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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 93 LCM-154

Date: November 5, 1993

Division: Services & Community
Development

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Materials for Child Care and Development Block Grant Public
Hearings

ATTACHMENTS: Summary of Estimated Child Care Funding (Available on-
line)
Notice of Public Hearings (Available on-line)

The purpose of this LCM is to provide local social services districts with a copy of the public notice of the upcoming Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) public hearings and copies of the Summary of Estimated Child Care Funding. The Summary is to be made available to the public upon request.

Five public hearings to allow public input into the development of the State's second multi-year CCDBG Plan will be held across the State during the weeks of December 6 and December 13, 1993. The hearings will provide the Department with public input and comment in three specific areas:

- o program priorities for child day care through 1996;
- o funding distribution priorities through 1996; and
- o suggested avenues for local input in shaping the Department's child day care agenda.

Persons interested in submitting oral testimony during the public hearings must send written testimony in advance to Christina M. Hay, New York State Department of Social Services, Bureau of Early Childhood Services, 40 N. Pearl St., 11-B, Albany, New York 12243. Such written testimony is limited to ten minutes in length and must be received by the Department by November 29, 1993. Persons interested only in submitting written comments must submit such comments by December 3, 1993.

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Additional copies of the Summary can be obtained by contacting Linda Stern, Bureau of Early Childhood Services at 1-800-342-3715, extension 4-9324, or (518) 474-9324.

Frank Puig
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Services and Community
Development

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED CHILD CARE FUNDING
SFY 1993-1994

This document provides an overview of the Department of Social Service's (the Department) current efforts to expand the availability, accessibility, affordability and quality of child care in New York State. A variety of funding sources is utilized to accomplish these goals, including the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). While the public hearings scheduled for December, 1993 will focus on the use of CCDBG funds, the Department's view of a comprehensive child care program includes all funding sources, as described below.

The current use of federal, State and local funds to support child care programs in New York State is based on: various federal and State statutes and regulations; the Department's assessments of need; and the discussions and judgments of the New York State Legislature. The public hearings are designed to allow parents, providers, advocates and other interested parties to enter into the process of identifying needs and discussing pertinent issues.

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>EXPECTED FUNDING SOURCE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED FUNDING LEVEL</u>
Child care subsidies for low-income families	JOBS & Employment- related, At-Risk, CCDBG, Low Income, Transitional, Title XX	\$332.0 million

Child care subsidies from federal, State and local funds are administered by local departments of social services and are available to enable low-income parents to work or attend school or training. Entitlements and federal requirements limit the State's ability to utilize these funds for other purposes.

Regulatory oversight	CCDBG & State	\$8.0 million
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This funding supports regulatory oversight of the child care programs regulated by the Department, which is conducted both by State staff and through contracts between the Department and local social services districts. Such oversight includes a wide variety of activities, such as processing applications, inspecting programs, providing information and technical assistance to providers, investigating complaints, overseeing legal enforcement, and conducting orientation sessions for new providers.

Public education and awareness and training for child care providers	CCDBG & State	\$5.2 million
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The comprehensive, Statewide public awareness and parent education campaign is designed to provide information on the types of child care programs, how to evaluate programs, the availability of subsidies and related topics. A variety of print and broadcast media is utilized.

Training, at little or no cost, is available Statewide to staff of day care centers, school-age child care programs and family and group family day care providers. Orientation sessions, several levels of training on a variety of subjects and videotapes comprise the training.

Child care resource & referral agencies	CCDBG & State	\$4.5 million
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Funding supports the development and operation of child care resource and referral agencies (CCR&Rs) across the State. These community-based, not-for-profit agencies provide a variety of services, including consumer information and referral, provider training, parent education, recruitment of and technical assistance to prospective providers and outreach.

SUNY/CUNY child care start-up & expansion	CCDBG	\$3.2 million
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A competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process is utilized to increase the availability of early childhood development programs on the campuses of the State University of New York and the City University of New York. Funding allows for the start-up and expansion of child day care centers, child care subsidies for low-income parents and additional quality activities and services.

Child care start-up grants

day care centers	CCDBG	\$1.0 million
family day care homes	CCDBG	\$1.4 million

A competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process is utilized to select grantees for start-up funding. This funding expands the supply of child care by supporting start-up and expansion expenses of day care centers and by recruiting and assisting family day care providers to conduct their programs in a manner that ensures the health and safety of children in their care.

Grants to resolve health & safety issues	CCDBG	\$ 800,000
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A competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process is utilized to select grantees who demonstrate the need to resolve newly identified fire, health and safety issues necessary for the program to provide care to children in a safe environment. An example of activities funded under this category is the necessary upgrading of a fire alarm system.

SED collaborative demonstration program	CCDBG	\$ 500,000
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Through an agreement with the State Education Department (SED), funding is provided to center-based, group family-based or a consortium of family day care providers to develop collaborative approaches in

coordination with existing part-day Head Start or State-funded Prekindergarten programs. This effort is designed to increase the availability of quality, full-day child day care.

Day care scholarship program	CCDBG	\$ 349,000
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The purpose of this program is to provide child care providers and staff of early childhood development programs with financial support to pursue educational opportunities to enhance their child care skills. Both higher education and specialized training programs will be able to be supported through this funding.

Early Childhood Investment Fund	State	\$ 300,000
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As part of the implementation of the Early Childhood Investment Fund, this funding was added to the Department's budget and subsequently transferred to the administering agency, the Department of Economic Development. This public-private partnership provides grants to communities to support early childhood services. The Fund is designed to offer businesses greater flexibility in the kinds of early childhood services they may support and to assist them and their communities in responding to locally defined needs. A broad range of activities can be supported with the funding, including projects to address quality, supply, access and affordability.

NYS Unified Court System children's centers	State	\$ 300,000
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This funding supports the establishment of children's centers in New York State Courts. The children's centers will provide a separate, safe, supervised and enclosed environment for children who must be in court in connection with matters involving them or their caregivers.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

New York State Department of Social Services

The Department of Social Services proposes to hold several public hearings in regard to the development of New York State's second multi-year plan to be eligible to continue to receive assistance under Section 5082 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, known as the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990.

The purpose of this federal block grant program is to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child day care. To accomplish this purpose, upon approval by the United States Department of Health and Human Services of a State Plan, federal funds will be available to New York State for subsidies for child day care services to low income families with a parent who is working, attending a training or education program, or with a child who has special needs. The Block Grant program is intended to offer eligible families a broad variety of options regarding their selection of child day care providers. Funding also is provided to improve the availability and quality of child day care and for early childhood development and before- and after-school services.

Pursuant to 45 CFR 98.14(c), the public is invited to provide input into the development of the State's second Plan. Specific areas for comment include: (a) program priorities for child day care through 1996; (b) funding distribution priorities through 1996; and (c) suggested avenues for local input in shaping the Department of Social Services' child day care agenda.

Persons interested in submitting oral testimony during the public hearings must send written testimony in advance to Christina M. Hay, New York State Department of Social Services, Bureau of Early Childhood Services, 40 N. Pearl Street, 11-B, Albany, New York 12243. Such written testimony is limited to ten minutes in length and must be received by the Department by November 29, 1993. Persons interested only in submitting written comments must submit such comments by December 3, 1993.

A fact sheet on the Department of Social Services' current child day care program and funding priorities will be available in each social services district office and at the Department's Bureau of Early Childhood Services regional offices by November 10, 1993. Individuals wishing a large number of copies of the fact sheet should send a written request to the above mentioned address or call 1-800-342-3715, extension 4-9324, or (518) 474-9324.

The hearings are scheduled as follows:

Date: December 6, 1993
Time: 10 AM - 1 PM
Place: Buffalo & Erie Co. Public Library
Auditorium (entrance on Clinton St.)
Lafayette Square
Buffalo, New York

Date: December 7, 1993
Time: 1-4 PM
Place: Rochester City Hall
City Council Chambers
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York

Date: December 9, 1993
Time: 4-7 PM
Place: ONCENTER
800 South State St.
Syracuse, New York

Date: December 14, 1993
Time: 1-4 PM
Place: CUNY Graduate School & University Center
Auditorium
33 West 42nd Street
New York, New York

Date: December 16, 1993
Time: 4-7 PM
Place: Legislative Office Building
Hearing Room C
State Street
Albany, New York