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 & Development
- Workforce Standards & Training
- Programming
- Food & Nutrition
## Self-Assessment Tool

### Section A: Health & Safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have we done so far?</th>
<th>Accomplished</th>
<th>Improving</th>
<th>Needs Action</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Next Steps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1: We meet all <a href="https://example.com">Emergency Solutions Grant</a> health and safety standards*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2: We discuss emergency response plans (for natural disasters, lost children, active shooters, etc.) with residents and post them publicly*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3: We have <a href="https://example.com">sanitary diaper changing stations</a>*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4: We practice and encourage frequent hand washing*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5: We prevent harmful exposure to blood and other dangerous bodily fluids*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6: We take precautions to limit the spread of contagious diseases among infants, toddlers, and preschoolers*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7: We encourage parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers to immunize their children and keep track of these immunizations*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8: We maintain an appropriate temperature in the shelter and allow residents with young children to stay inside when needed and/or desired*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 for Creating a Safe, Developmentally Appropriate Environment for Young Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION STEPS</th>
<th>TIMELINE</th>
<th>PERSON(S) INVOLVED</th>
<th>RESOURCES NEEDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?