

Number of families who answered the question - 1,725

Number of families who found child care from the referral list provided - 707

Number of Department for Children and Families households who completed the survey - 560

Number of families who answered the question - 512

Number of Department for Children and Families households who found child care from referral list - 207

Consumer education materials are distributed to child care providers to increase their knowledge and share with families. Materials are distributed electronically and at conferences and professional development events. There were 47,646 consumer education materials distributed to providers. Topics include business/economic, child development, emergency preparedness/safety, family engagement, health/nutrition, infants, new provider, physical activity, preschool, Resource and Referral services, school age, school readiness, and social emotional supports.

Each quarter, Child Care Resource and Referral staff reach out to providers to update vacancy information on their referral database/provider portal. During FFY2021, the quarterly

average of licensed providers who updated their vacancies was 70% and 60% who updated their Kansas Work Life System profile where they can share information about their programs.

Community supports include promotion of Resource and Referral services, sharing consumer education resources and collaboration with community leaders focused on child care issues.

Number of meetings attended with community leaders and organizations to discuss child care issues - 6

Number of presentations for community leaders and organizations about Child Care Resource and Referral services - 22

Number of presentations for families and child care providers - 21

7) Facilitating compliance with lead agency requirements for inspection, monitoring, health and safety standards and training, and lead agency licensing standards

Goal: To ensure child care providers maintain compliance with lead agency licensing, inspection, monitoring, and health and safety standards and training.

7.1. Has the lead agency aligned health and safety standards with the following:

a. Licensing standards

☒ Yes.

☐ No.

If not, describe why:

b. Caring for Our Children Basics

☒ Yes.

☐ No.

If not, describe why:

c. Head Start

☒ Yes.

☐ No.

If not, describe why:

d. State pre-k

☐ Yes.

☒ No.

If not, describe why:

Programs operated by a local unit of government or school district, which meet for no more than four consecutive hours per day or for no more than two consecutive weeks are exempt from licensure. Preschools operated on the premises of private schools providing kindergarten through grade six shall be governed by Kansas statutes applicable to private schools. K.S.A. 65-50.

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.1 How many complaints were received regarding providers during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a) Licensed providers # 634

b) Licensed-exempt providers # 0

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.2 What was the average length of time between receiving the complaint and taking steps to respond to a complaint during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? Up to five days.

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.3 How many complaints received an on-site follow-up inspection during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? # 562

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.4 How many of the complaints resulted in one or more *substantiated* violations in the program or provider site identified during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? # 229

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.5 How many child care providers had CCDF funding revoked as a result of an inspection during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?# 4

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.6 How many child care providers closed as a result of an inspection during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021? # 8

7.2 Complaints regarding child care providers received during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

7.2.7 Please provide any additional information regarding health and safety complaints and inspections in the state or territory during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

Out of the total 634 complaints received for licensed facilities, 102 have not yet determined substantiated or unsubstantiated at the time of the report. A total of 229 were substantiated for violations of child care laws or regulations based on observations during an on-site visit and reports from providers and/or collateral contacts. During the reporting period, six facilities were closed by emergency order of suspension (prior to a hearing) and two facilities were closed due to revocation of the license resulting from substantiated complaints or other significant noncompliance. Guidance for licensing surveyors requires that complaint investigations be started within 5 days. Pre-work started within this timeframe includes reviewing the facility history, identifying regulations that align/pertain to the allegations from the complainant, preparing initial questions, and identifying potential collateral contacts (staff, parents, other witnesses). Responding to the complaint within five days does not always include the surveyor being on site at the facility within that timeframe. The actual on-site visits dates are captured on the Notice of Survey Findings (NOSF). Serious complaints that come in are initiated immediately (same day or next working day) and may involve the Department for Children and Families and Law Enforcement if allegations pertain to abuse, neglect, and/or criminal activity.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care Licensing does not track or investigate complaints for unlicensed providers.

7.3 How many child care programs received coaching or technical assistance to improve their understanding and adherence to CCDF health and safety standards (as a result of an inspection or violation) during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

- a. Licensed center-based programs # 2160
- b. License-exempt center-based programs # 0
- c. Licensed family child care # 5685
- d. License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home) # 0
- e. In-home (care in the child's own home) # 0

☒ f. N/A

Describe:

Licensing inspections continued throughout the pandemic. During high times of transmission at the state and community level, on-site inspections were prioritized with initial licensing visits and complaints highest priority. Annual (renewal) surveys for 2020 were closed out as unable to complete due to the COVID-19 pandemic; therefore, data for total number of surveys conducted during 2020 will be significantly lower than prior years. The surveys that are conducted by licensing staff include technical assistance and consultation related to health and safety/regulations. The numbers above reflect actual consultations documented on the survey notice. Consultations and technical assistance is delivered to providers by licensing surveying staff at the time of the visit.

7.4 How many providers received virtual monitoring from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

Total

0

☒ Licensed or registered center-based programs

0

☒ License-exempt center-based programs.

0

☒ Licensed or registered family child care

0

☐ License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home)

#

☐ In-home (care in the child's own home).

#

☒ Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy

0

7.5 Spending:

7.5.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources on facilitating compliance with lead agency requirements for inspections, monitoring, health and safety standards and training, and lead agency licensing standards during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☒ Yes.

Amount spent: \$ 3,724,831.06

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

This amount included only funds identified that were specifically transferred to Kansas Department of Health and Environment for child care licensing.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☐ No

☒ N/A

Describe:

Preschool Development Grant investments in the Kansas Child Care Health Consultant Network through staffing support were made. This program supports

Child Care Health Consultants across Kansas who work directly with child care providers to promote the health and development of children, families and staff to ensure a health and safe child care environment.

Preschool Development Grant funds also support the Child Care Systems Improvement Team (CCSIT), which advises the Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) on improvements needed to the child care licensing system and the standards of care to meet the early care and education needs of Kansas children and families.

Detailed amounts spent on these activities are not available to the lead agency.

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

7.6 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible

Information Dissemination System (IDS): The online availability of facility compliance history significantly increases the ability of Kansas families to research their child care options and make more informed child care choices. The portal is used frequently by the public to review a provider's compliance history. During the federal fiscal year, the portal averaged over 7,572 facility searches monthly to view 7,873 facility findings. In addition, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment website includes consumer information, current Bureau forms and regulations, and links to related websites including Department for

Children and Families, Child and Adult Food Program, Child Care Aware of Kansas, and many other partner resources.

Regulatory Program & Inspection Activities: Child care licensing surveyors inspect facilities to determine compliance with health and safety regulations for the protection of children and to provide regulatory consultation and referrals as indicated. They also promote the child care program locally and support parents in selecting child care that meets their needs. In FFY21 local licensing surveyors:

Conducted approximately 4,380 initial, annual and compliance inspections;

Investigated 634 complaints received for licensed providers and 116 complaints received for illegal care;

Provided orientation training (classroom setting or individual) to 992 potential providers (day care home, group day care home and center-based); and

Referred 624 families to the statewide network of licensed child care resource and referral agencies for assistance in locating child care.

The Kansas Licensing Indicator System (KLIS): Approximately 3% of all facilities with a pending annual inspection due for the FFY21 qualified for the Kansas Licensing Indicator System survey. Kansas Licensing Indicator System allows surveyors to spend more time providing technical assistance to support facilities with reaching and maintaining compliance; and conducting full inspections and monitoring noncompliant providers. NOTE: This was much higher in the past (e.g., 44%), and is significantly lower this reporting year due to one of three criteria consistently not met for facilities. Kansas Licensing Indicator System requires two prior annual surveys in compliance to qualify for a Kansas Licensing Indicator System (shortened) annual survey. Many facilities did not receive an annual inspection during the 2020 year due to COVID-19 pandemic, which made the facility ineligible for a Kansas Licensing Indicator System survey.

Child Care Licensing and Registration Information System (CLARIS) Provider Access Portal: Providing the facilities the opportunity/means to submit an initial or renewal application or to update affiliate information online significantly reduces the length of time it takes the state to process an application and issue a license compared to the paper, time-intensive process. There was an average of 71% of all applications submitted online during FFY21 (66% of initials and 72% of annuals/renewals).

8) Evaluating the quality of child care programs in the Lead agency,

including evaluating how programs positively impact children

Goal: Lead agency investment in effective quality improvement strategies using reliable data from evaluation and assessment

8.1 What measure(s) or tool(s) and studies did the lead agency use to evaluate and assess the quality of programs and effective practice in center-based programs during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ To measure program quality,

describe:

Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships: The programs utilizes the Thelma Harms Environmental tool to assess their partners and their own classrooms. Based upon this tool, 95% of the Child Care Center Partners and the Grantee Child Care Centers had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021.

☐ To measure effective practice

describe:

☒ To measure age appropriate child development.

describe:

Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships grantees use the following to measure age appropriate child development in their center based child care partners and their own classrooms:

Ages and Stages Questionnaire - ASQ 3

Ages and Stages Questionnaire - Social Emotional - ASQ-SE 2

☒ Other

describe:

The tools and measures used in Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network for training and technical assistance include but are not limited to : Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS), Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS), Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), Program Administration Scale (PAS), Ages & Stages Questionnaires, Third Edition (ASQ-3), and Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional, Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2).

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities utilizes their Goal Attainment Scale (GAS) to

assess each goal at the completion of a written technical assistance plan, at 6 months post-completion, and at 12 months post-completion. There are two purposes for the Goal Attainment Scale: First it serves as a measurement of the technical assistance plan's long-term outcome(s). As such, goals that are written into the Goal Attainment Scale should reflect outcomes or effects on the outcome(s) of the plan rather variables (e.g. methods or procedures). Secondly, the Goal Attainment Scale provides a standard measurement of the impact of technical assistance and the sustainability of those changes, which can be used for reporting and/or program evaluation.

The Kansas QRIS System, Links to Quality, completed a pilot in which procedures, processes policies and assessment tools were being utilized and reviewed. Baseline information and objective measurements were obtained during the pilot to ensure our quality indicators have the greatest impact on the quality of services, avoid any duplication of existing standards and requirements and serve as a tool to unite early childhood programs under a common vision of quality that applies to all settings and sectors. After the pilot was completed in March of 2020, a comprehensive evaluation and needs assessment was completed by our implementation and evaluation partners. This included recommendations and considerations for future statewide implementation. As part of the pilot Kansas used the following assessment tools: Program Administrative Scale (PAS), Business Administrative Scale (BAS), Strengthen Families Self-Assessment along with Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care which includes, self-assessments, action plans, and trainings on healthy eating, physical activity and oral health. Through the self-assessment, they can create action plans (improvement plans) to make changes in their programs related to health and physical activity continued to be available to child care provider from the pilot even after the completion of the pilot.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Self-Assessments by Topic:

Child Care Centers

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 4

Child Nutrition 9

Farm to Early Care and Education 3

Infant and Child Physical Activity 7

Outdoor Play and Learning 5
Screen Time 4
Oral Health 4

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Action Plans:
Child Care Centers 8

☐ N/A

describe:

8.2 What measure(s) or tool(s) and studies did the lead agency use to evaluate and assess the quality of programs and effective practice in family child care programs during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ To measure program quality,

describe:

Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships: The Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships programs utilizes the Thelma Harms Environmental tool to assess their partners. Based upon this tool, 91% of the Family Child Care Centers had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021.

☐ To measure effective practice

describe:

☒ To measure age appropriate child development.

describe:

Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships grantees use the following to measure age appropriate child development in family child care based partners:

Ages and Stages Questionnaire - ASQ 3

Ages and Stages Questionnaire - Social Emotional - ASQ-SE 2

☒ Other

describe:

The tools and measures used in Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network for training and technical assistance include but are not limited to :

Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS), Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS), Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), Program Administration Scale (PAS), Ages & Stages Questionnaires, Third Edition (ASQ-3), and Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional, Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2).

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities utilizes their Goal Attainment Scale (GAS) to assess each goal at the completion of a written technical assistance plan, at 6 months post-completion, and at 12 months post-completion. There are two purposes for the Goal Attainment Scale: First it serves as a measurement of the technical assistance plan's long-term outcome(s). As such, goals that are written into the Goal Attainment Scale should reflect outcomes or effects on the outcome(s) of the plan rather variables (e.g. methods or procedures). Secondly, the Goal Attainment Scale provides a standard measurement of the impact of technical assistance and the sustainability of those changes, which can be used for reporting and/or program evaluation.

The Kansas QRIS System, Links to Quality, completed a pilot in which procedures, processes policies and assessment tools were being utilized and reviewed. Baseline information and objective measurements were obtained during the pilot to ensure our quality indicators have the greatest impact on the quality of services, avoid any duplication of existing standards and requirements and serve as a tool to unite early childhood programs under a common vision of quality that applies to all settings and sectors. After the pilot was completed in March of 2020, a comprehensive evaluation and needs assessment was completed by our implementation and evaluation partners. This included recommendations and considerations for future statewide implementation. As part of the pilot Kansas used the following assessment tools: Program Administrative Scale (PAS), Business Administrative Scale (BAS), Strengthen Families Self-Assessment along with Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care which includes, self-assessments, action plans, and trainings on healthy eating, physical activity and oral health. Through the self-assessment, they can create action plans (improvement plans) to make changes in their programs related to health and physical activity continued to be available to child care provider from the pilot even after the completion of the pilot.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Self-Assessments by

Topic:

Family Child Care Homes

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 28

Child Nutrition 76

Farm to Early Care and Education 24

Infant and Child Physical Activity 42

Outdoor Play and Learning 36

Screen Time 20

Oral Health 23

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Action Plans:

Family Child Care Homes 89

☐ N/A

describe:

8.3 Spending:

8.3.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources on evaluating and assessing the quality of child care programs, practice, or child development during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

☐ No

☒ N/A

Describe:

All related activity amounts are reported in other sections on this report.

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

8.4 Progress Update:

8.4 Progress Update: Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships : The Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships services will expand the continuum of early care and education services and enhance the network supports by meeting the objectives, including but not limited to: Increasing comprehensive supports in high quality infant and toddler child care centers, group child care homes and family childcare services in high-risk, high-need communities; building protective factors for vulnerable children and families; increasing the quality of child care providers through recruitment and participation; enhancing the statewide network of

resources and supports by improving cross-systems professional development and systems linkages; and supporting families as they move toward self-sufficiency. In addition to supporting vulnerable children and their families, the Lead Agency's goal is to increase the quality of child care environments in which these children are enrolled. Comprehensive services are offered to families through the Kansas Early Head Start (KEHS) Child Care partnership with plans to continue to target services in areas with significant concentrations of poverty, unemployment and high out of home placements (foster care). The Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships program utilizes the Thelma Harms Environmental tool to assess partners. Based upon this tool, 96.97% of the Child Care Center Partners had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021. 92.68% of the Grantee Child Care Centers had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021. 91% of the Family Child Care Partners had a score of five or higher on the Thelma Harms Rating Scale for FY2021. Kansas Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships grantees had 41 child care partnerships.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities provides introductory training and technical assistance on measurement and assessment tools. Measurement of age appropriate child development is embedded in the coursework and opportunities for feedback, questions and discussions during training and technical assistance. Infant Toddler Specialist Network utilizes these tools and assessments in developing written technical assistance plans with center-based and family child care providers.

Written technical assistance plans for established providers - 144 plans written

On-site technical assistance visits with established providers (if applicable) - 40
onsite coaching visit

Virtual technical assistance events for individual established provider technical assistance plans - 475 virtual coaching visits

Established provider written technical assistance plan completions - 116 plans completed

During FFY2021 Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network, the number of Goal Attainment Scale assessments was limited due to pandemic related closures, provider turnover and the inability to conduct on-site visits. There were 23 Goal Attainment Scale score improvements during this

time period.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care which includes, self-assessments, action plans, and trainings on healthy eating, physical activity and oral health. Through the self-assessment, they can create action plans (improvement plans) to make changes in their programs related to health and physical activity continued to be available to child care provider from the pilot even after the completion of the pilot.

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Self-Assessments by Topic:

Family Child Care Homes

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 28

Child Nutrition 76

Farm to Early Care and Education 24

Infant and Child Physical Activity 42

Outdoor Play and Learning 36

Screen Time 20

Oral Health 23

Child Care Centers

Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding 4

Child Nutrition 9

Farm to Early Care and Education 3

Infant and Child Physical Activity 7

Outdoor Play and Learning 5

Screen Time 4

Oral Health 4

Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care Action Plans:

Family Child Care Homes 89

Child Care Centers 8

9) Supporting providers in the voluntary pursuit of accreditation

Goal: Support child care programs and FCCs in the voluntary pursuit of accreditation by a national accrediting body with demonstrated, valid, and reliable program standards of quality

9.1 How many providers did the lead agency support in their pursuit of accreditation during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

- ☐ Yes, providers were supported in their pursuit of accreditation
- a. Licensed center-based programs #
 - b. License-exempt center-based programs #
 - c. Licensed family child care #
 - d. License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home) #
 - e. Programs serving children who receive CCDF subsidy #
- ☐ No lead agency support given to providers in their pursuit of accreditation.
- ☒ N/A.

Describe:

While CCDF funded activities may assist child care providers pursuing accreditation, CCDF funding is not designated to support this specific activity.

9.2 Spending:

9.2.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources on accreditation during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

- ☐ Yes.
- Amount spent: \$
- Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

- ☒ No
- ☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

9.3 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

While CCDF funded activities may assist child care providers pursuing accreditation, CCDF funding is not designated to support this specific activity.

10) Supporting the development or adoption of high-quality program standards related to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development

Goal: Assist programs to meet high-quality comprehensive program standards relating to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development

10.1 Quality Indicators: Does the lead agency have quality improvement standards that include indicators covering the following areas beyond what is required for licensing?

- ☒ Yes, check which indicators the lead agency has established:
- ☒ Health, nutrition, and safety of child care settings
- ☒ Physical activity and physical development in child care settings
- ☐ Mental health of children
- ☐ Mental health for staff/employees
- ☒ Learning environment and curriculum
- ☐ Ratios and group size
- ☐ Staff/provider qualifications and professional development
- ☒ Teacher/provider-child relationships
- ☒ Teacher/provider instructional practices
- ☒ Family partnerships and family strengthening
- ☒ Other

Describe:

All Kansas Department of Health and Environment child care licensing approved courses align with the Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Development Professionals (Kansas and Missouri). The core competencies are organized into eight content areas, each providing specific standards.

Child and Youth Growth and Development

Learning Environment and Curriculum

Observation and Assessment

Families and Communities

Health and Safety

Interactions with Children and Youth

Program Planning and Development

Professional Development and Leadership

These standards serve as the foundation for course development and technical assistance topics for professional development in Kansas. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network have many options for training in each of the core competency topic areas. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities offers courses in both Kansas Early Learning Standards and Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards.

☐ No

10.2 Spending:

10.2.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources on supporting the development or adoption of high-quality program standards related to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

☐ No

☒ N/A

Describe:

All related activity amounts are reported in other sections on this report.

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

c. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative

expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

10.3 Progress Update:

Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network offer courses and technical assistance that align with the Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS), the Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood, and the Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Development Professionals (Kansas and Missouri). The Kansas Early Learning Standards include health, nutrition and safety; physical activity and physical development; learning environments and curriculum, instructional practices and family partnership and family engagement. The Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood are structured to align with Kansas Early Learning Standards and the Kansas School Readiness Framework. The Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood are also linked with indicators from Kansas Early Learning Standards.

These standards serve as the foundation for course development and technical assistance topics for professional development in Kansas. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development has many options for training in each of the core competency topic areas. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities offers courses in both Kansas Early Learning Standards and Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development provided the following training - all topics:

Online training events

Total: 945

Online: 905

Live Virtual: 40

In-person training events (if applicable) 3

Online enrollments

Total: 21187

Online Enrollments (duplicated): 20129

Live Virtual Enrollments (duplicated): 1058

In-person enrollments 87

Unduplicated online participants

Total: 10200

Online Contacts (unduplicated): 9428

Live Virtual Contacts (unduplicated): 772

Unduplicated in person training participants 85

Overall average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test +17

Duplicated enrollments in Health and Safety Modules 4,904

Duplicated participants in Health and Safety Modules 4,136

Duplicated enrollments in individual Health and Safety foundation courses 2,237

Unduplicated participants in ongoing Health and Safety courses 2,177

Follow up technical assistance contacts (phone calls, texts, emails) for Health and Safety courses 20

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Development and Infant Toddler Specialist Network provides training on the Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS) and Kansas Family Engagement and Partnership Standards for Early Childhood.

Kansas Early Learning Standards training enrollment 492

KS Family Engagement and Partnership training enrollments 129

The Kansas Early Learning Standards and virtual kits are included as resources through Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network. There were 854 Kansas Early Learning Standards distributed in FFY2021.

Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Infant Toddler Specialist Network technical

assistance specialists are knowledgeable in early childhood education and development in a variety of topics:

Behavior and Guidance

- Center-Based Care
- Curriculum
- Health and Safety
- Indoor and Outdoor Learning Environments
- Observation and Assessment
- Preschool
- Professional Development
- Relationships & Working with Families

The Infant Toddler Specialist Network evaluates progress and quality improvement in their online courses through interactive discussion boards, evaluations and pre-test and post-tests. technical assistance plans are written for established providers and newly licensed providers. The plans are designed to meet the needs any individual or group wishing to expand skills in their own child care setting.

Online/virtual training events - 178 groups

Online/virtual enrollments - 4894 enrollments

Unique online/virtual participants - 2485 contacts

Overall average change in scores measured by pre-test to post-test - 16%

Pre- and post-tests are only administered for online courses.

In person training events - 36 groups

In person enrollments - 999 enrollments

Unique in person training participants- 627 contacts

Written technical assistance plans for established providers - 144 plans written

On-site technical assistance visits with established providers - 40 onsite coaching visits

Virtual technical assistance events for individual established provider technical assistance plans - 475 virtual coaching visits

Established provider written technical assistance plan completions - 116 plans completed

The Goal Attainment Scale (GAS) serves as a measurement of the technical assistance

plan's long-term outcome(s) and provides a standard measurement of the impact of technical assistance and the sustainability of those changes. Scores are assessed for each goal at the completion of a technical assistance Plan, at 6 months post-completion, and at 12 months post-completion. Some Goal Attainment Scale scores were not assessed due to pandemic related closures, provider turnover, and the inability to conduct on-site visits. There were improvements in 23 Goal Attainment Scale scores.

11) Other activities to improve the quality of child care services supported by outcome measures that improve provider preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or kindergarten-entry

Goal: To improve the quality of child care programs and services related to outcomes measuring improved provider preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or kindergarten-entry

11.1 Did the state or territory set up a grant program (NOT including American Rescue Plan Act stabilization grants) designed to sustain the child care supply or provide sustainability funding to child care providers due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

☒ Yes.

If yes, describe â€¦ :

Department for Children and Families partnered with Child Care Aware of Kansas in 2020 to administer CARES Act funding for one-time Health Care/Emergency Worker Support Bonuses and Revenue Replacement assistance to child care programs. Revenue replacement provided financial assistance to child care providers who had identifiable lost revenue in subsidy payments. Payments for these two funding opportunities ended in October 2020.

The health care/emergency worker support bonus was a one-time bonus to provide recognition to the child care provider and elevate the importance of ensuring that child care options are available to the health care and emergency workforce in Kansas. Due to the increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 by caring for children of workers (parents/legal guardians) on the frontlines, a bonus acknowledges the additional protective measures needed to ensure a child care provider can meet the demand of a healthy and safe environment. For this program, healthcare workers were defined as being hospital and nursing home employees and emergency workers were defined as fire, law enforcement, and corrections officers. Due to the increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 in caring for children of workers (parents/legal guardians) on the frontlines, a bonus was made available

to relieve expenses of additional protective measures put in place to ensure child care providers could meet the demand of new guidelines defining a healthy and safe environment for all children in their care. This opportunity covered expenses incurred from April 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020. Amounts were determined by the following:

License Family Child Care Programs (includes Group Day Care Homes)

- Tier 1: Up to 3 children actively coming to child care \$500 Bonus
- Tier 2: 4 or more children actively coming to child care \$750 Bonus

Small Child Care Centers OR School Age Programs (Licensed Capacity - 100 children or under) - including school age programs that are open to care for children full-time

- Tier 1: Up to 10 children actively coming to child care \$1500 Bonus
- Tier 2: 11 or more children actively coming to child care \$2250 Bonus

Large Child Care Centers OR School Age Programs (Licensed Capacity - 101+ children) - including school age programs that are open to care for children full-time

- Tier 1: Up to 20 children actively coming to child care \$4500 Bonus
- Tier 2: 21 or more children actively coming to child care \$6750 Bonus

Applications for this opportunity opened on June 15th, 2020 and closed on August 1st, 2020, but then were later extended to September 15th, 2020. Attendance was verified for children of eligible essential workers by asking programs to complete parent/legal guardian signatures and submitting this with their completed grant application.

The revenue replacement grant opportunity was designed to provide financial assistance to DCF enrolled child care providers and relative providers who have lost child care subsidy income due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding was provided by the Kansas Department for Children and Families through the federal CARES Act and administered by Child Care Aware of Kansas. All providers who were enrolled to accept DCF child care assistance were eligible to receive these funds if they experienced a measured decrease in child care assistance payments. Programs were eligible whether they were open or closed at the time of the opportunity. DCF-enrolled relative providers were also eligible. Amounts for this grant opportunity were determined by comparing April until July 2020 to the DCF payments the provider normally received by using an average from September, 2019 through February 2020. These figures will be used to determine if they started receiving less in DCF Child Care assistance payments and to determine the amount they may receive in the revenue replacement grant. Monthly payments were made to cover revenue lost in April, May, June, and July of 2020. Applications for this program were available from April 17, 2020, through August 1st, 2020, but later extended to September 15th, 2020.

Department for Children and Families partnered with Child Care Aware of Kansas for the administration of CRRSA Sustainability Funds. These grants supported the realized negative impact on the structural layers of operating a child care business due to the COVID 19 pandemic. As required by the CRRSA Act, child care providers receiving these grants were required to use a portion of the funds to continue to pay the salaries/wages of staff employed

through the licensed child care facility. Family child care providers salaries were determined based on pre-COVID-19 earnings. In addition to funding payroll expenses for staff, providers could use the funds to cover costs of operations and potential revenue losses. These funds could be used for any normal operational expenses or additional expenses they had due to meeting the CDC guidance to mitigate the spread of COVID and other activities necessary to maintain or resume the operation of programs, including for fixed costs and increases operation expenses. Other allowable expenses based upon these structural layers would include items on an operating budget such as: enrollment, food, cleaning and sanitation supplies, personal protective equipment, labor, benefits, rent/mortgage, maintenance, equipment, utilities, licensing fees, mileage, advertising, office supplies, professional development, phone/internet, classroom supplies, liability/accident insurance, and software. Through an Interagency Agreement with Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Department for Children and Families provided supports and funding to child care programs through the Child Care Health Consultant Network (CCHC). Child Care Health Consultant Impact grants and supports were administered through Child Care Aware of Kansas to support quality child care services and promote healthy development in children. Licensed providers may have received funding for each of these grant opportunities. Eligibility was determined through an application process through the Child Care Aware of Kansas Work Life System (WLS).

and check which types of providers were eligible and number served:

☒ Licensed center-based programs

1412

☐ Legally exempt center-based programs

#

☒ Licensed family child care

3963

☐ Legally exempt family child care (care in providers' home)

#

☐ In-home (care in the child's own home)

#

☒ Other

(explain)

1 Emergency Grant. This Impact grant was made outside of the normal CCHC Impact Grant time period due to an emergency situation. Impact grant funds were used to purchase and

install fencing to meet licensing requirements. The grant amount was \$2,175.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

11.2 Did the lead agency provide cleaning supplies and/or personal protective equipment (PPE) to child care providers either through funding or directly in-kind due to the COVID-19 pandemic?

☐ Yes.

If yes, describe â€¦ :

and check which types of providers were eligible:

☐ Licensed center-based programs

☐ Legally exempt center-based programs

☐ Licensed family child care

☐ Legally exempt family child care (care in providers' home)

☐ In-home (care in the child's own home)

☐ Other

(explain)

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

11.3 Did the state/territory invest in data systems to support equitable access to child care (e.g., modernizing and maintaining systems; technology upgrades and data governance improvements to provide more transparent and updated information to parents; a workforce registry; updated QRIS systems; CCR&R updates; monitoring systems) from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ Yes.

If yes, describe:

Child Care Aware of Kansas (CCAKS) made several adaptations to the Child Care

Aware of Kansas website and to Kansas Work Life System to ensure there was equitable and user-friendly access to child care providers during the sustainability and impact grant application processes. For the website, Child Care Aware of Kansas created a landing page specifically for grant information that includes many resources for grant seekers including but not limited to: instruction guides for Kansas Work Life System and application, recorded webinars, a 'frequently asked questions' document, a request form for individualized navigator assistance, and access to paper applications for providers who do not have access to Kansas Work Life System (available in English and Spanish). A chat feature is embedded in the grants landing page, with real-time assistance available to providers Monday through Friday 8am-5pm.

In the Kansas Work Life System database, enhancements were made to create a grant module, so applications are available to child care providers in multiple languages in their provider profile. With the applications being in their provider profile, providers' information is streamlined and prepopulated to the maximum extent possible to ensure a quick and simple application process. Grant decisions are quickly sent to providers via Kansas Work Life System to the email provided by the program. Reporting features are in place to comply with the grant requirements and to inform decision-makers about the overall reach of grant funds from an equity perspective.

☐ No.

11.4 Did the state/territory conduct an analysis of supply and demand or other needs assessment to identify areas of focus to build supply or target funding from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

☒ Yes.

Describe findings:

The 2020 Supply Demand Report - Challenges of Child Care in a Pandemic found that there was a 3% decline in child care programs from 2019 to 2020 resulting in a loss of 1,000 child care slots. It also found that in 79% of Kansas counties there are at least 10 children under the age of three years old that are competing for every 1 child care space available. The decline in Family Child Care Homes continues with the loss of 40 programs while minimal gains were reported in Child Care Centers and Group Child Care Homes.

CARES Act funds were also used to secure the support of The Boston Consulting Group, Inc. to provide strategic and operational support in allocating the CARES act fund through the developing a needs assessment and generating a long list of potential investment opportunities, developing a prioritization framework, and doing deep dive evaluations of the opportunities.

☐ No.

11.5 Describe how supply building grants were used with a lens towards DEI?:

All grants that helped to maintain the supply of child care programs that were administered through Department for Children and Families' partnership with Child Care Aware of Kansas utilized strategies to ensure that child care providers serving low-income communities were informed and supported through the entire process. Strategies were also used to ensure that providers who speak other languages than English were informed and supported. Child Care Aware of Kansas utilized staff that spoke the language, or they used language lines for languages that are less common to walk through the support or applications. They contracted to have documents available in Spanish.

11.6 How many providers received the following from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. Increased rates:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

b. Increased wages:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

c. Benefits health insurance:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

d. Mental health supports:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

e. Start-up funds:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

f. Other:

Describe:

NA

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

11.7 How many providers received the following technical assistance from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. Business practices:

Total: 86

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 37

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 49

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

b. Emergency preparedness planning:

Total: 5

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 1

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 4

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

c. Other:

Child Care Health Consultant technical assistance and Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Professional Development. Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities Workforce Professional Development was not able to break down according to program type.

Not included in totals

a) business practices: 7

b) emergency preparedness: n/a

c) other:

-health, nutrition, and safety of child care settings: 20

-learning environment and curriculum: 25

-staff/provider qualifications and professional development: 76

-teacher/provider-child relationships: 71

Total: 512

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 114

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 398

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

11.8 Spending:

11.8.1 Did the lead agency spend funds from any of the following sources on other

activities to improve the quality of child care services during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021?

a. CCDF quality set aside (from all available appropriation years that were spent during the fiscal year)

☒ Yes.

Amount spent: \$ 71,476.

Comments related to dollar amount provided (optional):

This amount included other items that were included as quality funds that were not reported anywhere else for activities related to Kansas Enrichment Network, State Interagency Coordinating Council, outreach, and the Child Care Rate survey.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

b. Non-CCDF funds (e.g., TANF funds spent directly on quality, Preschool Development Funds, state or local funds, etc.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe source(s) of funding:

☐ No

☒ N/A

Describe:

Children's Initiative Funds were used for Start Young to assist child care providers in increasing the number of children served in Wyandotte County by offering material and furnishings grants for new classrooms. Child care subsidy advocates assist families in completing the state child care subsidy application and applying for supplemental tuition assistance scholarships through Start Young. The program also brings quality systems support to providers through multiple quality initiatives in classrooms and educational incentives for child care providers.

Preschool Development Grant funds were used for All in For Kansas Quality Subgrants. These are multi-year grants to improve access, availability, and quality in target categories: Child Care Access for Target Populations, Rural Child Care, and Improve Quality. Child Care Access for Target Populations - Subgrantees in this category are implementing projects that test localized solutions to increase access and availability of high-quality child care for children ages birth through age five in key target populations. Target populations are defined for this subgrant as infants and toddlers, children living in households with low-income, children in families with migrant workers, children with special health care needs, children experiencing homelessness, and children at risk or involved with foster care. Rural Child Care - Subgrantees in this category are implementing projects that test localized solutions to break down barriers currently preventing rural child care providers serving children ages birth through age five from starting and succeeding, as well as those barriers currently preventing individuals in rural areas from entering and remaining in the early childhood care and education workforce. Improve Quality - Subgrantees in this category are implementing projects that test localized solutions to increase high-quality child care and education for Kansas children and families.

Detailed amounts spent on these activities are not available to the lead agency.

c. [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act, 2020](#)

☒ Yes.

[Amount spent: \\$ 6,683,970.15](#)

[If yes, describe how funds were used:](#)

Child Care worker Bonuses described in 11.1, The Boston Consulting Group work described in 11.4, an inter-agency agreement with Kansas Department of Health and Environment for Child Care Health Consultant technical assistance and health and safety grants as described in 11.2, and outreach using John Nohe to ensure eligible families were made aware of the Hero Relief Program. Television, targeted digital campaigns, billboards, bus signage, and other outreach tactics were used for outreach.

☐ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

d. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, 2021

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

e. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, 2021 Supplemental funding

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

f. ARP Act, 2021 Stabilization Grant set-aside ONLY

(As a reminder 10% of the ARP Stabilization Grants could be set-aside for administrative expenses, supply building, and technical assistance. This question refers only to this 10%.)

☐ Yes.

Amount spent: \$

If yes, describe how funds were used:

☒ No

☐ N/A

Describe:

11.9 Progress Update: Describe the measures used and progress made during October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Include examples and numeric targets where possible:

Department for Children and Families partnered with Child Care Aware of Kansas in 2020 to administer CARES Act funding for Health Care/Emergency Worker Support Bonuses and Revenue Replacement grants to child care programs. Payments for these two funding opportunities ended in October 2020. During the FFY 2021 Licensed Child Care Centers received 13 Health Care Worker Bonuses and 136 Revenue Replacement grants. Family Child Care received 84 Health Care Worker Bonuses and 114 Revenue Replacement grants.

Through a Inter Agency Agreement with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Department for Children and Families has provided funding and support to implement the Child Care Health Consultant Network (CCHC) to support quality child care services and promote healthy development for children in licensed child care facilities (home-based, center-based, school based, etc.) The purpose of the Child Care Health Consultant Network is to provide consultation, training, information, referrals and technical assistance to caregivers and providers throughout the state of Kansas. The Child Care Health Consultant Network offers critical services to child care programs by reviewing policies, (admission, exclusion, nutrition, etc.) they offer developmental expertise by completing assessments of children, staff and family health needs and connecting them with community resources. The Child Care Health Consultants assist families in care coordination with medical home and other health and development specialist.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment has partnered with Child Care Aware of Kansas (CCA KS) to implement the Child Care Health Consultant Network. Child Care Health Consultants were made available to all licensed child care facilities to assess environments, staffing, and child care practices and advise on actions and modifications. For the FFY 2021 the total number of Impact Grants awarded to child care providers by type and amount are as follows: Child Care

Programs with license capacity of less than 50-107 applications received and \$508,250 awarded

Child Care Programs with a license capacity of 50-99 194 applications received and \$1,105,800 awarded

Child Care Programs with a license capacity of 100 or more 150 applications received and \$997,500 awarded

Group and Family Child Care Homes 1,175 applications received and \$2,820,000 awarded

Department for Children and Families partnered with Child Care Aware of Kansas to administer sustainability grants to child care providers. During FFY2021 grants were awarded and funds used as follows:

Providers who applied 3,171

Providers who were approved 3,163

Providers by type who received payment

Licensed Homes 2,306

Head Start 6

Preschool 52

Child Care Centers 499

School Age Programs 300

Provider Use of funds in top 5 categories

Rent/Mortgage and Utilities 2,901

Salaries 1,991

Office and Classroom Supplies 1,408

Equipment and Maintenance 1,097

Cleaning and PPE Equipment 1,080

12) Lead agencies must submit an annual report, as required at 45 CFR Â§ 98.53(f) (4), describing any changes to lead agency regulations, enforcement mechanisms, or other lead agency policies addressing health and safety based on an annual review and assessment of serious child injuries and any deaths occurring in child care programs receiving CCDF, and in other regulated and unregulated child care centers and family child care homes, to the extent possible.

12.1 Describe the annual review and assessment of serious injuries and any deaths occurring in child care programs receiving CCDF, and in other regulated and unregulated child care centers and family child care homes, to the extent possible.

All injury reports submitted by a licensed program or received as a result of a complaint are reviewed by the assigned Child Care Licensing Regional Administrator who is the custodian of the facility record. A review may result in an investigation or enforcement action if deemed appropriate. Data is reviewed annually and may result in additional training made available by the local licensing surveyor. Data is also used when considering amendments to regulations that impact the health and safety of children in care; however, there are no regulations currently under review as a result of serious injury data.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care Regulations require that a licensed facility report any death of a child to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) within 24 hours. A compliant investigation is initiated. Death investigations include special data that is collected and tracked regarding the case, including circumstances of the death, space the death occurred (outside, crib, etc.), certification status of the provider such as CPR/First Aid, noncompliance cited, and enforcement initiated, if applicable. The licensing program requests death certificates from the Office of Vital Statistics for all deaths in order to capture the final cause of death in the record. All deaths that occur in a licensed facility are reported to the State Child Death Review Board upon request (identifying data is not reported, only aggregate by year). Kansas Department of Health and Environment also tracks deaths that occur in unlicensed/illegal care facilities.

12.2 Describe any changes to lead agency regulations, enforcement mechanisms, or other lead agency policies addressing health and safety based on the annual review and assessment.

A policy exception to KAR 284-114(f)(1) was granted Group Day Care Homes to allow children 2 ½ to 5 years of age to be substituted for younger children allowed by the licensed capacity. The purpose of the exception is to support working families and provide greater flexibility to licensees/facilities when accepting children into care. Older children can always be substituted for younger children, and the

table in the regulation does not make that clear.

A violation report was created to identify any citations for KAR 28-4-125(e) related to comprehensive (fingerprint-based) background checks in order to monitor compliance and field operations. A comprehensive violation report is used for surveyor quarterly training and county specific location information is used by licensing surveyors to determine additional trainings made available in their area.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed between Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care and Kansas Association for the Education of Young Children (KSAEYC) related to professional development training; this agreement and partnership provides licensees with access to more approved training for annual clock hours. Any training provided by Kansas Association for the Education of Young Children that meets the criteria of the agreement can be counted.

Several licensing regulations are under review for potential changes/revisions as a result of comprehensive input collected during 2020 from providers and stakeholders. Proposed amended regulations include those governing licensed and group day care homes, child care centers, preschools, and school age programs. The focus of any changes will be to reduce burden and increase consistency between regulations and practice standards (e.g., Caring for Our Children). Any amended regulations are tentatively scheduled to be final by June 2022.

13) American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Child Care Stabilization Grants

Did your state/territory begin **paying providers (funds were dispersed by the state/territory to providers) prior to December 1, 2021**?

☒ Yes.

☐ No.

13.1 When did you start accepting applications? Enter Date: 10/01/21

13.2 When did the first grants go out to providers? Enter Date: 11/30/21

13.3 How many stabilization grants were awarded?

Total

3489

☒ Licensed or registered center-based programs

945

☒ License-exempt center-based programs

0

☒ Licensed or registered family child care

2544

☒ License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home)

0

☒ In-home (care in the child's own home)

0

☒ Programs already serving children who receive CCDF subsidy at time of application

1603

13.4 What are the minimum, maximum, and average provider stabilization grant award amounts and average number of awards made to the same provider? Round amounts to the nearest dollar.

a. Minimum provider award amount:

Total: 5000

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 10000

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 5000

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

b. Maximum provider award amount:

Total: 60000

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 60000

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 5000

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

c. Average provider award amount:

Total: 11,771

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 30000

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 5000

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

d. Average number of awards made to the same provider during the fiscal year:

Total: 1

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 1

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 1

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

13.5 What is the licensed or identified capacity by age group that providers awarded stabilization grants served? States/Territories should use their own definition of age groups as provided in the CCDF Plan.

a. Total:

Total: 109467

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 82017

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 27450

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

b. Infants:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

c. Toddlers:

Total: 0

Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0

License-exempt center-based programs: 0

Licensed or registered family child care: 0

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

d. Preschool:

Total: 0
Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0
License-exempt center-based programs: 0
Licensed or registered family child care: 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

e. School-age:

Total: 0
Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0
License-exempt center-based programs: 0
Licensed or registered family child care: 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

f. Mixed age (combination of more than one age group):

Total: 0
Licensed or registered center-based programs: 0
License-exempt center-based programs: 0
Licensed or registered family child care: 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): 0

13.6 What is the number of stabilization grants awarded to providers who are operating in high need areas? OCC will be providing these FIPS codes for each jurisdiction.

FIPS Code 1: 20161

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 79
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs: 21
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 58
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 2: 20037

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 51
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs: 10
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 41

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 3: 20189

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 4
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
1
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 3
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 4: 20093

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 9
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 9
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 5: 20207

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 6
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 6
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 6: 20173

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 527
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
186
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 341
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 7: 20091

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 672
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
326
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 346
Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0
Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 8: 20209

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 107

Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
43

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0

Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 64

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0

Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 9: 20045

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 131

Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
46

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0

Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 85

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0

Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

FIPS Code 10: 20177

Total number of stabilization grants awarded: 221

Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated center-based programs:
55

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt center-based programs: 0

Number of stabilization grants awarded to licensed or regulated family child care: 166

Number of stabilization grants awarded to license-exempt family child care: 0

Number of stabilization grants awarded to in-home (care in the child's home): 0

13.7 How many grants were provided with the following specific uses? (check all that apply and include number of grants provided)

☒ **Mortgage/rent:** : Rent, mortgage, utilities, facility
maintenance or improvements, insurance
1063

☒ **Personnel costs:** Personnel costs including any sole proprietor
or independent contractor-- employee benefits, premium pay, or costs for employee
recruitment and retention
1001

☒ **Supplies and services:** Personal protective equipment cleaning
and sanitization supplies and services, or training and professional development
related to health and safety practices
252

☒ **Purchases/Updates:** Purchases of or updates to equipment and
supplies to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency
864

☒ **Goods and services:** Goods and services necessary to maintain or resume child care services
277

☒ **Mental health supports:** Mental health supports for children and employees
13

13.8 Did you run more than one grant program? If so, list the number of separate grant programs and describe their uses.

☐ Yes.

Describe:

☒ No.

13.9 Check which of the following methods were used for implementing stabilization grants? (check all that apply)

☐ Prioritizing small child care programs

☐ Recurring subgrants

☐ Employing multiple subgrant programs

☐ Providing bonuses or supplemental funding for providers meeting certain needs of families

☐ Encouraging wage increases through stabilization grants (e.g., bonuses going directly to staff or requirement that a percentage of the grant be used for personnel)

☒ Other.

Describe:

Stabilization grants, called Sustainability grants in Kansas, were issued on 11/30/21 to providers who applied and were approved. There was no need to prioritize the awards, as the funds were available for all approved providers. There will be other recurring subgrants after 12/31/21, but the payments that went out on 11/30/21 were for applications that opened 10/1/2021 and closed 11/5/2021. The amounts of the grants were based on provider types and licensed capacity.

13.10 Check which of the following were available to providers related to applying for stabilization grants? (check all that apply)

☒ Applications for subgrants are widely available in plain language and multiple languages

- ☒ A staffed helpline or chat function to provide real time assistance for completing applications available in multiple languages
 - ☒ Support for collecting documentation showing operating expenses
- ☒ Used a cost estimation model or survey to estimate operating expenses for or already collected operating expenses from providers as part of an earlier application or relief effort instead of requiring new information from applicants
 - ☒ Acceptance of a variety of types of documentation of operating expenses
- ☒ Resources such as frequently asked questions to help with the completion of the applications available in multiple languages
 - ☐ Partnerships with culturally relevant organizations and trusted messengers to support a diverse range of child care providers in navigating the application process
 - ☐ Other.

Describe:

13.11 Check which of the following supports were available to providers after they received stabilization grants? (check all that apply)

- ☒ A staffed helpline or chat function to provide real time assistance available in multiple languages
- ☒ Support for providers related to following certain health and safety guidelines
 - ☒ Support for providers related to continuing to pay full compensation to staff
- ☒ Support for providers related to recruiting and retaining existing and former child care workers and strengthening the diversity of the workforce to meet children and families' needs
- ☒ Support for providers related to providing relief from copayments and tuition for parents struggling to afford child care
- ☒ Support for providers in making facilities improvements needed to comply with safety guidance in the context of developmentally appropriate practice and a welcoming environment for children and families
- ☒ Support for providers in making facilities improvements that make child care programs inclusive and accessible to children with disabilities and family members with disabilities
- ☒ Support for background checks and health and safety training for providers who were previously ineligible for CCDF subsidies because they had not completed the health and safety requirements in the CCDBG Act

- ☒ Support for providers to find personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning and sanitization supplies
- ☒ Support for providers related to finding mental health services and supports
- ☐ Other.

Describe:

13.12 Describe the methods used to eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse when providing stabilization grants (e.g., validated identity through the lead agency licensing system or conducted identity verification through a data match with state tax records):

Each applicant was checked against the licensing system to ensure they had an active permanent license. A random review of 2% of the total number of monthly expenditure tracking forms were completed over the span of the subrecipient agreement. Audits began in November 2021.

13.13.1 What is the number of stabilization grants awarded by gender of center director or family child care owner?

a. Female:

Total 3138

Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 733

License-exempt center-based programs: # 0

Licensed or registered family child care: # 2405

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

b. Male:

Total 113

Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 96

License-exempt center-based programs: # 0

Licensed or registered family child care: # 17

License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0

In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

c. Non-Binary:

Total 3

Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 0

License-exempt center-based programs: # 2
Licensed or registered family child care: # 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 1
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

d. No response:

Total 0
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 0
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

13.13.2 What is the number of stabilization grants awarded by race and ethnicity of the center director or family child care owner?

a) Ethnicity: Hispanic, Race: American Indian or Alaskan Native

Total 4
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 0
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 4
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

b) Ethnicity: Hispanic, Race: Asian

Total 3
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 3
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

c) Ethnicity: Hispanic, Race: Black or African American

Total 5
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 2
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 3
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

d) Ethnicity: Hispanic, Race: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Total 2

Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 1
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 1
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (ccare in the child's own home): # 0

e) Ethnicity: Hispanic, Race: White

Total 118
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 25
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 93
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

f) Ethnicity: Hispanic, Race: Multi-Racial

Total 5
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 5
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 0
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

g) Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic, Race: American Indian or Alaskan Native

Total 12
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 3
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 9
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

h) Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic, Race: Asian

Total 33
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 13
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 20
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

i) Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic, Race: Black or African American

Total 260
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 62
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0

Licensed or registered family child care: # 198
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

j) Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic, Race: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Total 3
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 1
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 2
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

k) Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic, Race: White

Total 2802
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 765
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 2037
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0

l) Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic, Race: Multi-racial

Total 66
Licensed or registered center-based programs: # 14
License-exempt center-based programs: # 0
Licensed or registered family child care: # 52
License-exempt family child care (care in providers' home): # 0
In-home (care in the child's own home): # 0