Increasing Immunization Coverage Rates Among Child Care Workers

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Child care providers play a significant role in child development.
Children in high-quality child care programs perform better in math and reading.
Arizona’s Child Care Workforce

325,000 CHILDREN < 6 Y.O.
3,600 CENTERS/HOMES
8,000 = CHILD CARE PROVIDER WORKFORCE

(National Association of Child Care Resources & Referral Agencies, 2011)
## Workforce Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographics</th>
<th>Compensation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Female</td>
<td>- Among lowest paid in U.S. labor force</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Married</td>
<td>- Average annual income</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Parent</td>
<td>- Arizona $19,970</td>
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<td>- Some formal education beyond high school</td>
<td>- U.S. $20,940</td>
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<td>- Over half view work as profession or personal calling</td>
<td>- Federal poverty level $17,170</td>
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<td>- Nearly half employed with same program for at least 5 years</td>
<td>- 52.4% receive health benefits</td>
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(NACRRA, 2011; The Gallup Organization, 2003)
Quality in Child Care

• Key indicators of child care quality: retention, training, and compensation.
  ▫ Providers earning more benefits less likely to be punitive and detached.
  ▫ Higher levels of compensation associated with positive development experiences for children.
• Higher levels of education and training result in children being better prepared for school.
  ▫ Formal education strongest predictor of ability to engage children.
  ▫ Providers with specialized training more likely to be nurturing.

Arizona Child Care Regulations

- Minimum of 18 training hours mandated each year
  - Significant relationship between training hours and child care quality
  - Limited opportunities for affordable professional development
- New requirement for proof of immunity to pertussis
  - Significant rise in AZ pertussis cases
  - Limited access to affordable adult vaccines
Child Care Health Consultation

CCHCs

- Registered nurses
- On-site assessment of health practices/routines
- Health records review
- Health policy review and development
- Staff/parent trainings
- Community resource and referral

Outcomes

- Fewer child/staff sick days
- Increased compliance with universal precautions
- *Higher immunization rates*
- *Improved immunization record-keeping*
Community-Based Trainings

1. Improve quality of out-of-home care settings through evidence-based health and safety training.
2. Increase child care worker access to adult immunization.
Community-Based Trainings

• Collaboration
  ▫ MCDPH Office of Community Health Nursing
  ▫ Rio Salado College

• Child care provider health and safety training
  ▫ Best practices (regulations vs. CFOC)
  ▫ Medication Administration, Safe Sleep, Arrival Health Check, etc.
  ▫ Free training hours
Community-Based Trainings

• Overview of pertussis
  ▫ New state regulation
  ▫ Rise in number of cases
  ▫ Increased risk for children < 5 years old
  ▫ Importance of cocooning

• At the end all participants are offered ...

Free TDaP
Outcomes

• Monthly training sessions
• 15 – 25 participants per class
• Training hours may be applied to Rio Salado’s Child Development Associate (CDA) certification
• Credit by evaluation – Rio Salado’s Early Childhood & Human Development program

450 doses of TDaP since 2010
Sustainability

- Funding
  - Initial: 317 discretionary funding
  - Fee fund
    - Vaccine administration fees
References

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