



NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TRANSPARENCY PLAN UPDATE: 2024

The Council on Children and Families (CCF) plays a unique role in state government, helping to coordinate the state's health, education, and human service systems and to facilitate and centralize access to information and resources to best support children and families in New York. Since CCF issued its Transparency Plan in 2021, CCF has had a change in leadership and has advanced a number of initiatives to make information more accessible to the public. In addition, in 2024, CCF will be advancing several initiatives to further improve transparency. These initiatives to further transparency are detailed below.

DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED SINCE 2021

1. Launch of the Early Childhood Dashboard

CCF launched an [Early Childhood Data Dashboard](#), working closely with the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council. This dashboard includes data on: the demographics of children under six years of age, the number of child care and early learning slots, the child care and early learning workforce, and on child care and early learning programs participating in QUALITYstarsNY (New York's quality improvement and rating system).

2. Expansion of the Kids' Well-Being Indicators Clearinghouse (KWIC)

KWIC is a one-stop data warehouse designed to promote efforts to gather, plot and monitor children's health, education and well-being indicator data as a tool for policy development, districts, county youth bureaus and others providing access to data resources; allowing users to chart, graph and map data; and giving users the ability to tailor data to fit their needs. In 2023, CCF added a number of community asset indicators to [KWIC](#). Current community assets, all of which can be mapped, include: WIC locations, farmers' markets, Head Start and Early Start programs, public libraries with Wi-Fi, parenting programs, mental health resources for children (e.g., crisis residences, Project TEACH sites, community residences), and career center locations.

3. One-Stop Clearinghouse for Information on Child Care, After School, and Home Visiting Programs

The [NYS Child Care, After School and Home Visiting Map](#) enables users (families, providers, policymakers) to easily locate child care, after school, and home visiting programs. Driving directions, contact information, and details on capacity also are provided. CCF continues to ensure that program information remains current.

INITIATIVES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2024

1. Update and Modernization of CCF Website

CCF is in the process of updating and modernizing our [website](#) to improve the site's organization and user interface to ensure that the most important information is more visible and easier for families, providers, and policymakers alike to quickly find the information they need.

2. Help Hub for Families Website to be Launched

In keeping with CCF's mission of helping to coordinate and centralize information about available services and supports for children and families, CCF will be launching a new *Help Hub for Families* website. The Help Hub will provide comprehensive, easy-to-access information for youth, family, providers, and local and state officials on services and supports available from New York's health, education and human services agencies.

3. Breastfeeding Friendly Sites to be Mapped on the Child Care Locator Website

The NYS Child Care Locator map will be expanded to include information on child programs that are designated as being "Breastfeeding Friendly". The addition of this information will help to promote and inform caregivers about breastfeeding and send the message that the program welcomes breastfeeding families. In addition, such designation recognizes the benefits of breastfeeding for the health of the child, the mother, the family, and the community.