



February 25, 2016

Presentation to: Joint Legislative Oversight on Health and Human Services – Early Education and Family Support Programs Subcommittee – A Director’s Perspective

Child Care Subsidy *Mission – Provide Needs Based Child Care Assistance*

Working Well:

- Children are provided with childcare, otherwise out of reach to parents
- NC Fast is a welcome addition to the Child Care Subsidy program
- Classes available to parents who are receiving subsidy

Not Working Well:

- Timeliness of vouchers and information to providers
- Parent and Center abuse of system
- Charging of difference between Market and Private Pay Rates
- Reduced hour vouchers – effect on children and centers
- Subsidy supporting quality

Suggestions:

- Require parents receiving subsidy to attend ‘Recognizing Quality Childcare and Knowing Your Rights as a Parent’ classes – take steps to promote attendance in quality centers
- Support quality programs with quality perks i.e. Teacher Workdays

Smart Start *Mission – School Readiness*

Working Well:

- support to centers – Quality Enhancement, Director’s Leadership Academy
- support of programs – POD Wake, Farm to Childcare
- training opportunities – CLASS, etc
- Child Care Subsidy bonuses based on quality and number of subsidized children served

Not Working Well:

- Wages/Health Care Subsidy
- Programs scrape the surface and are done

Suggestions:

- Develop online trainings that directly relate to areas required by licensing, i.e. different approved curriculums
- More programs available at teacher level