



**The Child Care Planning Council compiled these resources from a variety of electronic newsletters. We have now compiled them by subject. We hope it is helpful!**

### **Family, Friend and Neighbor Care Reports and Resources**

- **Supporting Family, Friend and Neighbor Caregivers: Findings from a Survey of State Policies:** The Institute for a Child Care Continuum at Bank Street College is pleased to announce the release of a new paper, Supporting Family, Friend and Neighbor Caregivers: Findings from a Survey of State Policies, produced in collaboration with the National Association of State Child Care Administrators, an affiliate of the American Public Human Services Association, and Child Trends. Based on results of a 48-state survey, the paper presents data about state regulations, subsidy policies, and special initiatives for this population of child care providers. The findings show that there is wide variation across the states in distinctions between care that is subject to regulation and care that is exempt from it, as well as in the policies that states use to ensure subsidized children's health and safety in these license-exempt child care settings. The paper also indicates that interest in enhancing child care quality in family, friend and neighbor care has increased in the past several years: two-fifths of the state supported initiatives for these caregivers in 2004. Copies of the paper may be obtained from [skearns@bankstreet.edu](mailto:skearns@bankstreet.edu) or [mpittard@aphsa.org](mailto:mpittard@aphsa.org). It is also available on the Institute's website ([www.bankstreet.edu/ICCC](http://www.bankstreet.edu/ICCC)). (from Abby Cohen)
- **Youth, Education and Families Institute Launches Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care Project:** With support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Youth, Education and Families Institute is partnering with United Way of America to embark on a Family, Friend, and Neighbor (FFN) Care Initiative. The initiative will provide city officials, United Way leaders, and community partners with practical assistance in supporting informal caregivers for young children and enhancing school readiness. Recognizing that the majority of the nation's youngest and most vulnerable children are cared for by family, friends, or neighbors during the work day, this partnership will strengthen the capacity of local leaders to conduct effective outreach to FFN care providers by facilitating cross-city peer learning, identifying new communities interested in supporting FFN care, developing tools and resources for city leaders, and convening site visits that feature exemplary local approaches to support the school readiness of children in FFN care. Contact Tonja Rucker at [rucker@nlc.org](mailto:rucker@nlc.org) with questions.  
[http://www.nlc.org/ASSETS/2F54313C904C4CF1890EFD8AAFBCE68D/IYEF\\_FFN\\_Care.pdf](http://www.nlc.org/ASSETS/2F54313C904C4CF1890EFD8AAFBCE68D/IYEF_FFN_Care.pdf)
- **Close to Home: State Strategies to Strengthen and Support Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care:** This report offers a summary of key research and an array of strategies for supporting the FFN care that millions of working parents rely on for their children. In particular, many low-income children—who are often most at risk for



starting school behind their more advantaged peers and stand to benefit the most from a good early learning environment—are in FFN care. By focusing a portion of state resources and attention on FFN care, states can help improve the quality of care these children receive. Increased investment in FFN care also matters because many FFN providers are low-income women who themselves are in need of support and resources. <http://www.nwlc.org/pdf/CloseToHome2007.pdf>.

- **Policy Brief on Respite Care for Grandfamilies:** Respite care can provide grandparents and other relative caregivers with the time they need to take care of themselves so they can provide a nurturing family and home for the children they are raising. Caregivers in these "grandfamilies" often need regular or emergency care for their children while they attend to medical, business, or other family matters. A recent policy brief from the Family Strengthening Policy Center examines the benefits of respite care programs for grandfamilies. The brief sheds light on the economic and emotional issues affecting these households and recommends various types of respite care to accommodate family circumstances. It also describes the ways effective respite care systems strengthen grandfamilies by: Enhancing the stability of the grandfamily household, Relieving caregivers' stress to build better family relationships and Enabling caregivers to pursue other supports. The brief includes a list of policy recommendations to improve the availability and accessibility of respite care systems and identifies family-driven practices based on measurable outcomes. Successful respite care programs are also profiled. For a closer look at Strengthening Grandfamilies Through Respite Care, visit the National Human Services Assembly website: [www.nassembly.org/fspc/documents/Brief20.pdf](http://www.nassembly.org/fspc/documents/Brief20.pdf)