

Building Early Links for Learning (BELL)

Goal/Purpose



Early childhood education enrollment by 20%

Collaboration between emergency housing
& early childhood education providers

Developmental friendliness of housing programs

Collaborative Efforts: Who's Involved

Philadelphia:

- The Children's Workgroup
- People's Emergency Center
- Office of Supportive Housing
- Public Health Management Corporation
- Universities
 - Villanova
 - Rutgers – Camden
 - University of Delaware

National:

- Administration for Children and Families
- CT Office of Early Childhood
- Cloudburst Consulting



Activities

Self-Assessment of EH programs

Understanding ECE use

Supporting/facilitating ECE enrollment

Building links between systems

**Early Childhood Self-
Assessment Tool for
Family Shelters**

Goals of the Self-Assessment

Enhance developmental friendliness
where young children live

Build and develop relationships
between EH and ECE providers



Developmentally Friendly Spaces



Health &
Safety

Wellness
&
Develop-
ment

Workforce
Standards
& Training

Program-
ming

Food &
Nutrition

Self-Assessment Tool

Section A: Health & Safety

What have we done so far?	Accomplished	Improving	Needs Action	Notes	Next Steps
A 1: We meet all Emergency Solutions Grant health and safety standards*					
A 2: We discuss emergency response plans (for natural disasters, lost children, active shooters, etc.) with residents and post them publicly*					
A 3: We have sanitary diaper changing stations *					
A 4: We practice and encourage frequent hand washing *					
A 5: We prevent harmful exposure to blood and other dangerous bodily fluids *					
A 6: We take precautions to limit the spread of contagious diseases among infants, toddlers, and preschoolers*					
A 7: We encourage parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers to immunize their children and keep track of these immunizations *					
A 8: We maintain an appropriate temperature in the shelter and allow residents with young children to stay inside when needed and/or desired*					

Organization of tool



Low Resource Requirements

Can be done with little to no money or staff time



Some Resource Requirements

May need a small amount of money or staff time,



Substantial Resource Requirements

May require shelters to apply for grant funding

Action Plan

Action Plan for Creating a Safe, Developmentally Appropriate Environment for Young Children

GOAL: _____

ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	PERSON(S) INVOLVED	RESOURCES NEEDED

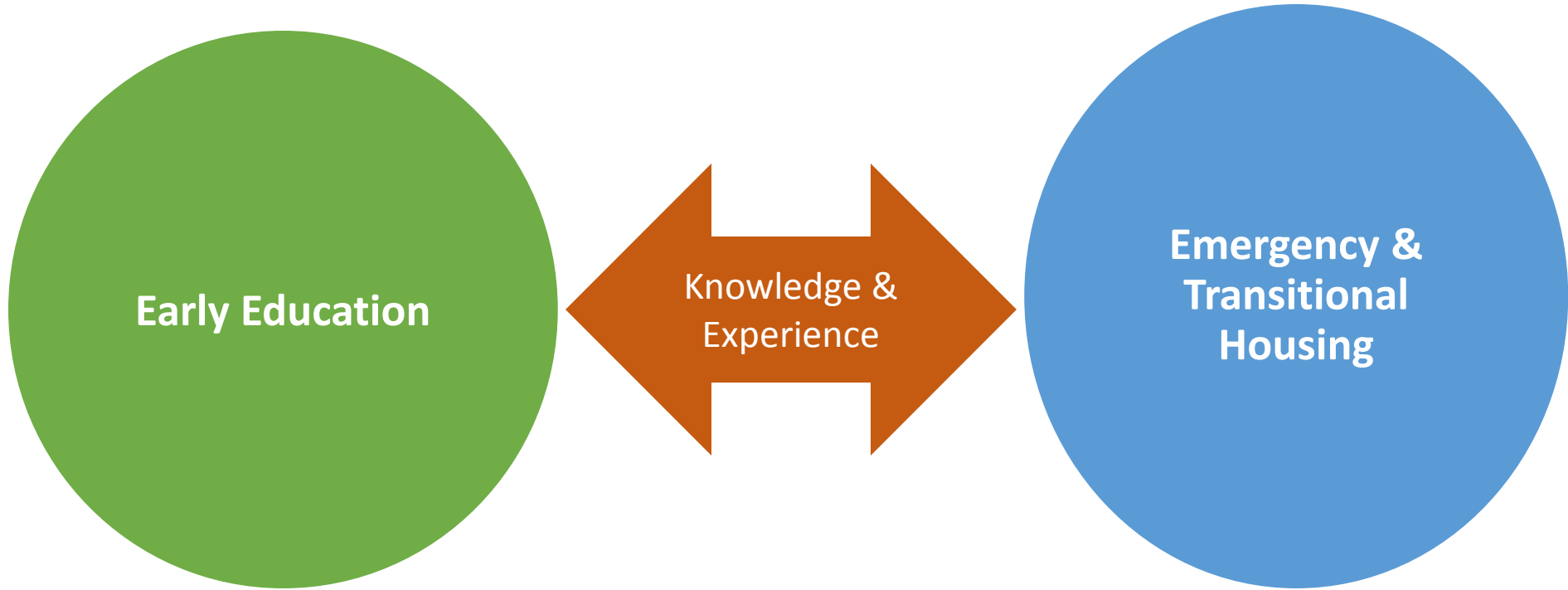
SIGNATURE OF SHELTER OPERATOR/STAFF:

Building Links!!!

Early Education

**Knowledge &
Experience**

**Emergency &
Transitional
Housing**



Where are we now?

- All emergency and transitional housing sites have been identified
- Communications with various ECE providers
- 5 sites selected for pilot
- First pilot scheduled

Questions?