



## CHILD CARE:

### Building Capacity through Technical Assistance, Abilities Network

LOCATION: Statewide

| FUNDING: \$75,000

#### GOALS

**Council Goal:** Children and adults with developmental disabilities meaningfully participate in all facets of community life, and are valued and supported by their communities.

**Council Objective:** Increase access to inclusive opportunities in early childhood care and education, school, and out of school time activities.

**Goals of Initiative:** Increase the number of children with disabilities and special health care needs in child care programs alongside their peers without disabilities by increasing the knowledge, skills, and capacity of child care providers throughout Maryland.

#### OVERVIEW

This project will increase the knowledge, skills, and capacity of child care providers statewide through intensive, customized technical assistance using three major components: Strategy, Action, and Reflection (STAR). This project will use reflective coaching and require the participation of child care program directors and classroom staff in the process so that the strategies learned are retained to benefit many more children.

#### STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES

- Provide at least three technical assistance sessions, both in-person and remotely, to 75 providers throughout Maryland. A total of at least 225 TA sessions will be provided.
- Information about inclusion strategies will be provided through specialized technical assistance that includes the development and implementation of an action plan, coaching and modeling, and reflection.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the specialized technical assistance in relation to the number of child care providers with increased confidence and ability to include children with disabilities and special health care needs, and the number of children with disabilities and special health care needs who benefit.

#### OUTCOMES

- Child care directors and staff from 75 programs increase knowledge, skills, and capacity to support and include children with disabilities and special health care needs.
- The number of children with developmental disabilities in inclusive child care settings will increase.