



Delaware Early Childhood Council

Cost of Care Expert Discussion

Meeting Agenda

<https://www.doe.k12.de.us/Page/3760>

October 7, 2020

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone –

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/878496725>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Join by phone - 1 (571) 317-3122 - Access Code: 878-496-725

The mission of the DECC is to promote the development of a comprehensive and coordinated early childhood system, birth to eight, which provides the highest quality services and environment for Delaware's children and their families.

10:00 AM Welcome and Objectives

Madeleine Bayard, Chair

10:05 AM Delaware Context

- Legislative Requirement for Market Rate and Cost of Care Study – *see language below*
- DHSS Update

Representative Quinn Johnson

Thomas Hall, Division of Social Services

Michele Stant, Division of Management Services

10:15 AM National Expert Presentation

Simon Workman and Jeanna Capito

- Cost Study Approaches: Market Rate and Cost of Care
- Considerations on and use of studies
- National Context and lessons from other states

Q&A

10:55 AM Next Steps

Upcoming Meetings:

- Delaware Early Childhood Council Strategic Plan Release Event! Coming October Date TBD
- Council Meeting and Delaware Stars Feedback Session: October 28, 9-10:30AM
- Council Meeting: November 10, 2020 - 10:30AM-12:30PM

Section 42. The Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) shall continue working on the findings of the Independent Study of Rate Methodologies for Services Delivered by the Divisions within DHSS to outline a path forward in addressing the recommendations of the report including milestones to address progress. Prior to February 1, 2021, DHSS shall share the findings of the study with stakeholders and hold information session regarding these findings. DHSS shall make every attempt to reallocate funding through current appropriations to implement recommendations of the study so to not delay the process. Any funding not secured within existing appropriations, must be requested through the annual budget process. The purpose of this language and funding is to create a consistent and more accurate rate methodology process to be utilized for future rate determinations. DHSS shall perform the upcoming scheduled Child Care provider market rate survey. However, as part of this survey, DHSS must contact every provider that does not respond to the survey and obtain their current rates. It is understood not having all providers' data greatly skews the actual current market rates at the time of the survey. DHSS must provide details to the Joint Finance Committee on their efforts to obtain all provider rates for the market survey study. With stakeholder input, DHSS shall develop a Cost of Care study for Early Childcare and the Disabilities Communities, including Direct Support Professionals, to be performed simultaneously with the Early Childcare market rate evaluation. Additional parameters of this study shall be determined by the Co-Chairs of the Joint Finance Committee, in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget and the Controller General's Office. The Cost of Care study shall be used to evaluate future funding needs necessary to implement quality of care benchmarks. This process shall determine the methodology in which future rates are determined and set and will not bind any future legislative body in deciding the amount of funding allocation.