

Policy Communiqué #11-18: Keystone Babies Initiative

This is a message from the Bureau of Subsidized Child Care Services

Title: Keystone Babies Initiative

Date: September 26, 2011

Priority: Medium

Category: Informational

Action Required: See "Next Steps"

Response Required: None

Purpose:

The purpose of this communiqué is to inform Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agencies that the Keystone Babies Initiative will end on September 30, 2011. Since this program is terminating, CCIS agencies no longer need a Keystone Babies set aside, if one was established, and no longer need to fill Keystone Babies vacancies.

Discussion:

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) initiated the Keystone Babies quality infant-toddler program in 2010. The program focuses on children from infancy to three years of age who are served by Child Care Works (CCW) with STAR 3 or STAR 4 centers. The program was funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). ARRA funds will no longer be available to support the program after September 30, 2011.

The following CCIS agencies had centers included in the program:

Allegheny - City
Allegheny - South
Allegheny - North
Berks
Blair
Clearfield
Erie
Lackawanna
Lehigh
Northampton
Montgomery
Philadelphia - North
Philadelphia - City/South
Philadelphia - NE
Union
Venango
York

The CCISs identified above must zero out the Keystone Babies set aside program within PELICAN CCW, if a set aside was created for fiscal year 2011-12.

After September 30, 2011, CCISs no longer need to pay for vacancies in child care centers with Keystone Babies classrooms. Children enrolled through the Keystone Babies program who remain eligible for the subsidized child care program will continue to be funded through their appropriate funding program.

Next Steps:

1. Share this communiqué with appropriate staff.
2. Zero out the Keystone Babies set aside for FY 2011-12, if needed.
3. Direct questions to your Subsidy Coordinator.

Obsolete