Healthy Child Care Rhode Island

Child Care Health Consultation
Blythe Berger
401-222-5949
Blythe.berger@health.ri.gov

History
- Healthy Child Care Rhode Island began in 1995
- It was merged with the Child Care Support Network in 1998
- CCSN provides onsite TA to Center and Family Child Care Homes. CCHC is a component of this model
- 4 CCHCs have attended the NTI

Funding
- 1980
  CCHC is financed by child care providers
- 1995
  CCHC is financed by child care providers, Title V, Healthy Child Care America, CCDBG quality funds
- 2006
  CCHC is financed by child care providers, Title V, CCDBG quality funds (services are now more responsive and defined)

Context
- All licensed child care centers are required to have a health consultant designated on paper
- Centers that serve infants are required under current regulations to have a health consultant ONSITE 15 hours per week
- Family child care providers are not required to have a health consultant

System Evaluation
- The system of CCHC was not working
- Child Care providers could not find nurses to work on site, if they found the nurses it was very expensive
- They could not find nurses with pediatric experience
- For centers serving older kids, CCHCs were listed on paper but there was no relationship
- The system was funded 90% by the child care providers

Recommendations for Change
- Develop a model of CCHC that had specified components, child care centers can “buy” the service
- Management of the model would be contracted out to a community agency with nursing experience and capacity
- DHS and HEALTH would subsidize a planning year
- The agency will develop a business plan for how the program will sustain itself
- HEALTH will maintain 2 health consultants who will be available to centers for 2 years
Proposed Funding

- CCHC currently costs centers with infants between $6,000-$20,000/yr
- The new model would cost
  - $4000/yr for centers with infants
  - $1500/yr for centers with older children
  - $500/yr for family child care providers
- All licensed providers have access to web site
- Participation is optional