

Early Care and Education **in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) includes significant new resources to address the *early care and education* needs of families with young children, including:

- \$2 billion to help more low-income working families access **quality child care** through the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). These are federal funds that do not require a state match. The final agreement included language that sets-aside approximately 12% of funds for quality improvement. **Rhode Island is anticipated to receive \$5.2 million total new CCDBG funds** which includes \$250,111 for infant-toddler program quality improvements and \$431,873 for general program quality improvements. http://clasp.org/publications/aara_childcarestatealloc.pdf
- \$2.1 billion for **Head Start/Early Head Start**, to be split as \$1 billion for Head Start (serving children ages 3-5) and \$1.1 billion for Early Head Start (serving children under 3). There have been no details released to indicate how much of this funding will come to Rhode Island.
- \$500 million for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) infant and toddler Part C program (in Rhode Island this program is known as **Early Intervention** and is managed by the Department of Human Services). **Rhode Island anticipates receiving \$2.1 million in IDEA Part C funds.**
- \$400 million for the IDEA **preschool special education program** (in Rhode Island this program is managed by local school districts and overseen by the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education). **Rhode Island anticipates receiving \$1.7 million in IDEA preschool special education program funds.**
- \$13 billion for **Title I of No Child Left Behind** for disadvantaged students. Spending on early childhood programs for children from birth through the age of school entry is a permitted use of Title I funds. The landmark Chicago Child-Parent Centers were established with Title I funds. Currently, only a small amount (approximately 2-3 percent) of Title I funds nationally are spent on early education, but a large expansion could grow this figure substantially. **Rhode Island anticipates receiving \$35.8 million in Title I funds (80% of these funds will go to Central Falls, Newport, Pawtucket, Providence, West Warwick and Woonsocket).**

For more information about the Rhode Island Title I and IDEA B preschool, and IDEA Part C funds and more go to

<http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/09recoverybyprogram.pdf>

Also, view the presentation prepared by Rhode Island KIDS COUNT explaining the current early care and education system in Rhode Island and opportunities within ARRA to increase investment in Rhode Island's youngest children at

<http://rikidscount.org/matriarch/documents/ECEstimulusPresentation.pdf>