



Summary of Policy Changes to the IDHS Child Care Program with ARRA

November 1, 2009 Effective Date

Recovery Act Funding Description

Illinois will receive \$74 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Included in the \$74 million is targeted funding of \$6.0 million to improve the quality of child care and \$3.5 to improve the quality of infant and toddler care. The funds will be received as a supplemental allocation to Illinois' existing federal Child Care and Development Fund appropriation, and can be used through September 2011.

Policy Changes

1. Extend job search from 30 to 90 days for currently enrolled families. Extend job search for families in a Head Start/Child Care collaboration program through the end of the program year. This recommendation is estimated to cost \$1.1 million annually (NOTE: this is slightly different than what was recommended to the IDHS from the ARRA committee).
2. Implement a statewide Infant/Toddler Specialist Network using Stimulus funds earmarked for Infant Toddler quality. This recommendation is estimated to cost \$1.8 million annually.
3. Reduce parent co-payments by 15% for all families participating in the CCAP. (Note: this is different from the recommendation provided by the IDHS appointed ARRA committee, and different from what is outlined in the IDHS Recovery Funding Plan. This recommendation is estimated to cost \$15 Million for each of the two fiscal years of the ARRA funding.
4. Support projected growth in existing programs over FY09 levels. This recommendation is estimated to cost \$21.5 million as follows:
 - Projected caseload growth of 1.69% estimated to cost \$12.4 million;
 - Increased participation in Quality Rating System estimated to cost \$3.4 million;
 - Web-based technology for program efficiencies estimated to cost \$3.8 million;
 - Replace loss of GRF appropriation for Great START estimated to cost \$1.9 million.

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