



# Family, Friend & Neighbor Care Subcommittee

January 21, 2026



# Meeting Expectations

## Introductions:

1. Name
2. Location
3. Role & Organization
4. If you had an extra free hour today, how would you spend it?

- Please be on video as much as possible
- Mute self when not speaking
- Use Chat feature or “raise hand” button for questions or comments
- Technical issues can happen to anyone – chat privately to Crystal Roman for any needs
- If you are experiencing an unstable connection - switch to phone call or close other applications

## For Public Participants:

- Attendees can provide input through public comment during discussions and at the end of the meeting, as well as contributing to Padlet

*Note: This meeting has Spanish translation*

## Subcommittee Norms

- Process is part of the solution
- Step Up, Step Back
- Questions seek to understand, be curious
- Prioritize parent experience and provider experience
- Act with courage and vulnerability
- Recognize the difference between intent and impact; *I might not intend to hurt or offend but the impact may be to hurt or offend*

# Today's Goals and Agenda

## Goals

- Review key takeaways from Meeting 1
- Discuss costs related to child needs, including serving children with delays or disabilities and multilingual learners
- Discuss costs related to household expenses and supplies/materials

## Agenda

- Welcome & introductions
- Funding design background and context
- Discussion: Costs associated with FFN Care
- Public comment, next steps and adjourn

# Funding Design Background and Context



# Funding Design Goals

Develop a funding system for Illinois' early childhood education and care programs that:

-  Promotes an **equitable, inclusive, family-centered system** of quality choice for families of all races, home languages, incomes, and geographies
-  Works toward **fair resources for all types of providers**, responsive to family choice
-  Supports **opportunity, fair compensation, and high-quality working conditions** for the ECEC workforce
-  Improves **predictability and stability for families, providers, and the workforce**
-  Reduces **complexity and burden** on ECEC providers
-  Promotes long-term **system-wide sustainability** through clear and balanced priorities and effective use of all available funds (federal, state, local, and private)

# Anticipated Timeline

WINTER/SPRING 2025	LATE SUMMER / EARLY FALL 2025	LATE FALL 2025	WINTER 2025-SPRING 2026	FY27 SUMMER 2026-SPRING 2027	FY28 2027-2028
<i>Setting Direction and Establishing Parameters</i>	<i>Moving Toward Solutions</i>	<i>Tentative Recommendations</i>	<i>Advance Legislation</i>	<i>Continue Build Out</i>	<i>Begin Implementation</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to understand context</li><li>• Establish a shared knowledge base</li><li>• Set the direction</li><li>• Understand parameters for funding design solutions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Address questions of funding stability, alignment, consistency, and equity</li><li>• Move toward tentative recommendations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Receive additional feedback on recommendations and refine cost factors</li><li>• In partnership with State leadership, identify possible legislative actions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IDEC, in conjunction with partners, move forward funding legislative package</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to address funding implications of other workgroup findings</li><li>• Continue to pressure test findings and recommendations with the field</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding system changes begin</li></ul>
IDHS AND ISBE CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER PROGRAMS			IDEC ADMINISTERS PROGRAMS UNDER CURRENT STRUCTURE AND RULES	IDEC ADMINISTERS NEW FUNDING APPROACH	

# FFN Subcommittee



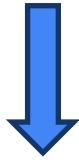
## Essential Questions:

- How can **funding** better reflect the costs of FFN care?
- How do different FFN caregiving arrangements affect the **cost of providing quality care**?
- What support, systems, or funding approaches are needed to ensure **FFN providers can sustain quality care**?

# The Family, Friend & Neighbor Subcommittee will meet twice to develop cost considerations for providing FFN care.

## Meeting 1- Dec 11

- Welcome, introductions, and level setting
- **Costs related to the people caring for children:** hours of service, compensation, training
- Costs related to receiving state payment



## Meeting 2- January 21

- **Costs related to children-** cost differences for caring for multiple children
- Supporting children with disabilities, developmental delays, and multilingual learners
- Costs related to early mornings, overnight and evening/weekend care
- Costs related to supplies- food, housing, laundry, etc.

*Discuss emerging recommendations with Funding Design Workgroup*

# Key Takeaways from Meeting 1



## FFN Subcommittee Key Takeaways



### Administrative Tasks and Billing

- **Administrative and billing requirements may be a barrier to FFN participation**, with lengthy applications, background checks forms and processes, and low reimbursement relative to the time and cost required
- **Many FFN providers face time and capacity constraints**, including balancing other jobs, managing reimbursements with limited ability to track payments, and needing additional help navigating technology tools.
- **Peer networks and support from CCR&Rs may be able to help navigate administrative tasks**, but access currently to these supports varies

## FFN Subcommittee Key Takeaways Cont.



### Training and Professional Development

- **Trainings may be difficult for providers to fit in their schedule**, with many FFN providers completing training on weekends and needing options offered at multiple times and in multiple formats (online and in-person)
- **Access and preferences affect training participation**, as some providers prefer in-person training while others rely on online options, and limited access to technology can be a barrier
- **While training opportunities exist, access is inconsistent**, with caregiving schedules and lack of compensation/incentive affecting providers' participation

# Summary of Subcommittee Discussion

## Discussion Topics:



## Potential Cost Factors:

- ✓ Time required from FFN providers, including hours of care, preparation, training, and professional development
- ✓ Full scope of responsibilities involved in delivering FFN care beyond directly caring for children
- ✓ Administrative processes and time costs related to billing, paperwork, and receiving reimbursement

Personnel Costs	Non-Personnel Costs	Family Driven Vision
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Training:</b> Include compensation for time attending trainings; include cost of offering trainings outside of regular working hours and through various platforms (in person, online, asynchronous, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Administrative Tasks and Billing:</b> Include time for completing admin requirements, including applications, background checks forms, and paperwork</li> <li><b>Infrastructure:</b> Include costs of TA and peer networks to support adoption of best practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Increase availability during non-traditional hours:</b> Include rates that cover the cost of care for FFN to offer NTH care</li> </ul>



## Discussion: Reflection on Meeting 1



- Do these takeaways reflect your experience as an FFN provider?
- How well does this summary capture input shared so far?
- What would you add or change?
- What areas need further exploration by other Workgroups?

# Discussion: Costs associated with FFN Care



## Discussion: What does a typical day look like for an FFN provider?

Tell us about a recent typical day when you cared for children:

- What time did your day start?
- Did you do anything to prepare before the child/children arrived?
- How long was the child/children in your care?
- Did you do anything related to caregiving after the child/children left?
- How do you keep track of the hours and days you care for children? What other tasks do you have to do to get reimbursed?

## Discussion: Supplies/Materials Costs

- What kinds of supplies or materials do you regularly buy for the children in your care (for example, food, toys, activities, diapers, etc.)?
- In the past year, have there been times when those costs have increased or decreased?
- How do you pay for these supplies and materials? Are you sharing the cost with the parents, receiving reimbursements, or are parents responsible for bringing supplies/materials?

## Discussion: Supporting multiple children, children with disabilities, developmental delays and multilingual learners

Do you care for children within any of the following groups:

- Infants
- Children with developmental delays or disabilities
- Multilingual learners

If so, how does your day look different when caring for a child who needs extra support?

Are there things you pay for yourself to support meeting their needs?

What additional supports might be helpful?

## Discussion: Training and Pathways to Licensure

Do you, or have you, participated in trainings or professional development for child care providers?

- If so, what kinds of supports would be helpful to continue to participate in these trainings?
- If not, are you interested in doing so?

If you had the opportunity, would you be interested in becoming a licensed child care provider? Why or why not?

# Public Comment, Next Steps & Adjourn



**Thank you for your  
insights, time, and  
dedication to building  
the EC funding  
design!**



# Public Comment

To join the line to provide public comment, please raise your hand via Zoom.



# Next Steps



# Upcoming Meetings:

- **Next Funding Design Workgroup Meeting:** February 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM
- Please complete the feedback survey here: <https://forms.gle/83cuZUNYxKdb2PoLA>

**Thank you!**



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