

The State of New Hampshire Child Care Webinar Series Session Three: American Rescue Plan Act – Discretionary Plan Overview

A NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES WEBINAR
HOSTED BY CHILD CARE AWARE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Wednesday, February 16, 2022 5:30 - 7:00 PM



We will begin promptly at 5:30 PM

Welcome!

How things will work on the call:

- Everyone is muted so we can all hear well
- If you are having any difficulty please email ccrtraining@snhs.org.
- This webinar is being recorded

To ask questions, make comments or share your ideas:

- If you are on a computer, use the Zoom Chat
- If you are participating by phone, send an email to: ccrtraining@snhs.org

To get professional development hours for this evening's call:

- On a computer: write the name of your program and your full name(s) in the chat
- By phone: Send an email to ccrtraining@snhs.org with the name of your program and your full name(s)



This PowerPoint, FAQ, and recording of the call will be posted at:

<https://www.nh-connections.org/providers/trainings-and-recorded-webinars/>

Our Contributing Presenters Today

Marti Ilg, Deputy Director, DHHS/Division of Economic
and Housing Stability (DEHS)

Dianne Chase, Assistant Bureau Chief, DHHS/DEHS
Bureau of Child Development and Head Start
Collaboration (BCDHSC)



Welcome and Webinar Overview

Today's Agenda

- Greetings and Introduction
 - Logistics/Presenters
- Series Overview and Goals
- The State of Child Care in NH: ARPA Discretionary Plan – An Overview
 - What are ARPA Discretionary Funds?
 - What is their purpose?
 - How did we develop the Plan?
 - What are the components of the Plan?
 - What is next?
- Closing Remarks



Setting the Stage



Marti Ilg, Deputy Director, Division of
Economic and Housing Stability
New Hampshire Department of Health
and Human Services

What are American Rescue Plan Act Discretionary Funds?

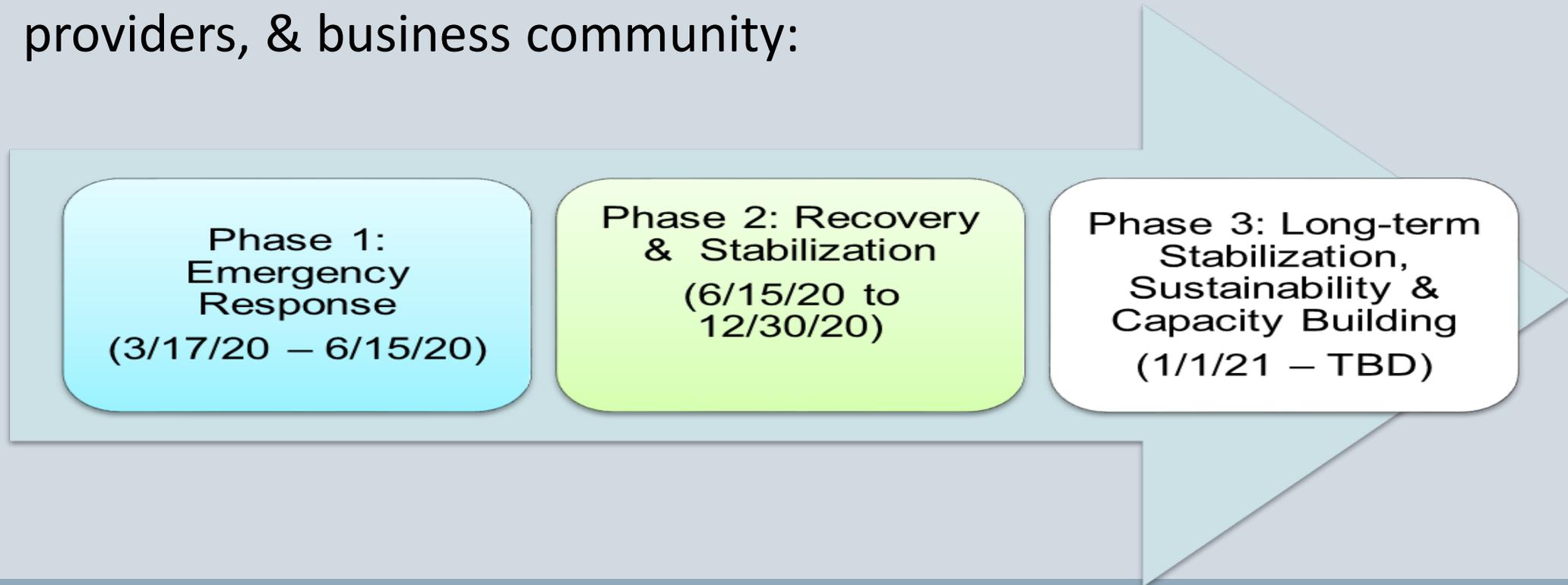
- Managed through Administration for Children and Families-Office of Child Care (OCC)
- Total award: \$29,736,767
- Funds must be encumbered by September 30, 2023
- Funds must be fully expended by September 30, 2024

What is the purpose of the ARPA Discretionary funds?

- 1) Build an even better child care system
- 2) Help more families afford quality child care over next 3 years
- 3) Help states meet their federal mandate under civil rights law to provide equal access to child care programs, services & activities, including high quality programs

How do ARPA Discretionary funds fit into the overall plan for the child care community & its stakeholders?

NH's 3-phased approach to supporting child care for children, families, providers, & business community:





How did we develop the ARPA Discretionary Plan?

- **6 months** - gathering input & recommendations
- **Outreach** - webinars, discussions, dedicated email box, social media, & website postings...plus ongoing training & technical assistance from OCC
- **400 individuals and organizations** provided input
- **Online survey** - 430 responses from over 56 organizations, entities & individuals
- **19 stakeholders** convened in series of meetings to identify top priorities

What are the priorities for NH's Plan?

- **Stakeholders identified priorities** in 3 categories: workforce, children & family needs, & provider needs
- **Additional priorities to:**
 - Strengthen child care system infrastructure
 - Partner with businesses
 - Help mitigate cliff effect



Key takeaways in planning from OCC guidance & technical assistance

- **Take time** to plan strategically, leverage relationships & current projects while creating new pathways & solutions
- **View Plan as evolving & responsive** strategy, responding to changes, initiatives, priorities, partnerships & conditions in your state
- **Think long term**, beyond basic stabilization, invest in the future – children, families & child care



What are the Plan's components?

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



Strengthening the Workforce



- Child care/Head Start workforce recruitment & retention
- Early childhood/out-of-school time career exploration & expansion

Partnerships with NH Businesses & Employers

- Business/child care partnership program
- Business/employee surveys
- Public awareness campaign
- Business/child care network group
- Technical assistance & resources for employers/employees



Child Care Supply Building



- Family child care start-up/expansion
- Program expansion via facilities modifications

Family Equitable Access to Affordable, Quality Child



- CCDF Pilots:
 - Increased income eligibility for families at initial determination
 - “Pay by enrollment “ data pilot
 - Implement Early Head Start model in infant/toddler child care
- Absent due to COVID policy extension



Quality Improvement

- **Granite Steps for Quality (GSQ), NH Quality Recognition and Improvement System)(QRIS)**
 - Validation study
 - Quality incentives for programs
 - Assessment tools & materials
 - Professional development activities to implement
- **Increased access - mental health (MH) supports/services** for staff, children & families via self-care/wellness training/technical assistance/support to staff
- **Increased access - community MH** services for children in early childhood & out-of-school time programs

Infrastructure Building

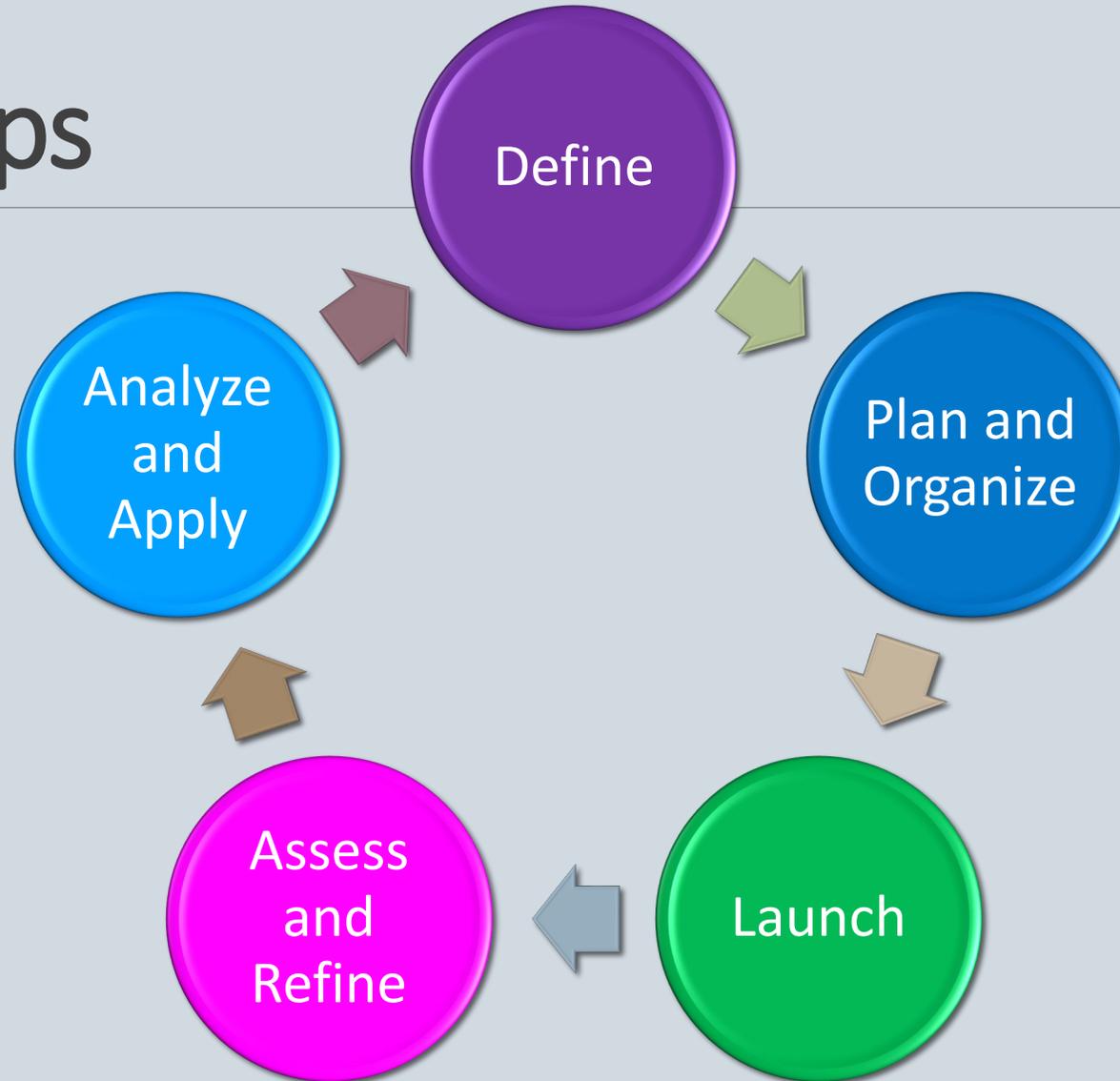
- Support regional child care networks to strengthen child care communities
- Leveraging partnerships
- Build on existing foundations
- Expand vision for the future



Emerging Priorities and Needs



Next Steps



Going Forward

This webinar will be posted on the NH Connections website along with a resource page on the NH ARPA Discretionary Plan

Updates on the Plan and its implementation will be posted regularly

Thank you for joining us tonight. As always, we appreciate everything you continue to do for New Hampshire's children & families!