

Public Hearing Process

Notice was provided to the public in all major newspapers in South Dakota about the Public Hearing for the State Plan between May 10-16, 2009. The Public Hearing was held on June 4, 2009 at the following Dakota Digital Network (DDN) city locations:

Spearfish	Rapid City	Pierre	Aberdeen	Watertown
Brookings	Sioux Falls	Mitchell	Vermillion	

Opportunity for making comments on and input to the State Plan was available until June 18th.

Comments on the State Plan received included:

1. Comment received from L.V. – Boys & Girls Club, Watertown: Thank you for the information on the enhancement grants for OST Programs. I look forward to working with all of you to provide quality care for our families in Watertown.
2. Comment received from C.S. – Head Start, Vermillion: Consider adding language into the plan to illustrate the support that you provide to families and providers that may experience the closing of a home- or center-based program closing.
3. Comment received from C.S. – Head Start, Vermillion: I feel there have been many opportunities for me to provide input in addition to this public hearing. I appreciate the partnership and working relationship with Head Start.
4. Question received from C.S. – Head Start, Vermillion: regarding the possibility of a ‘wait list’ for the infant-toddler scholarships provided through the ARRA funding?
5. Comments received from S.R. – SD Voices for Children, Sioux Falls:
 - Various questions on the administration of the Subsidy program; thanking CCS for reducing co-payments for economic stimulus, etc.
 - Commended CCS on all the regional training that is being provided by the ECE (CCR&R) system, and the work the licensing staff do to help communities meet the child care needs of parents. State they are glad the Stimulus funding is available, and hopes this continues in some fashion. They are concerned about the loss of school-age funding, even though 21st CCLC funds are available through the Dept. of Education, since not every community qualifies.
 - Stated they have completed surveys in various communities statewide to get a ‘snapshot’ of where the children in care are. They have found that about half are placing their children in family child care homes, and feel this documents how important Family Day Care (FDC) is in South Dakota, and urge business support for this group. They found, in providing a ‘family day care business’ training to a group of family day care providers in the Sioux Falls area, that providers are lacking in basic business practices, so want to call attention to this issue, and hope CCS addresses this in the State Plan.