



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES

EFFECTIVE CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING CAN FACILITATE OR DIMINISH HEALTH WHICH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO DISABILITY

A briefing was held by the New America Foundation on “Local Innovations in Child Care and Early Learning”. Presenters at the briefing were scholars from the New America Foundation, the National League of Cities and Managers and Directors of child care programs.

Summary There was a description of four federally funded model programs of early education and child care programs. Some of the goals of these programs were to improve program quality, serve more children, and develop curricula and personnel training for child care providers. All programs had a piece for effective collaboration with community based stakeholders,

Disability Prevention The health needs of young children in the U.S are not being met. The U.S. is of low standing in mortality rates of children, age one to five when compared to other countries. Timely access to acute health care and public health programs may prevent unnecessary diminished health that contributes to disability of young children. The issue was raised at the briefing that there are barriers in getting needed federal health services. For instance, there are failures to receive Medicaid acute care services , effective EPSDT and nutrition services such as school lunches and breakfasts, and Women Infant and Children’s ‘ programs.. There are multiple barriers to child care services that include safety, and barriers to recreational physical activity that may contribute to healthy lifestyles.

Activities There is ongoing study of the effects of absence and quality of child care and education on the health of children and federal and State support for such programs

Principle There should be effective systems for raising children that result in good health as they transition to adulthood.