



**Virginia Department of Social Services**

*people helping people*

**TANF and the  
Child Care Subsidy Program**

Presentation to the Commission on Youth

TANF Advisory Group

September 6, 2016

# Child Care Subsidy Program

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- Provides low-income families with financial assistance for child care
- Administered by the Virginia Department of Social Services and the 120 local departments of social services
- 38,755 children served in SFY 2016



- Subsidy is available to different types of clients
- Mandated Services (17,361 children FY 2016)
  - TANF Working
  - Transitional
  - VIEW
  - SNAP Employment and Training
- Non-Mandated Services (21,394 children FY 2016)
  - Fee Child Care
  - Head Start Wrap-Around Child Care



- TANF and Child Care Subsidy are well-integrated programs
- TANF families are income-eligible for Child Care Subsidy; Subsidy is available to all working TANF recipients who apply for assistance
- VIEW participants do not have to file a separate application for Subsidy
- TANF recipients do not have a Child Care co-payment for Subsidy



- Subsidy for TANF recipients (non-VIEW) who participate in education or training programs
  - Receive services based on available funding
  - May be placed on a waiting list



- Federal provisions allow for:
  - Direct TANF spending for child care
  - Transfer of up to 30% of a state's TANF grant to either the
    - Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) (10% maximum) or
    - Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)



- TANF funds transferred to CCDF follow CCDF rules and may be used for all CCDF-eligible families
- Virginia transfers funds to CCDF for Child Care Subsidy for TANF recipients
- In SFY 2016, Virginia transferred \$16.8 million of TANF to CCDF
- 2016 Session increased the authorized TANF to CCDF transfer to \$30.4 million per year



- Section 63.2-611 of the Code of Virginia
  - Local departments of social services authorized to provide Child Care for VIEW participants
  - Provides for up to 12 months of Child Care for former TANF recipients who are employed (Transitional Child Care)





- **When Subsidy recipients move:**
  - Child Care services in the original locality close and the family reapplies in the new locality
  - TANF recipient notifies new locality of their need for Child Care
  - Services are initiated in the new locality for VIEW and TANF non-VIEW families who are employed



- New federal Child Care law calls for states to maintain a family's authorization for services if they move within the state
- A workgroup is currently working on the transfer process
  - TANF will migrate into the Virginia Case Management System this fall
  - Both programs will be in the same case management system for the first time



- Virginia has invested considerable funds in Child Care since TANF
- \$55.5 million for Child Care Subsidy in FY 1996 (year prior to TANF)
- \$131.8 million for Child Care Subsidy in FY 2016



- Child Care Subsidy Wait List (8-29-16)
  - 11,877 families
  - 19,055 children
- TANF working families and VIEW participants are not put on wait lists for Child Care Subsidy



