

CACFP Roundtable Conference October 26, 2015







## Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative (ECOPI) – General Overview

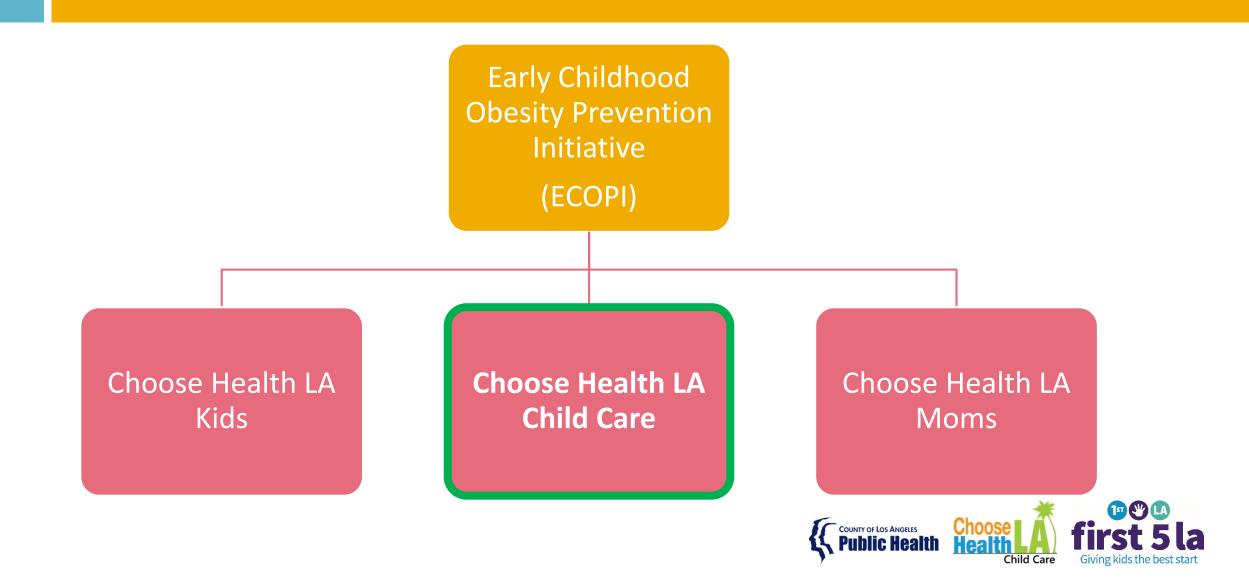
- □ Project duration: July 2012 June 2017
- □ **Funding**: \$41.2 million from First 5 Los Angeles
- □ **Target groups**: children ages 0-5 and their families
- Collaborations: County departments, community-based organizations, child care agencies, research and evaluation, and many others
- Strategies: education, skills-building, policy, systems and environmental change efforts to promote improved nutrition, increase physical activity, and reduced obesity







#### **ECOPI Overview - Programs**

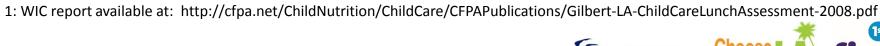




#### Why Focus on Child Care Settings?

- 40% of 0-5 children in LAC (350,000) spend most of their day in child care.
- ☐ Among the PHFE WIC population, 19% of 3 and 4 year olds in LA County are overweight.
- □ Observational study by PHFE-WIC and CFPA (2008)¹ demonstrated significant need for improvement in nutrition policies and practices in licensed child care in LA County.











#### Child Care Nutrition - California Legislation

#### AB 2084 - Healthy beverages in child care (Chaptered 2010)

□ Standards for beverages in CCC. Maximum of 4 – 6 ounces of 100% fruit juice served. Only low fat milk served. No natural or artificially sweetened beverages. Water accessibility at all times.

#### AB 290 - Nutrition Training for Providers (Chaptered 2013)

Requires child care providers to complete one hour of nutrition training as a component of licensing.







#### Choose Health LA Child Care

#### Program Framework:

- Partnership with the county network of Resource and Referral (R&R) agencies
- R&Rs provide training, tools and technical assistance to:
  - child care centers
  - licensed child care homes
  - license-exempt providers











#### Choose Health LA Child Care - Key Strategies

Conduct nutrition and physical activity workshops for child care providers that includes a policy component.

To incentivize
training
participation, offer
swag and Cert. of
Completion
through Gateways
to Education
program.

for satisfaction, increase in knowledge and readiness to change.

Offer on site coaching to reinforce provider learning and evaluate use of training information.

families to promote and encourage healthy nutrition and physical activity habits.









#### What We Hope to Accomplish

- Improved nutrition and PA practices in child care.
- Creation and adoption of nutrition and PA policies in child care.
- Providers communicate nutrition and PA policies with parents via newsletters or other venues.
- Identified barriers and concerns that child care providers face in efforts to promote good nutrition and active play.
- Promotion of, and the benefits of participation in, CACFP.
- Reduced prevalence of overweight & obesity among children in child care.









#### Curriculum for Child Care Providers









#### Food and Drinks

## Physical Activity

Screen Time

**Environment and Policy** 



#### In this workshop you will learn more about

How you can help children have healthy lives and how you can make changes within your practice and communicate those changes with staff and parents

#### **Breastfeeding**

- What are the recommendations for breastfeeding?
- What are the benefits to both baby and mom of breastfeeding?
- How can you support moms who choose to breastfeed?

#### **Food and Drinks**

- What are healthy foods and why are they important?
- How to read labels and choose healthy foods
- What are healthy drinks for children?
- Ways to save money on healthy foods

#### **Physical Activity**

- What is physical activity and why is it important
- What are the different types of physical activity
- How much do children need
- Ideas for what to do and how to incorporate it into your day

#### **Screen Time**

- What are the negative effects of screen time?
- What are the recommendations for screen time?
- What else can you do instead?



#### Recommendations

Infants are only fed breast milk until 6 months

At 6 months, begin feeding complementary foods

Continue breastfeeding until baby is at least 1 year



#### **How Can You Help?**

Develop a system with mom to ensure that you have plenty of breast milk available while the infant is in your care.

- Step 1: Support breastfeeding mothers by providing a private space for her to pump and/or breastfeed
- Step 2: Collect breast milk and label it clearly with baby's name and date it was expressed



#### **Group Discussion**

- Do you support breastfeeding at your setting?
- How do you do it?
- Do you talk with new moms about breastfeeding?
- What challenges do you have?



How long do experts recommend that moms feed their babies **only** breast milk (with no other foods or beverages)?

- A. About 2 months
- B. About 6 months
- C. About 9 months
- D. About 1 year



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- D. About 1 year



#### **Benefits of Healthy Nutrition**



• Better ability to **learn** and concentrate

• Fewer illnesses

Have more energy to play and learn

Provides a foundation for lifelong health



#### **Supporting Healthy Eating Choices**



- Quit the Clean Plate Club
- Serve Family Style
- Using colorful vegetables
- Proteins, Whole grains
- Reading nutrition Labels
- Water is First for Thirst
- Money Saving Ideas
- Gardening
- CACFP
- Healthy parties



Which of these foods is 100% whole grain?

- A. Oatmeal
- B. All breakfast cereals
- C. Multi-grain crackers
- D. White bread





Which of these foods is 100% whole grain?

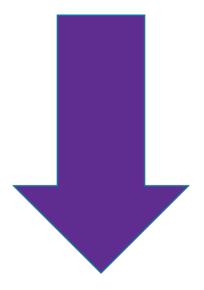
#### A. Oatmeal

- B. All breakfast cereals
- C. Multi-grain crackers
- D. White bread



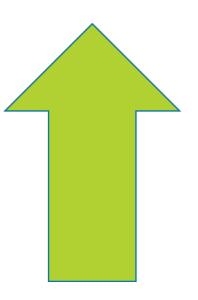


#### Benefits of Physical Activity on Health



 Reduced risk of feeling stressed or depressed

Reduced risk of chronic illness



Maintain **healthy weight** 

Build **strength, flexibility**, and **endurance** 

Develop and maintain strong bones

Sleep better



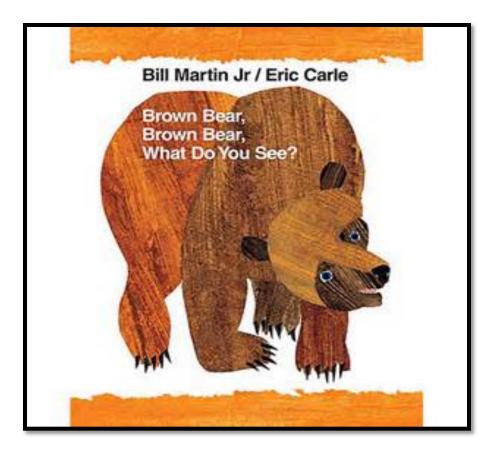
#### The Importance of Physical Activity for Young Children

- Children learn through playing and playing improves the brains ability to learn
- Mastering gross motor skills creates a foundation to enjoy physical activity
  - Gross motor skills are big body movements
- Physically active children are more likely to be physically active adults





## Brown Bear, What Do You See?



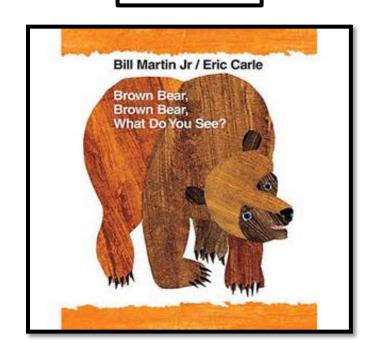
Let's Play!



## Brown Bear, What Do You See?

#### I see a frog hopping on the grass!

Book



Activity





**Nutrition** 





#### Physical Activity: How Much and When?

- Structured vs. unstructured
- Moderate to vigorous activity
- How much time / intervals
- Indoor vs. outdoor
- Examples and resources
- Science, Math, Language, Social skills





How much time per day should children do "structured" or teacher-led, physical activity?

- A. At least 15 minutes
- B. At least 30 minutes
- C. At least 60 minutes
- D. At least 120 minutes (2 hours)





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#### What Is Screen Time?

Time spent with **any** type of screen device



**Television** 



Computer



**Tablet** 



Phone



#### Why Limit Screen Time?

Excessive screen time is associated with:

- Language delay
- Attention problems
- Aggressive behavior
- Overweight/Obesity

It takes away from beneficial activities that promote development

- Reading
- Singing songs
- Social interaction
- Physical activity
- Exposure to commercials leads to a preference for unhealthy foods
- Long periods of inactivity put children at greater risk for developing problems associated with obesity

**Alternatives to Screen Time** 



What is the maximum recommended amount of screen time per day for children over 2 years old?

A. 1 hour

B. 2 hours

C. 3 hours

D. 4 hours





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A. 1 hour

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D. 4 hours





## **Environment and Policy**

## Why Put it in Writing?



#### What we've accomplished so far...











#### Agencies have trained over

# 4,200 Child Care Providers

- Goal is to train 5,500 child care providers by June 30, 2016
- Of the providers trained, 61% are centers, 24% are licensed homes and 9% are license exempt caregivers

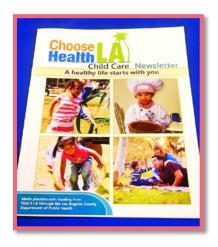








#### Training Incentives



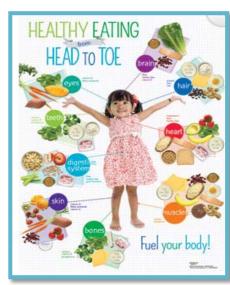
Newsletter

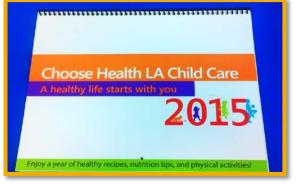
Reusable bag



portion size tableware







Calendar with
Healthy
Recipes and
Activities

Nutrition Posters



September 2015°









# Agencies have conducted follow-up visits to over

child care providers

Goal is to coach 2,200 child care providers by June 30, 2016









## Provider Most Common Coaching Requests

- Menu plan improvements / recipe ideas
- Developing new menus for new providers
- Assistance with joining the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Healthy cooking activity ideas
- Expanding physical activity ideas
- Incorporating more structured play into curriculum
- Starting a garden at child care sites
- Developing ideas for classroom container gardening

#### Project coaching goals can be:

- Support breastfeeding
- Improve food/beverages
- Increase physical activity
  - ❖ Reduce screen time
- Implement healthy policies









## Coaching Incentives

#### **Movement Kits**



## Yoga Cards



### Seeds



Eating the Alphabet
Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z
by Lois Ehlert

# Growing Vegetable Soup Written and illustrated by Lois Ehlert



## Recipe Cards



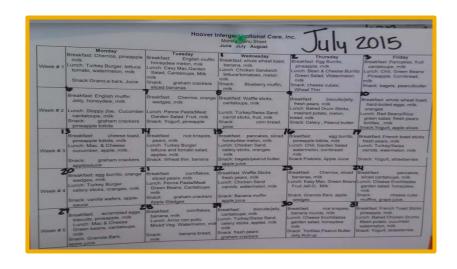






## Implementing Healthier Options

#### Revamping Menus



#### Small steps to big changes







Annette, Center Cook



After the Choose Health L.A. Child Care (CHLACC) trainings and coaching sessions center staff statethat they are working as a team to keep each other accountable d towards making healthier changes at the center.







## Lunch Time

- Lean turkey and cheese wraps
- •Celery sticks with low-fat dressing
- Watermelon slices
- •Low-fat milk

















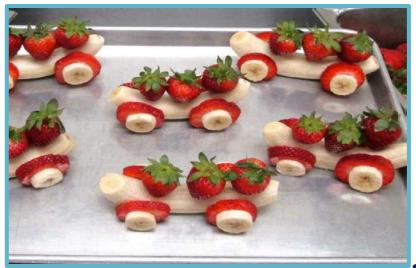


## **Cooking Activities**



Coaching sessions provided center with individualized support and resources to plan and implement healthier weekly cooking activities in the classroom.













## Coaching in Action























## Agencies have reached

7,500

## parents directly through events

Exceeded the goal of reaching 7,400 parents by June 30, 2016.









## **Outreach to Parents**





















## Outreach to Parents

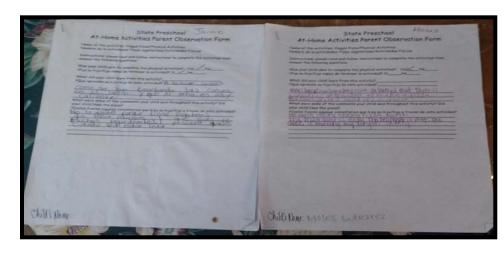
#### **Backpack Program**



#### **CHLACC Recipe Cards**



## At-Home Activities Parent Observation Form



Center launched a "Backpack Program" to engage parents in nutrition education by rotating various backpacks with healthy recipes and physical activity ideas to do as a family.

## **Outreach to Parents**



Homemade Chicken Nuggets
Cooking Activity















## **Preliminary Evaluation**

- Training and Coaching Satisfaction surveys
- Baseline and 6 month observational assessments are conducted in a sample of child care facilities to measure objectively how nutrition and/or physical activity policies, practices, and environments are impacted as a result of the program. A preliminary report will be available early 2016.
- Policies and Practices self-assessment questionnaire -- preliminary results from the baseline and follow up measure the impact of training and coaching.

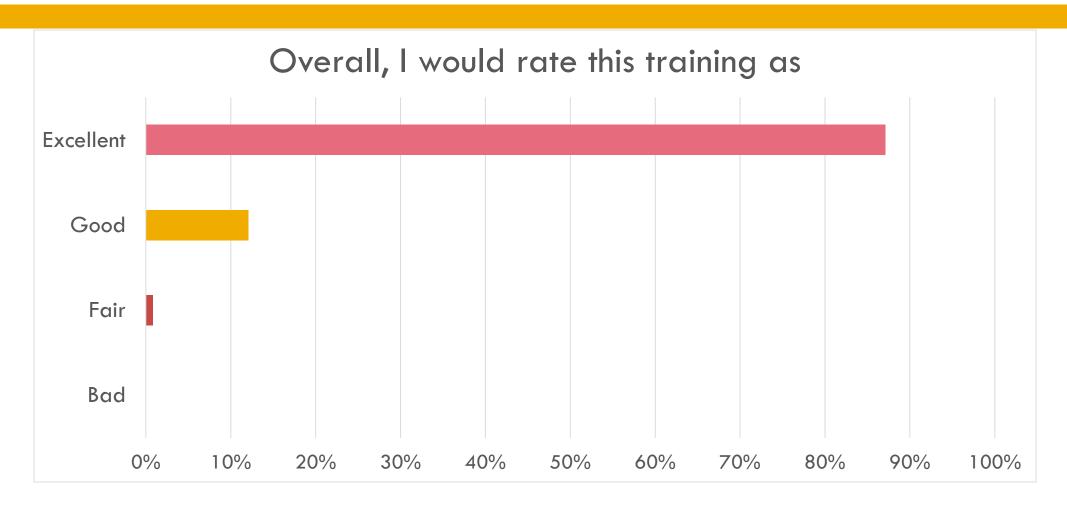








## **Training Satisfaction Survey Summary**









## Coaching Satisfaction Survey Summary

#### **Main Goal Area for Coaching Session**

Coaching Goal Area	All Participants	1 Coaching Session	2 or 3 Coaching Sessions	Unknown # of Coaching Sessions
Support Breastfeeding				
	4.0%	7.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Improve Food /				
Beverage	50.5%	64.7%	37.2%	28.6%
Increase Physical				
Activity	57.4%	49.0%	65.1%	71.4%
Reduce Screen Time				
	5.0%	7.8%	0.0%	14.3%









## Coaching Satisfaction Survey Summary

53%

Of coaching participants reported a need for more resources to make healthy changes at their child care site









## Observational Assessments

#### Structure:

2-3 hour visit

Observe meal time

Observe outside time

Interview with director

#### **Progress:**

- 56 observations conducted as of 10/6/15, including 12 follow ups.
- One additional baseline and remaining 33 follow-ups will be completed by January 2016.
- New cohort of 30 providers will be recruited for this fiscal year.







## Policies and Practices Results Report

- Broad impact vs. deep impact
- Ceiling effect
- Training very well received
- 70% said coaching was helpful
- □ 35% saw increase in demand for their business







## Policies and Practices Results Report

#### Breastfeeding:

□ 30% of sites serving 0-2 said breastfeeding coaching "does not apply" to their site

#### Nutrition:

- FCC more likely to serve snacks and dinner
- Areas that increased significantly, but could still increase further (ex. parents received written nutrition policies, healthy celebrations)
- Flavored milk saw the least decrease

#### Physical Activity (PA):

- Numbers of sites implementing structured play lower than those implementing unstructured play
- Significant increases in PA policy upon enrollment, staff participating in PA, and parents provided info on how to incorporate PA at home

#### Screen time:

- Challenging for FCCs because they are home settings
- English-speakers more prepared than Spanish speakers to make changes around screen time; note that quality of screen time is not assessed







## Policies and Practices Results Report

#### CACFP participation:

- Approximately ¾ of providers surveyed participate
- □ Self-efficacy (preparedness):
  - Providers feel least prepared to address breastfeeding
  - Similarly, knowledge change around breastfeeding saw smallest increase

#### Challenge:

Lack of support from parents; need more resources for parents









## Recruitment to CACFP





April 17, 2014

Dear Childcare Professional:

We are reaching out to you because you recently attended a nutrition training at one of the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles Resource and Referral agencies.

Did you know there is a program that helps you pay for the nutritious meals you give to the children in your care?

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) offers financial aid to you for doing what you already do – provide healthy meals to the children in your care. The money can add up fast. In 2012, in California the average annual amount of reimbursement was approximately \$6,1941 (one are the days of counting and claiming meals by hand. There are easy to use computer programs and smartphone apps that make it as easy as can be.

To learn more about CACFP and how you can apply, contact our partner at California Food Policy Advocates, Nicola Edwards, at Nicola Sefpa net or 213-482-8200 ext. 204

CACTP can help you serve the best quality meals to your children... and get paid for it too!

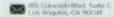
Yours truly,

Cristina Alvarado, MSW Executive Director, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles

Nicola Edwards, MS RD

Nutrition Folkey Advocate

California Food Policy Advocates







2014

Total reporting child care's current (active) enrollment in CACFP on the post-training survey =259

CACFP Letters mailed via US Post Office =614

<u>Outcome</u>: Just a few telephone calls were generated with general questions about the letter, but to our knowledge <u>no new CACFP</u> enrollments were the direct result of this effort.









## Programmatic Changes Based on Lessons Learned

- Created a 1-hour version of the workshop for centers, tailored for Head Start and School District sites.
- Reach out directly to centers to schedule training during staff development time.
- Market the workshops specifically for license-exempt providers who may want to become licensed.
- Conduct focus groups with child care providers who participated in the program to collect and synthesize qualitative information.







## Focus Groups

Total = 7 focus groups (6-10 participants each)

- 4 conducted in English
- 3 conducted in Spanish

#### Eligibility criteria:

- English or Spanish
- Adult participant in Choose Health LA Child Care training and coaching
- Child care provider of children ages 0-5
- Participant incentives: \$40 gift card incentive & healthy snacks







## Special Thanks!

#### **Choose Health LA Child Care Coaches:**

- Mayra Unzueta CCRC
- PhiVan Ha Connections
- Adriana Sanchez Crystal Stairs
- Sophia Gonzalez MAOF
- Armida Rosario Options
- Maria Ponce Pathways
- 🗆 Dell Harris Pomona









## Countywide Campaign













## Vote for Healthy Kids!

- LA2050 funds would allow us to offer nutrition and physical activity trainings to Family, Friend and Neighbor child caregivers in the areas of Los Angeles County with the highest childhood obesity rates, in a fun "Caregiver & Me" setting.
- □ Vote before **November 3**<sup>rd:</sup>
  <a href="http://myla2050live2015.maker.g">http://myla2050live2015.maker.g</a>
  <a href="http://ood.is/projects/caregiverandme">ood.is/projects/caregiverandme</a>.
- □ Ask your colleagues, friends and family to do the same!









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