

# CCDBG Fact Sheet

- The cost of child care is a major challenge for millions of American families.
- Child care assistance is essential to many parents' stable employment and quality of child care available to them.
- Increasing CCDBG is an efficient and effective mechanism to help ensure families' stable employment, child well-being, and America's economic security.
- By doubling discretionary funding to \$2.9 billion for children under age 5, it is estimated that an additional 364,000 families will have access to higher quality child care in the U.S.
- CCDBG is the largest direct source of federal support for families who need child care. But it's currently serving only 1.5 million of the 8.6 million children estimated by the Government Accountability Office to be eligible.
- Child care costs now exceed average housing costs in 24 states and the average college tuition costs in 30 states (the latter, including Connecticut).
- Child care costs exceed transportation and food costs across all regions of the U.S.
- Families making less than \$1,500 per month spend, on average, half of their income on child care expenses.
- Despite cost of care, the child care field remains among the lowest-paid, with an average annual wage that qualifies workers for SNAP in all 50 states.
- For Connecticut, the increase would result in an additional \$18 million - from \$53.8 million CCDBG appropriation in 2017 to a \$73.2 million CCDBG appropriation in 2018. This would be a much-needed boost for the Care4Kids program.