ALL OUR KIN
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trains, supports, and sustains
family child care providers
to ensure that children and families
have the foundation they need
to succeed in school and in life.
All Our Kin serves over 400 family child care providers in New Haven, Bridgeport, Norwalk, Stamford, and surrounding towns.

These educators, many of whom are parents themselves, have the capacity to serve over 2,400 children in our community.
Why Family Child Care?
“Early experiences determine whether a child’s brain architecture will provide a strong or weak foundation for all future learning, behavior, and health.”

- Harvard’s Center on the Developing Child

Our youngest, most vulnerable children are in home-based child care. With our help, All Our Kin’s family child care providers lay the foundation for children’s later success.
All Our Kin’s Model
All Our Kin’s Model: Supporting Family Child Care Providers at Every Stage of their Development

**Tool Kit Licensing**
Help new providers get started and become licensed

**Beginner**

**Family Child Care Network**
Support all providers through professional development and coaching

**Improving**

**Early Head Start**
Full range of services to the neediest children

**Strengthened**

**Knowledge Dissemination**
Train other agencies on generating quality practice
Tool Kit Licensing Program

- Streamlines licensing process
- Incentive-based approach
- Caregivers join a professional community
Family Child Care Network

- Educational consultation and program visits from master teachers
- Child Development Associate (CDA) training
- Workshop series
- Scholarships for college courses
- Business training and technical assistance
- Networking and peer mentoring
- Annual conference
Strength-Based Approach

All Our Kin’s approach is founded on a strength-based philosophy that views family child care providers as partners.

We invest significant resources in helping providers reach levels of quality that are not only high but sustainable in the long run.
Best Practices

• Take a strength-based approach founded on respect and reciprocity

• Hold ourselves to a standard of excellence

• Take a holistic approach to both caregivers and families
Best Practices

- Find and leverage existing community strengths
- Build on family child care providers’ relationships with parents in order to link families to existing resources
Professional Development

• Structured to work for providers’ real lives

• Providers feel welcomed and valued

• Best practices in adult learning; high-quality content and trainers

• Curriculum tailored to FCC programs
Professional Development

- Offerings reflect requests from providers and needs observed by staff
- Leveraging local resources
- Continuous learning and development encouraged for both providers and staff
The recent study “Examining Quality in Family Child Care: An Evaluation of All Our Kin” found that All Our Kin’s model has a significant impact on quality in family child care. All Our Kin providers scored on average over 50% higher than non-All Our Kin providers on measures of quality in family child care.
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model: Increased Supply

Between 2000 and 2011, Connecticut lost nearly 34% of its family child care programs. In New Haven, the number of licensed family child cares increased by 74% thanks to All Our Kin’s efforts.

![Figure 3: Number of Licensed Family Child Care Providers](image.png)

*Source: United Way of Connecticut/Child Care Infoline*
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model:

**Increased Earnings**

Nearly 60% of participants report earning at least $5,000 more the first year after licensure.

In the second year, over 45% report earning at least $10,000 more.
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model:

Increased Education

Over 50% of the providers All Our Kin helps become licensed go on to achieve either an Associate’s Degree in Early Childhood Education or a Child Development Associate credential.
The Outcomes of All Our Kin’s Model:

Benefits to the Wider Community

The University of Connecticut reports that every dollar invested in All Our Kin yields $15-$20 in macroeconomic benefits.
Policy & Evaluation

By demonstrating that quality in family child care is possible, we are changing the way scholars and policy makers think about home-based care.

Our work has elevated family child care at the local, state, and national levels, making it an integral part of the conversation around early care and education.
The Provider Showcase

supports family child care providers in achieving increasingly rigorous levels of quality

and

provides parents access to easy-to-understand information, all in one place, about local family child care options.
Why a Provider Showcase?

The Provider Showcase builds on our existing services – like Educational Consulting and network meetings – to enhance the quality of family child care in the communities we serve.
Through the PS, providers progress through five increasingly rigorous levels, resulting in significantly higher quality programs.

Level 1: Emerging
Level 2: Sprouting
Level 3: Blooming
Level 4: In Process of Accreditation
Level 5: NAFCC Accredited

A provider will receive support to help them earn the next level and once they’ve earned the next level, they are eligible for incentives.
How do we support & reward providers?

As providers progress through the PS, they will receive different supports & incentives, in order to improve the quality of their care.

**Support**
- Help w/ Accreditation
- Study Groups
- Workshops

**Incentives**
- Celebration Dinner
- Recognition on AOK website
- Mini-grants
- Materials
Provider Showcase Progress

1. We’ve designed & launched core elements of the PS

2. Family Child Care Programs have improved as the providers progress through the PS

3. Providers report the PS enhances their Family Child Care Programs

4. There is strong interest among AOK partners
Our Model is a Win-Win-Win

• Child care providers succeed as business owners and early childhood professionals, and build better lives for themselves and their own families

• Parents go to work knowing their children are safe and learning

• Children from all backgrounds receive the foundation they need to succeed in school and beyond