

THE ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL, INC.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

EARLY HEAD START CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP

APPLICATION DUE DATE: 12/21/2021

The Economic Improvement Council, Inc. (EIC) is announcing the availability of funding to be competitively awarded for the purpose of expanding access to high-quality, comprehensive early learning services for low-income infants and toddlers and their families.

EIC solicits applications from potential child care provider to provide Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership services. Child Care Providers in Beaufort, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Martin, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrell and Washington County, North Carolina can apply for funding to provide comprehensive, high-quality services to eligible infants and toddlers through EHS-CC Partnerships. These EHS-CC Partnerships will enhance and support early learning settings to provide full-day, full-year, comprehensive services that meet the needs of low-income working families; enhance access to high-quality, full-time child care; support the development of infants and toddlers through strong relationship-based experiences; and prepare them for the transition into preschool.

Through EHS-CC Partnerships, EIC will partner with local child care centers to leverage current investments through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) or other sources to improve the quality of infant-toddler child care. All infants and toddlers in an EHS-CC Partnership site will benefit from facilities and homes that meet licensing and EHS facility safety requirements. If other children are in the classrooms with EHS-CC Partnership enrolled children they will benefit from low teacher-child ratios and class sizes, higher qualifications of their teachers including ongoing supervision and coaching,

curriculum, and parent engagement activities. While only enrolled EHS-CC Partnership children will be eligible for direct family-specific benefits such as home visits, health tracking and promotion, and family partnership agreements through this funding, EIC will operationalize services to ensure there is no segregation or stigmatization of EHS-CC Partnership children or families due to the additional requirements or services.

EIC EHS - CCP Partner Roles and Responsibilities

It is expected that through the EHS-CC Partnership, EIC and their partners will be able to deliver higher quality and comprehensive services to all enrolled children by blending the federal funds for the eligible EHS children and the child care subsidies and/or other funds.

EIC EHS - CCP Partner Responsibilities

- Ensuring adult-child ratios and group sizes meet EIC Policies and Procedures requirements at all times;
- Implementing evidence-based curriculum that is developmentally appropriate for infants and toddlers;
- Conducting ongoing assessment of children to individualize the instruction and learning for each child;
- Providing health and nutrition services, including all developmental, sensory, and behavioral screening and assistance with provision of follow-up services; and
- Engaging parents in the full range of child development and family support services.