



# **Child Care in New Hampshire**

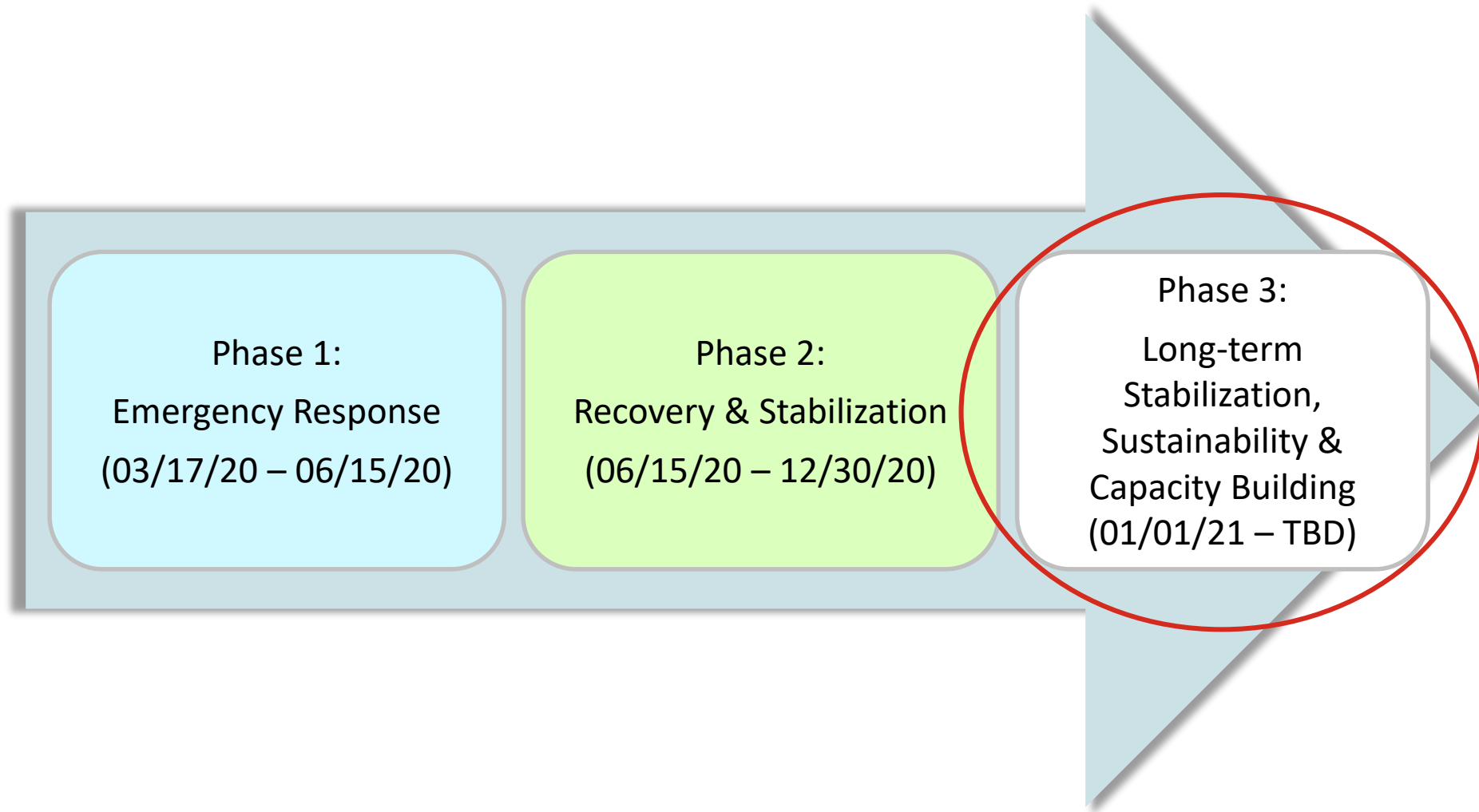
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*Council for Thriving Children*  
*September 13, 2022*



# A Multi-Phase Approach to Child Care Program Recovery, Stabilization and Sustainability 2



# \$142M Targeted to Support Child Care in NH

OVERALL COVID-Related Child Care Funding Total from all sources \$142,343,708	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (through Governor's Office of Economic Relief & Recovery) (GOFERR)	Child Care Development Block Grant Funds (CCDFX) Supplemental Discretionary Funds	Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA)	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stabilization Funds	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Discretionary Funds
Total Funding Amount	\$38,083,075	\$6,999,268	\$19,867,522	\$47,657,076	\$29,736,767
Enactment Date	March 27, 2020	April 20, 2020	December 27, 2020	March 11, 2021	March 11, 2021
Utilization Date	By September 30, 2023	By September 30, 2023	By September 30, 2023	By September 30, 2023	By September 30, 2024

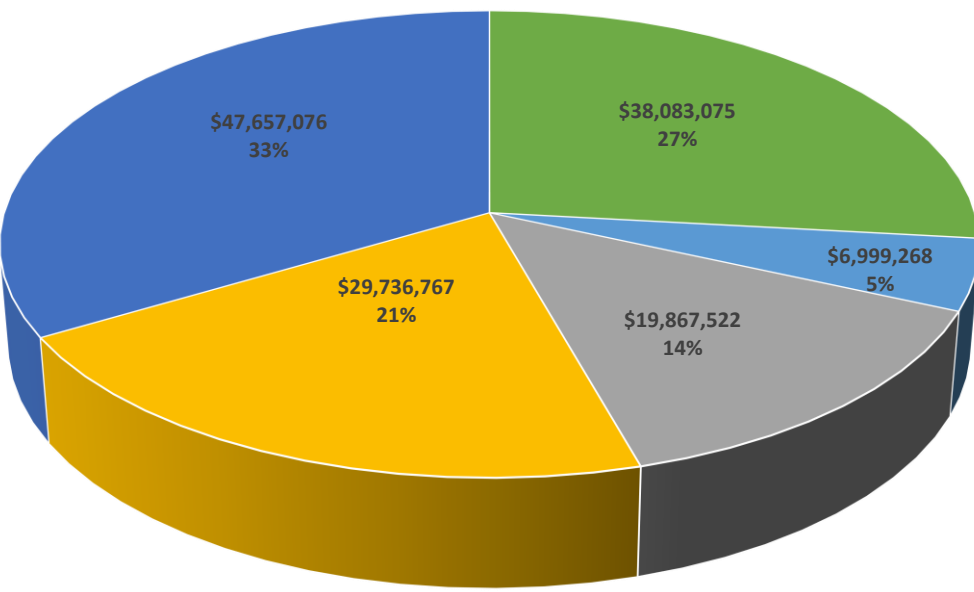
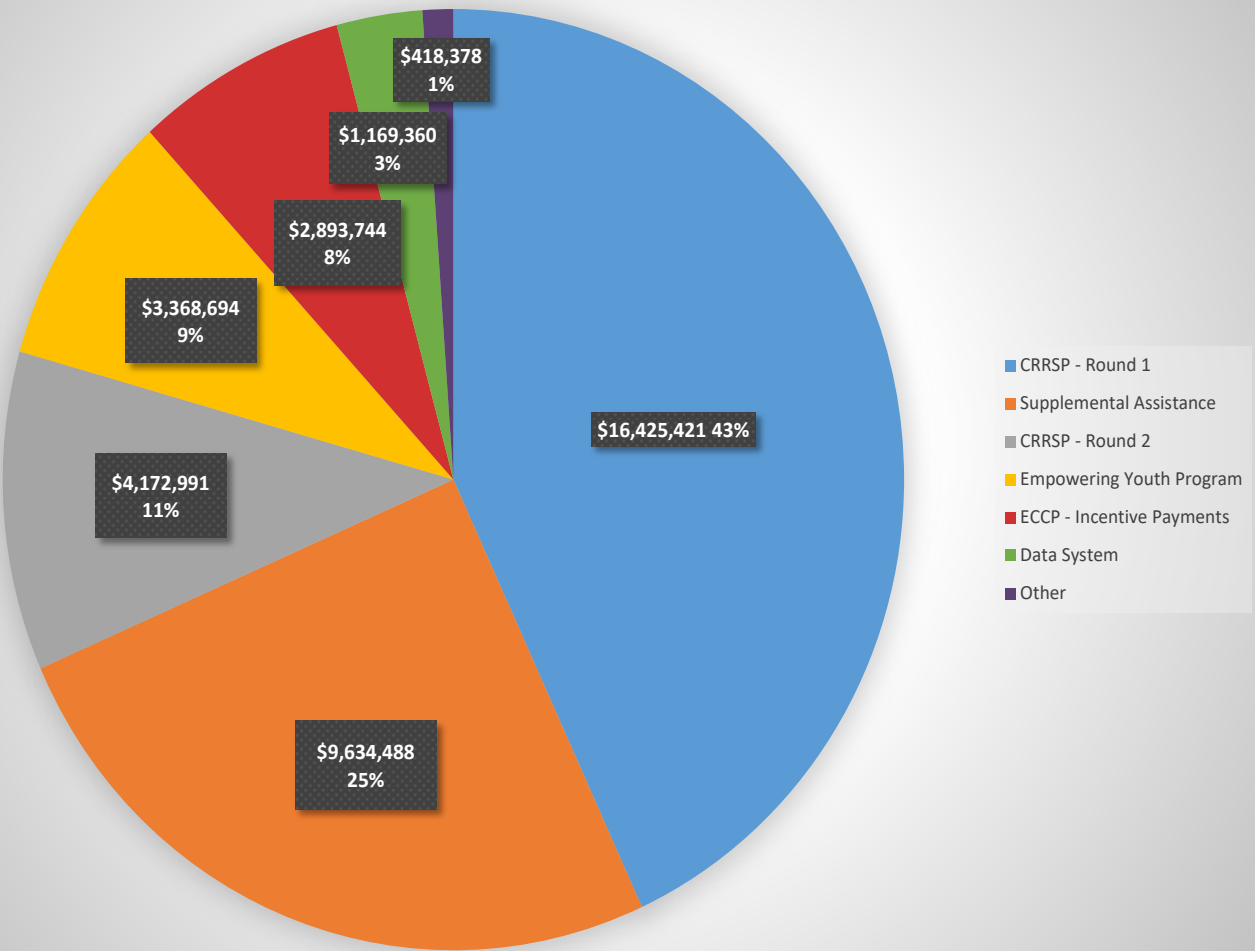


# Supporting the Workforce

- Child Care Scholarship Program Disaster Days
- Paid Family Cost-Share for Child Care Scholarship Families
- Emergency Child Care Program (ECCP) Staff Incentive Program
- Health & Safety Supplies distribution
- Infrastructure & Capacity Building
- Income Loss and COVID-19-related Expenses
- Targeted Employer Child Care Subsidy
- Absentee Billing related to COVID-19
- Full-time Rate for School-age Care (for hours children would have been in school but for COVID-19)
- Pop up Child Care



GOFERR SPENDING



- GOFERR Funding
- CCDF - CARES ACT Award
- CCDF - CRRSA Award
- CCDF - ARPA Discretionary
- CCDF - ARPA Stabilization



# American Rescue Plan – Real Opportunity to Strengthen the Child Care System

6

- State of NH received \$77M, one-time funding
- Two distinct programs:
  - **Stabilization** - \$47M
    - Committed by: September 30, 2022
    - Spent by: September 30, 2023
  - **Discretionary** - \$29M
    - Committed by: September 30, 2023
    - Spent by: September 30, 2024



# ARPA Stabilization

7

Required to use funds to maintain & support providers' operating expenses:

- ✓ Workforce – wages & benefits
- ✓ Rent & utilities
- ✓ Cleaning/sanitization supplies & services
- ✓ Other goods & services to maintain or resume child care services
- ✓ 25% must be allocated for staff incentives



# Impact of Stabilization: Rounds 1-3

8

- ✓ **\$46,891,368** (approximately) available for child care providers
- ✓ **494** child care providers representing all 10 counties accepted **\$45,039,644**
  - **433** Licensed Child Care Centers
  - **48** Licensed Family Child Care Homes
  - **9** Licensed Exempt Facilities
  - **4** Licensed Exempt Family/Friend /Neighbor Homes
- ✓ **\$44,512,830** invoiced & paid out to providers to date
- ✓ **25,776** – total enrollment for the 494 programs
- ✓ **36,494** - licensed and “approved” (license-exempt) capacity
- ✓ **Providers spent highest percentage of award on staffing** expenses (regular wages; recruit/retention bonuses) & **occupancy** costs (mortgage/rent/utilities)





# More COVID-related Funding Facts

9

- Of the **\$114M** that has been released, **96%** has gone directly to providers
- As of today, the final source of funds for child care that DHHS has to release are ARPA D funds of **\$29,736,767**
- ARPA-D funds were awarded by US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care and are intended to strengthen the child care system in a sustainable way to:
  - ✓ Build an even better child care system
  - ✓ Help more families afford quality child care over next 3 years
  - ✓ Help states meet their federal mandate under civil rights law to provide equal access to child care programs, services & activities, including high quality programs



# ARPA – Discretionary: New Hampshire's Plan Components

10

- Strengthening the Workforce
- Partnerships with NH Businesses & Employers
- Child Care Supply Building
- Equitable Access to Affordable, Quality Child Care
- Quality Improvement
- Infrastructure Building
- Emerging Priorities & Needs



[New ARPA Discretionary Funds Plan - Child Care Aware of NH % \(nh-connections.org\)](https://nh-connections.org)



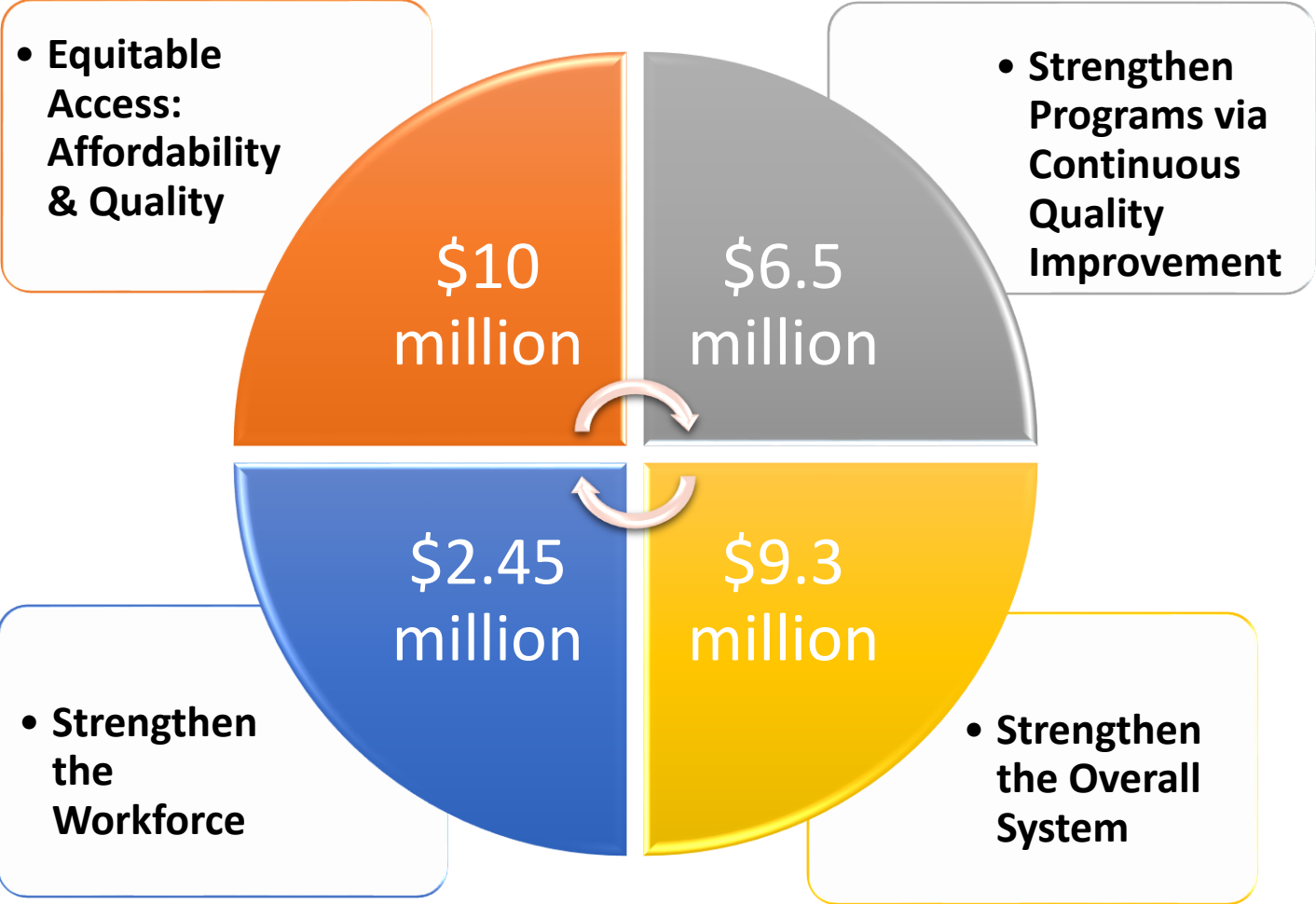
# How was the Plan Developed?

## ***Engagement: A critical component of plan development.***

- ***6 months*** - gathering input & recommendations from parents & early childhood/out-of-school time professionals
- ***Outreach*** - webinars, discussions, dedicated email box, social media, & website postings...plus ongoing training & technical assistance from the federal Office of Child Care
- ***Online survey*** - 430 responses from over 56 organizations, entities & individuals
- ***19 stakeholders*** convened in series of meetings to identify top priorities



# ARPA DISCRETIONARY FUND PLAN



# Current Workforce Initiatives: Senate Bill 446

13

- DHHS, in consultation with Child Care Advisory Council, submitted a plan to GOFERR to help foster sustainable child care opportunities for working families & businesses.
- Focused on strategies to:
  - **Rapidly increase recruitment and retention** of staffing at child care facilities, including consideration of recruitment & retention bonus & benefit grants for certain NH child care employers
  - **Ensure a future workforce**
  - **Reduce costs** for facilities
  - **Increase access & affordability** of child care for families statewide



# Current Workforce Initiatives: Projects & Programs

14

- Broad Public Service Announcement to recruit child care professionals
- Staff incentives with ARPA Stabilization funds
- Pre-apprenticeship program with Bureau of Employment Supports
- Dedicated workforce information specialist at SNHS/CCAoNH, Boys & Girls Club of Central NH
- Job search on NH Connections
- Higher Ed. Partnerships: Early Childhood Tuition Assistance Program awards



# National Programs with NH Commitment

15

*As of 6/30/22:*

- T.E.A.C.H. Participants:
  - 50 - enrolled in Associate's Degree programs (55 last year)
  - 1 – pursuing a CDA
  - 4 - completed their CDA program
  - First graduate earned Associate's Degree in May 2022
  - 37 Sponsoring child care/EC programs
- Dept. of Labor Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program Participants:
  - 7 – currently enrolled (6 last year)
  - 3 - completed the Program
  - 5 - currently enrolling as new apprentices







**Thank you!**

