



Connecticut Office of
Early Childhood

“And how are the children?”

¿Y como están los niños?



Vision statement

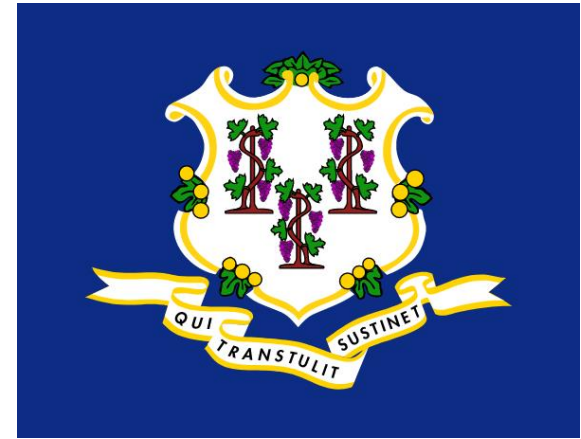


Connecticut Office of
Early Childhood

- *All young children in Connecticut are **safe, healthy, learning and thriving.***
- *Each child is surrounded by a strong **network of nurturing adults** who deeply value the importance of the first years of a child's life and have the **skills, knowledge, support and passion** to meet the unique needs of every child.*



OEC Impact



Population

230,000 children, Birth - Age 5 in Connecticut

- OEC Supports
 - 10,400 children in Birth to 3
 - 2,950 children and their families with home visiting
 - 33,800 children in ECE programs (including C4K)

Play Video - Looking for More moments like this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DOfEu2zqrkQ>

Families making < \$50,000 per year, by region

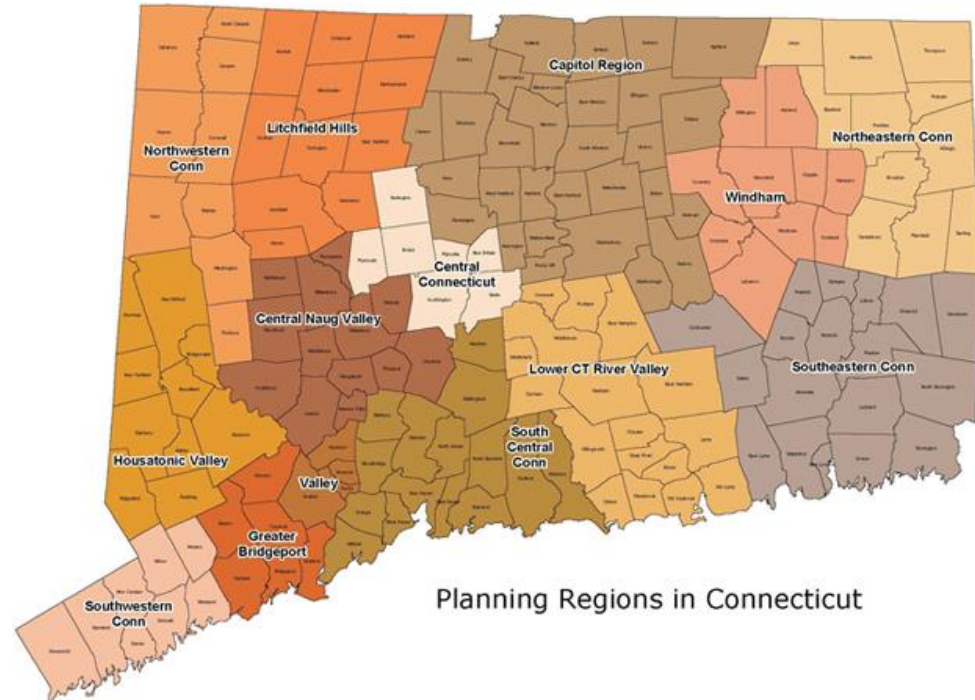
Bridgeport = 60%,
Living Wage - \$64,292*

New Haven = 55%,
Living Wage - \$49,500*

Hartford = 82%,
Living Wage - \$57,740*

Stamford/Greenwich = 23%,
Living Wage - \$64,500*

Waterbury = 69%,
Living Wage - \$56,800*

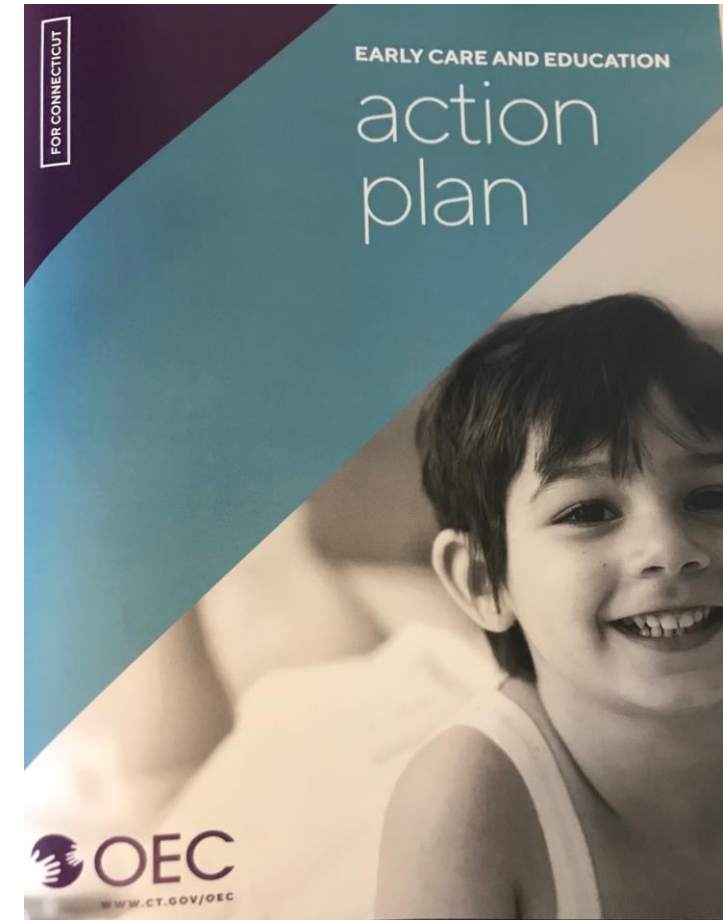


*= 1 adult and 1 child

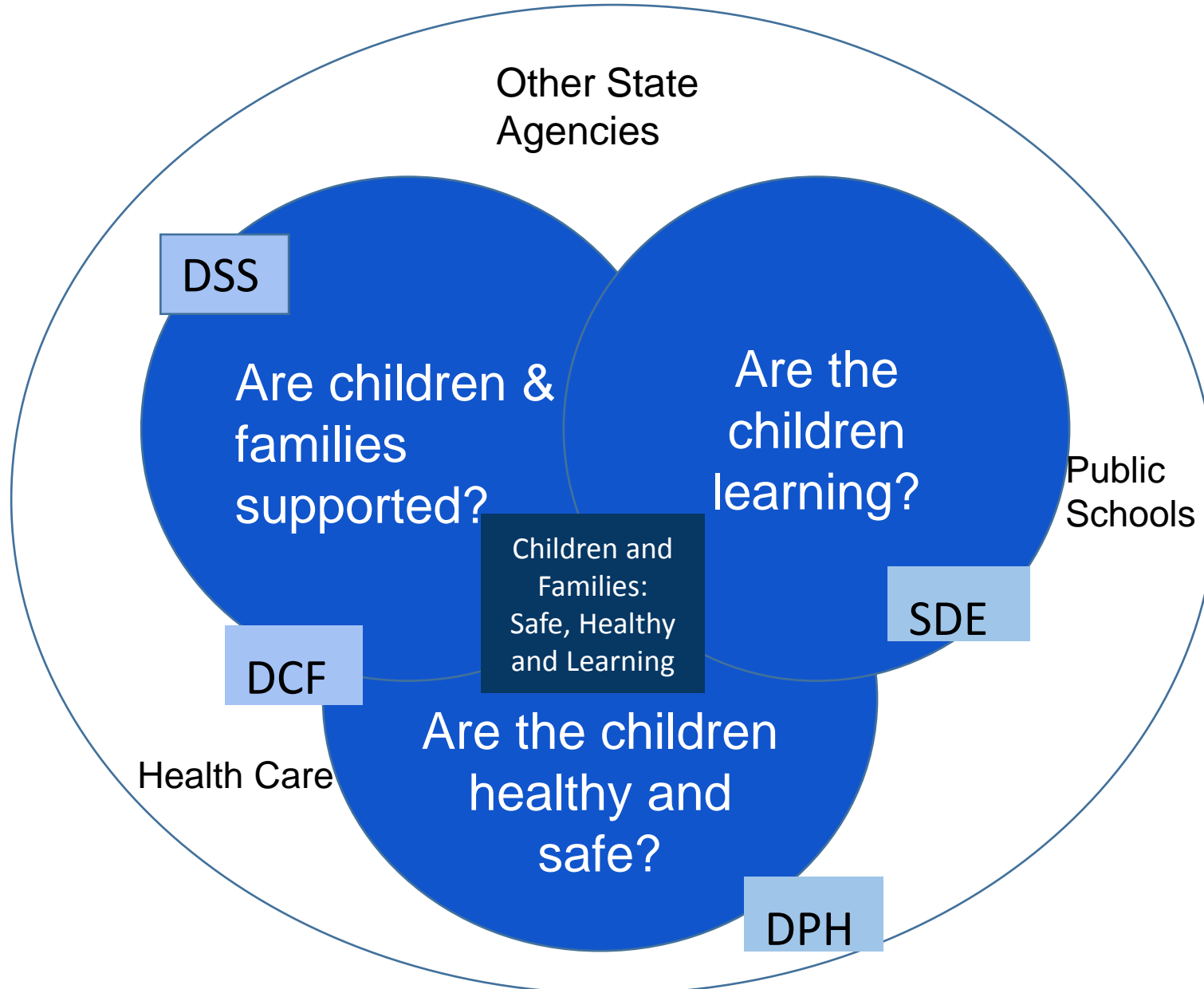


Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

- 42% of children under 6 qualify for Medicaid
- 8,000 of CT's young children are reported to have witnessed violence between adults in the home.
- Estimated 8,300 children under 6 years of age are homeless in the state, meaning that they lack safe, stable housing.



OEC Vision and Focus 2019



Early Childhood Consultation Project (ECCP)

- A statewide, evidence-based, mental health consultation program designed to meet the social and emotional needs of children birth to five in early care or education settings.
- The program builds the capacity of caregivers at an individual, family, classroom, or center-wide level.
- It provides support, education, and consultation to caregivers in order to promote enduring and optimal outcomes for young children.



From CT Mirror



- The Early Childhood Consultation Partnership provided assistance to 438 children, parents, and teachers in the past year.
 - 98 percent of those children had not been suspended or expelled.
- DCF provides \$2.2 million for the program annually
- Office of Early Childhood provides \$750,000
- The statewide program is managed by Advanced Behavioral Health in response to high rates of suspension/expulsion of young children. 42,000 children have been served since 2002.

“This is a tremendous example of identifying a problem and putting in some real help and assistance,”

Vannessa Dorantes, Commissioner, Department of Children and Families



What is the Pyramid Model?



- **Pyramid Model Framework:** A framework that outlines multiple tiers of support as depicted in the Pyramid graphic. Framework can be a useful basic guide to think about **what supports are in place for building social and emotional competence in young children** and ensuring adequate supports for the foundational tiers.
- **Pyramid Model Practices:** The specific classroom practices that support nurturing and responsive relationships and build high quality supportive environments that build social and emotional competence.
- **Pyramid Model State:** CT is a part of a consortium of states working to increase the use of Pyramid Model practices across the state and who are supporting Program-wide Pyramid Model Implementation in selected programs.

Currently in Connecticut

Currently Implementing in four towns and six programs in Connecticut:

Waterbury:

- The Center For Early Childhood Education At NVCC
- YMCA Child Development Center – Greater Waterbury

New Britain:

- HRA of New Britain Early Childcare Learning Academy
- YWCA Of New Britain Childcare Center

Killingly:

- Killingly BOE at Goodyear Early Learning Center

New Haven:

- Yale- New Haven Hospital Day Care Center



What's Next for OEC?



Connecticut Office of
Early Childhood

Early Childhood Quality

- Care 4 Kids Rates
- Quality Improvement System for CT's 16,000 ECE Settings
- Staffed Family Child Care Networks

Governor's Initiatives

- Governor's Task Force on Housing/Supports for Vulnerable Populations
 - OEC Homeless Diversion Initiative
- Workforce Initiatives
- Cross Agency Work
 - DCF, DOL, SDE, DSS
- Council on Women and Girls

Public Health Campaign

- Child Development, Emotional Health, Cross Agency

