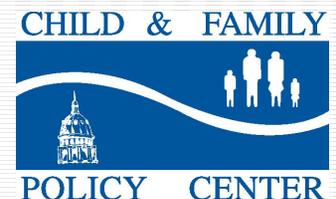


# 17 Child and Family Policy Center, Every Child Counts, Presentation Slides

By: **Sheila Hansen and Tiffany Smith**  
Every Child Counts

July 31, 2007



# Importance of Early Childhood Programs

- Ensuring that children are healthy and prepared for success in school
- Enabling parents to be productive and self-sufficient workers
- Recognizing workers and supporting their self-sufficiency
- Kids are worth it!





## Kids Are Worth It!

Up to half of the gap in achievement scores in school can be attributed to gaps already evident at the time of school entry.

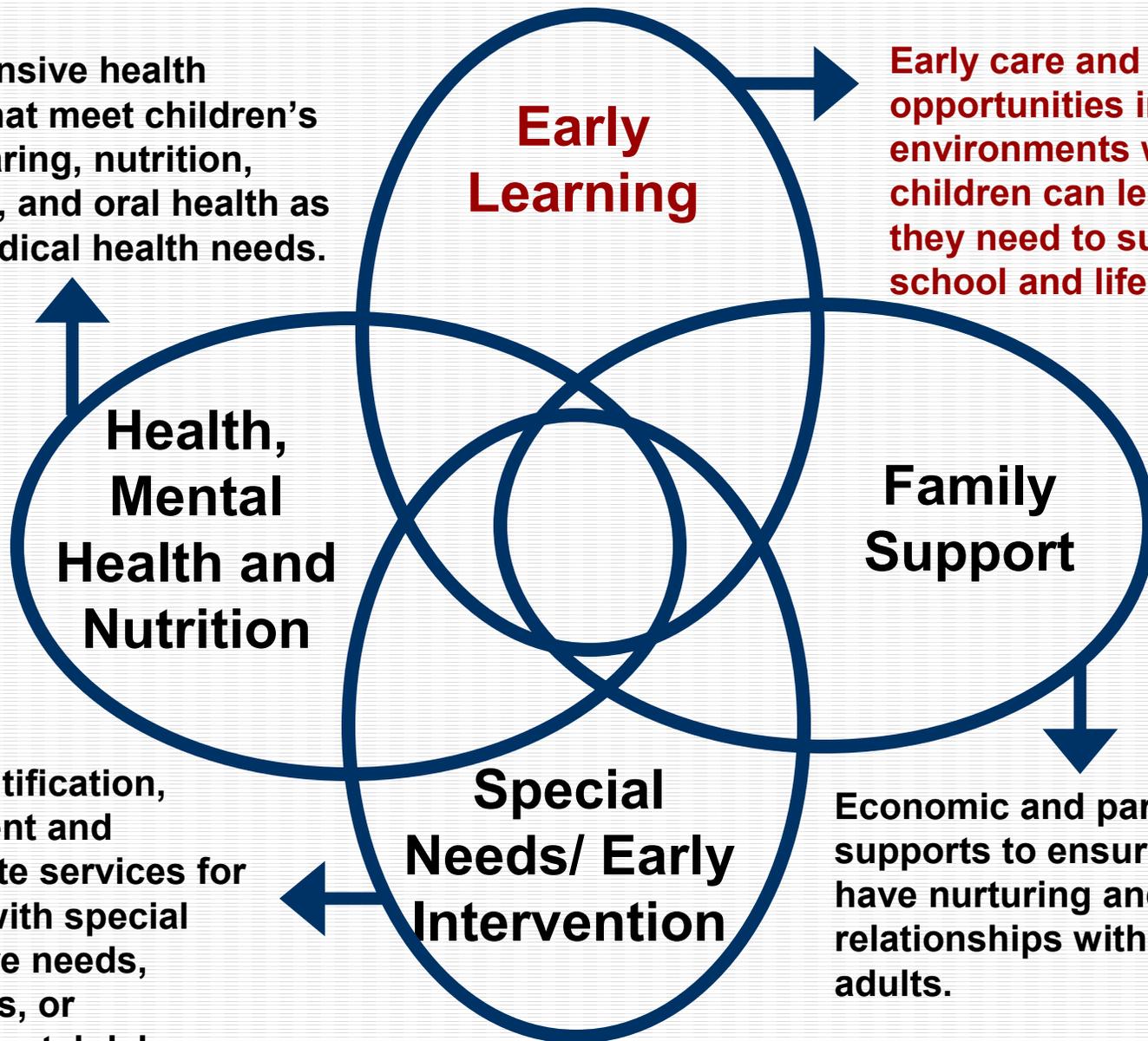
-- Rouse, Brooks-Gunn, & McClanahan, *School Readiness: Closing Racial and Ethnic Gaps*

While schools can and should be responsible for narrowing the gap between kindergarten and third grade, eliminating the gap requires actions in the earliest learning years ... from birth to school age.

-- Rothstein, *Class and Schools*

# State Early Childhood Development System

Comprehensive health services that meet children's vision, hearing, nutrition, behavioral, and oral health as well as medical health needs.



Early care and education opportunities in nurturing environments where children can learn what they need to succeed in school and life.

Health,  
Mental  
Health and  
Nutrition

Family  
Support

Special  
Needs/ Early  
Intervention

Early identification, assessment and appropriate services for children with special health care needs, disabilities, or developmental delays

Economic and parenting supports to ensure children have nurturing and stable relationships with caring adults.

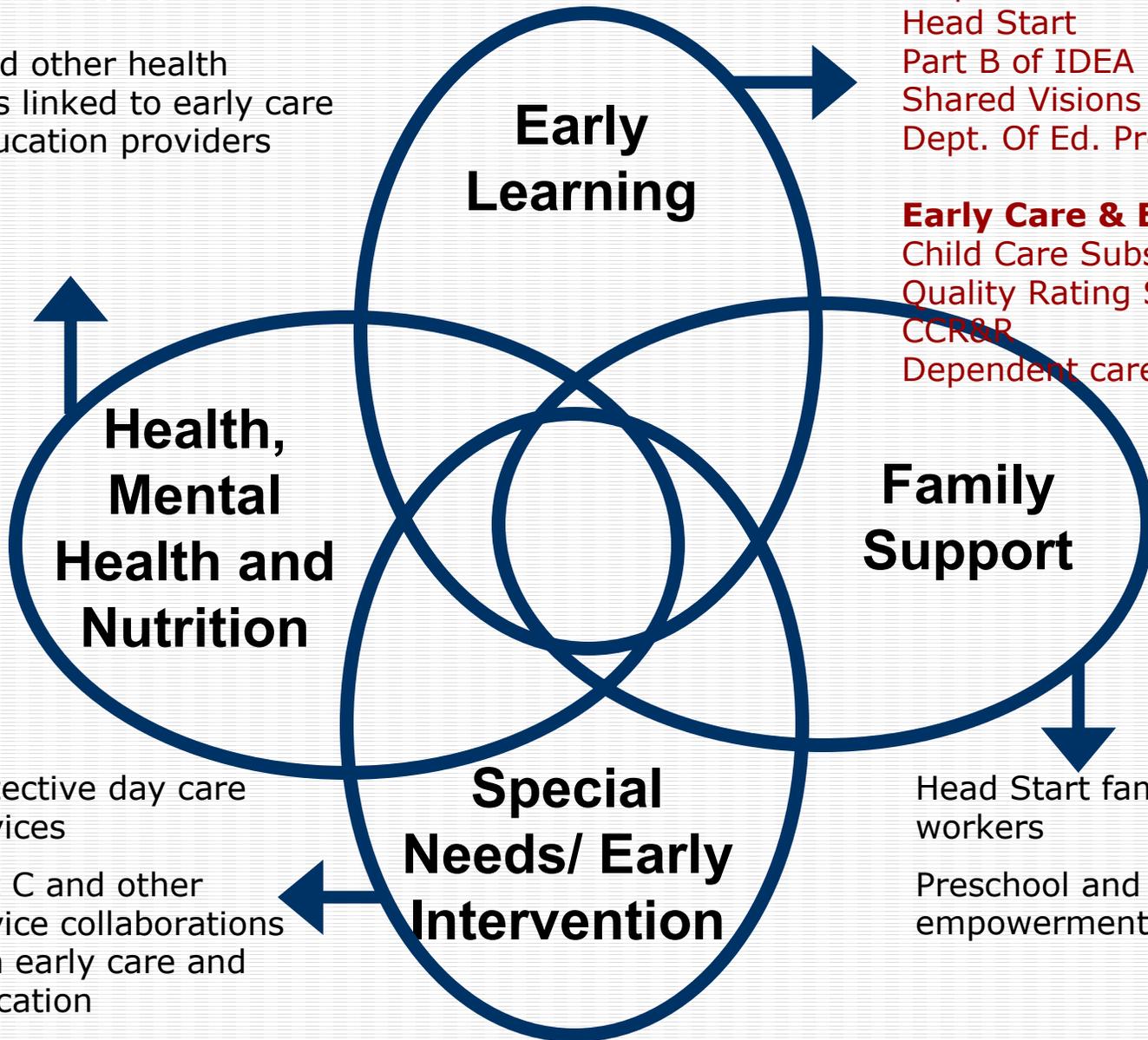
# Early Childhood Systems Working Group

- Alliance for Early Childhood Finance  
<http://www.earlychildhoodfinance.org>
- The Build Initiative  
<http://www.buildinitiative.org>
- The Children's Project  
<http://www.thechildrensproject.org>
- Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)  
<http://www.clasp.org/publications.php?id=3>
- **Council of Chief State School Officers** (CCSSO)  
<http://www.ccsso.org/earlychildhood>
- National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)  
<http://www.nccp.org>
- National Child Care Information Center (NCCIC)  
<http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov>
- **National Conference of State Legislatures** (NCSL)  
<http://www.ncsl.org/programs/cyf/cc.htm>
- **National Governors Association** Center for Best Practices  
<http://www.nga.org/center>
- Smart Start National Technical Assistance Center  
<http://www.nationalsmartstart.org/>
- State Early Childhood Policy Technical Assistance Network (SECPTAN)  
<http://www.finebynine.org>
- ZERO TO THREE  
<http://www.zerotothree.org>

# Iowa Early Learning Investments

Nurse consultants

WIC and other health services linked to early care and education providers



Protective day care services

Part C and other service collaborations with early care and education

## Public Preschool

Empowerment  
Head Start  
Part B of IDEA  
Shared Visions  
Dept. Of Ed. Preschool

## Early Care & Education

Child Care Subsidy  
Quality Rating System  
CCR&R  
Dependent care tax credit

Health,  
Mental  
Health and  
Nutrition

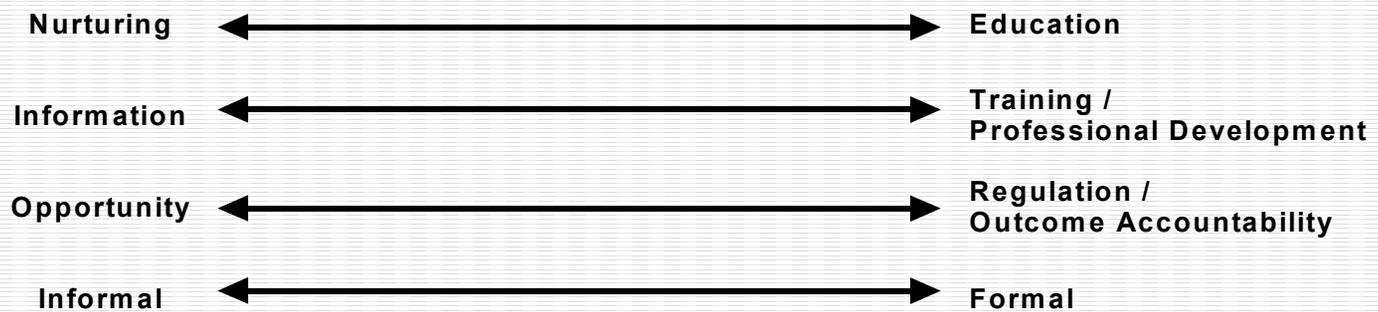
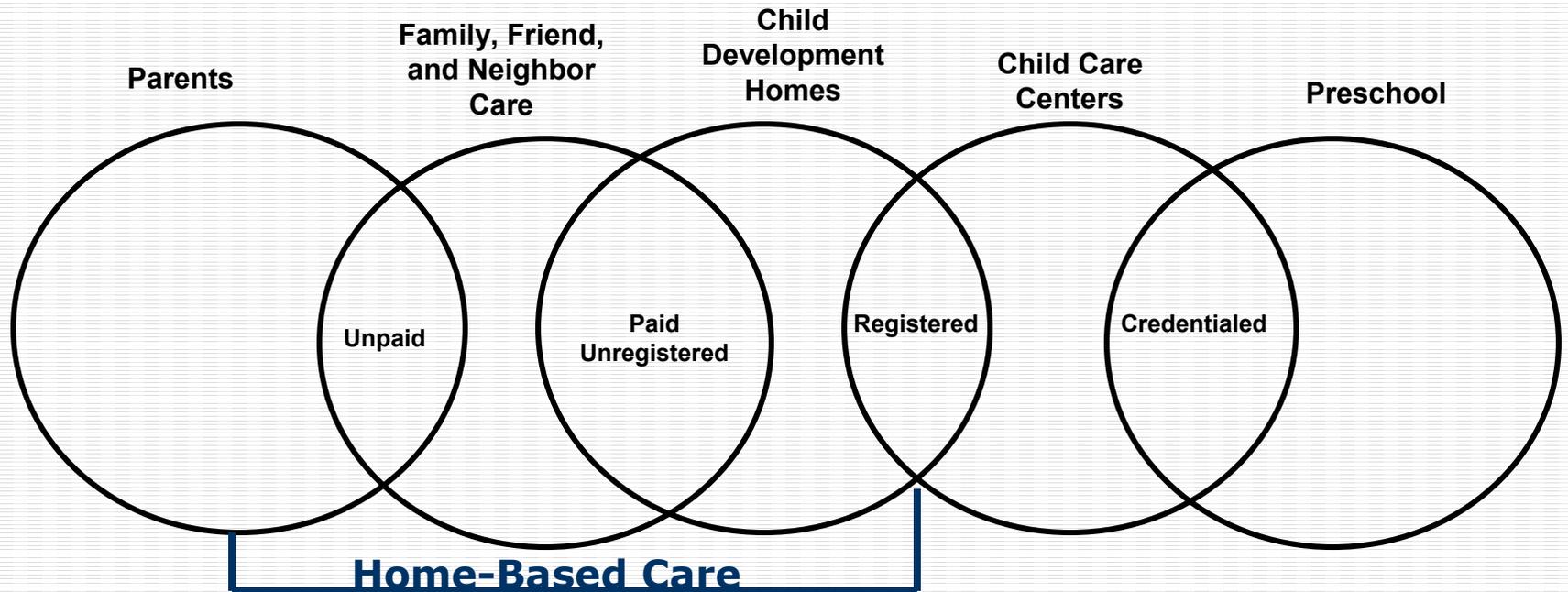
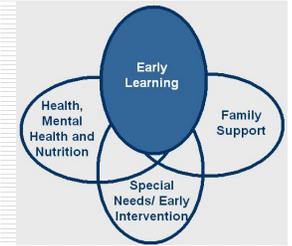
Family  
Support

Special  
Needs/ Early  
Intervention

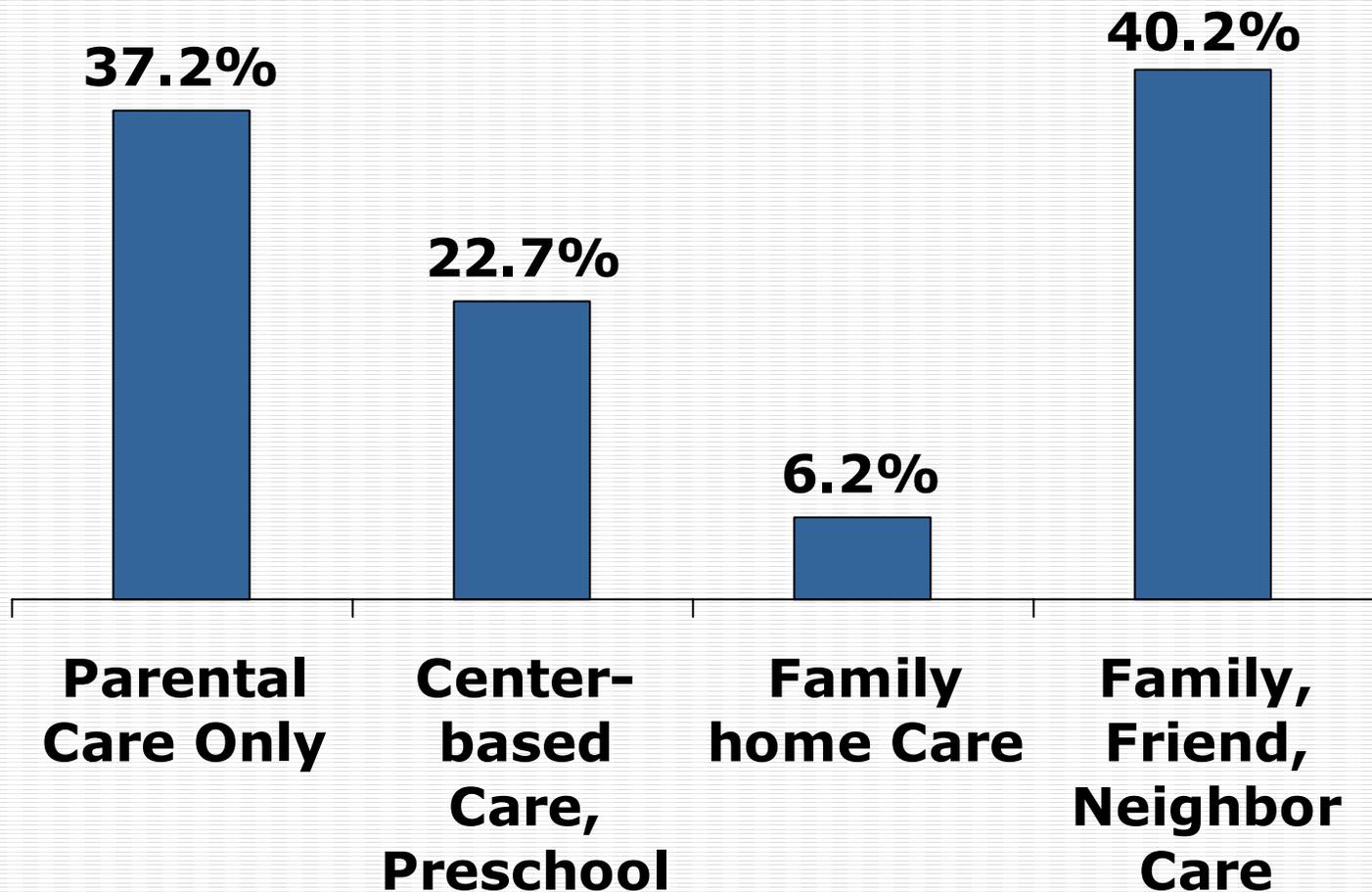
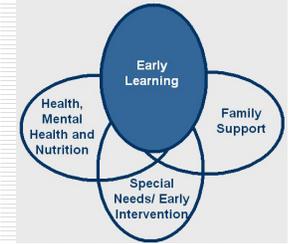
Head Start family service workers

Preschool and Community empowerment collaborations

# Early Care and Education Continuum

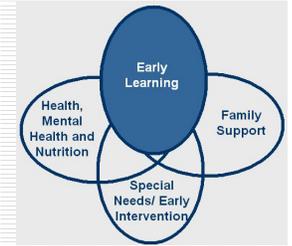


# Current Status of Care for Children 0-4



Source: Who's Minding the Kids? U.S. Census Bureau: May 2005

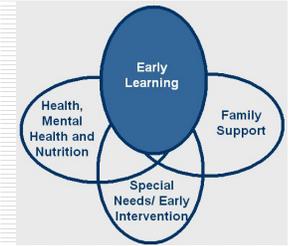
# Supporting FFN Care



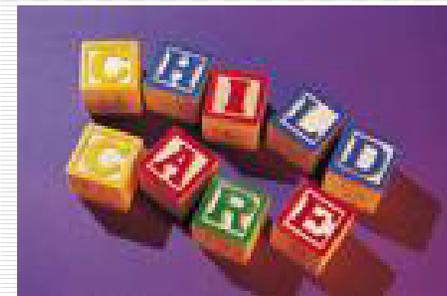
- Resources and Supports –
  - Play & Learn Groups
  - Home Care Provider Networks
  - Family Resource Libraries
  - Grandparent Support Groups
- Attention through Community Empowerment

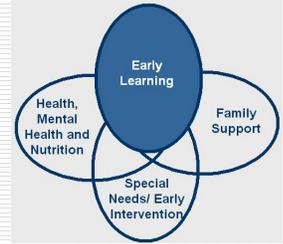


# Supporting Quality, Affordable Child Care

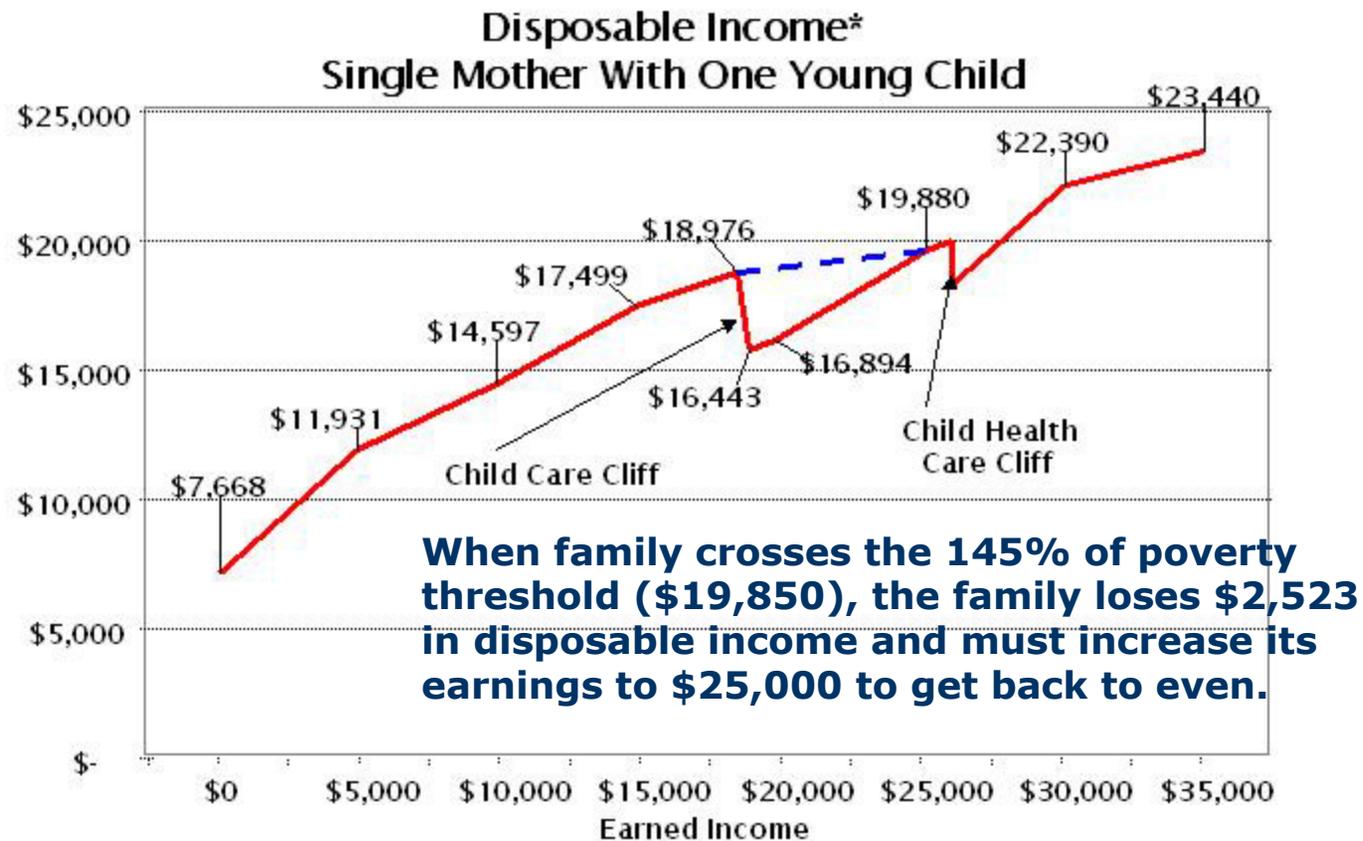


Mismatch between what families can afford to pay and what the market will produce in quality care – need for public sector investments





# Affordability and Cliff Effect



\* Disposable Income includes: earning from wages, TANF cash benefits, the value of food stamps, federal income tax refunds, and state income tax refunds. In determining disposable income the costs of Social Security taxes, Medicare taxes, federal income taxes paid, state income taxes paid, child care, and health insurance are deducted from the family's income.

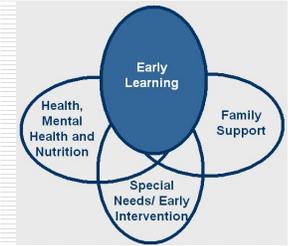
## Iowa's Child Care Subsidy Eligibility Cut-Off and 50-State Averages

	Eligibility Cut-Off for Family of Three (2005 Data)	Eligibility Cut-Off for Family of Three (2005 Data) % of Median Income
Iowa	\$23,328	43%
50-State Average	\$28,722	56%
Iowa Ranking Among States	44 <sup>th</sup>	46 <sup>th</sup>
Iowa % of 50-State Average	81.2%	76.8%

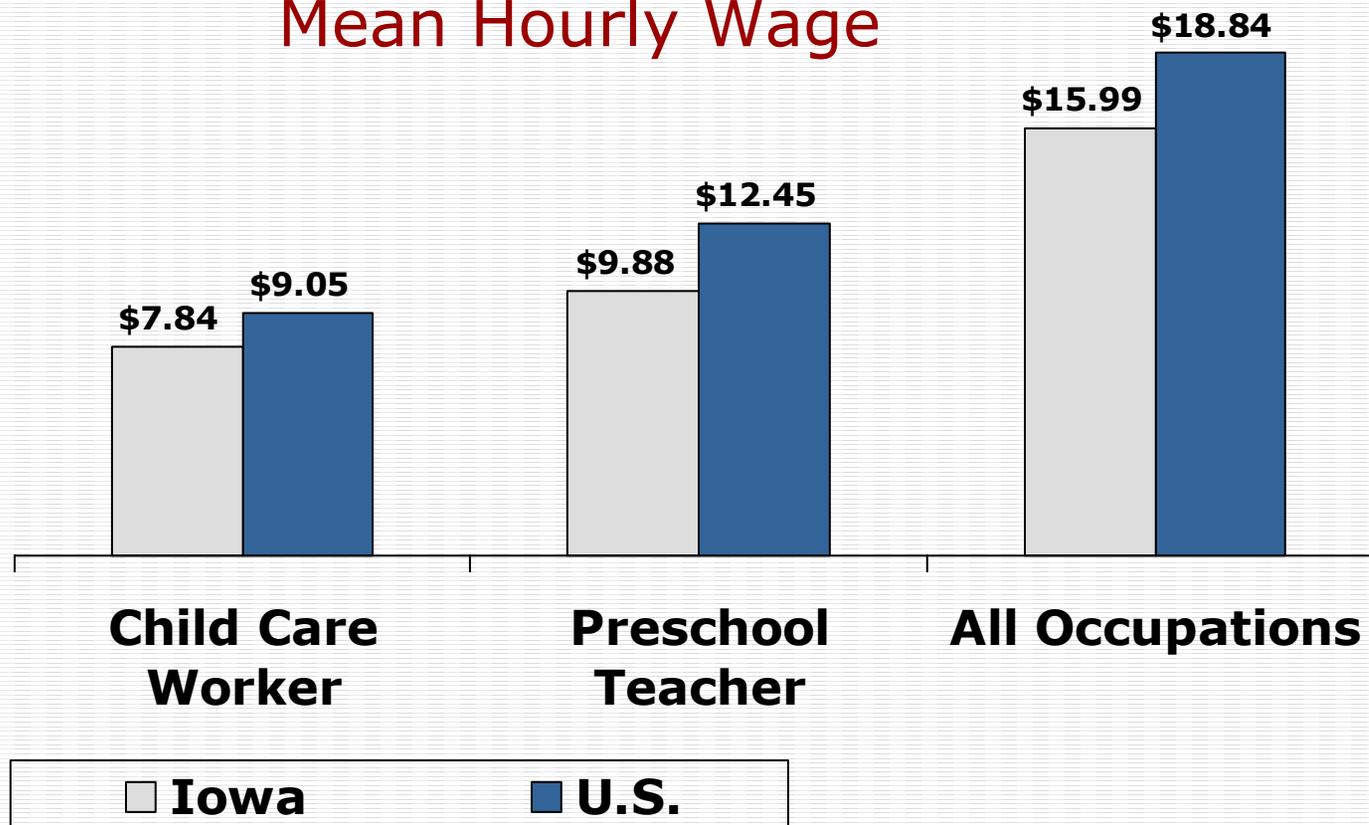
Source: National Women's Law Center

# Child Care and Preschool Employment Data: May 2006

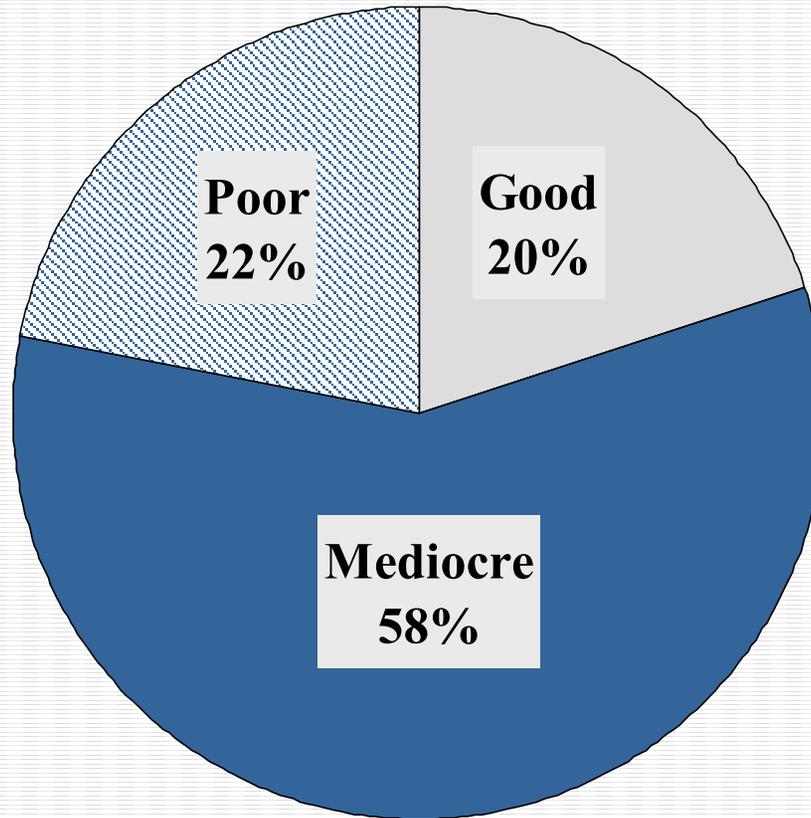
Bureau of Labor Statistics Information: Iowa and U.S.



## Mean Hourly Wage



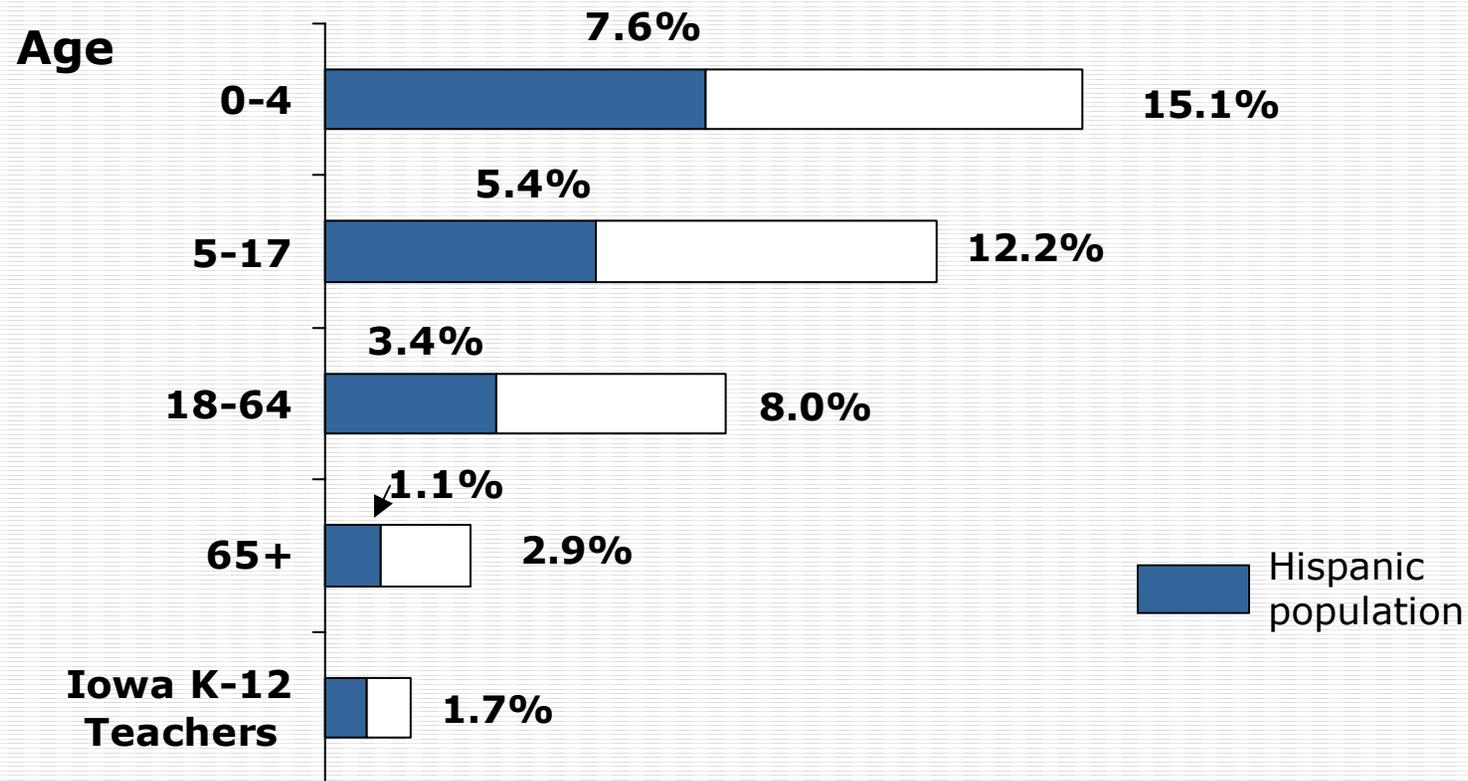
# Iowa Consequences of Mismatch: % of Poor, Mediocre, and Good Quality Child Care in Iowa



Source: Iowa Child Care Characteristics and Quality, Executive Summary.  
Midwest Child Care Research Consortium. February 17, 2003

# Diversity and School Readiness: Building a Skilled Workforce

*Percent of Population of Color and/or Hispanic by Age*



Sources: United States Census Bureau, 2005 American Community Survey

The Annual Condition of Education Report, Iowa Department of Education, 2006

# Every Child Counts Policy Considerations

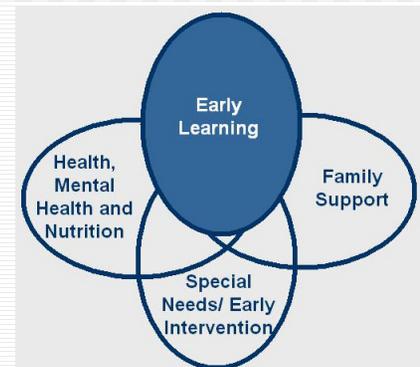


## Early Care and Education

- Eliminate the cliff effect by phasing in child care subsidy to 200% of poverty
- Fund subsidy at current market rate
- Build in quality incentives through both professional development (TEACH, etc.) and quality reimbursement
- Support Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN) care
- Provide needed incentives and supports to enable seamless “wrap-around care” for children in limited preschool

## Preschool and Early Care and Education

- Develop professional development strategies that produce a quality and diverse workforce reflective on child population



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