

ADMINISTRATION FOR EAGILIES

330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201 | www.acf.hhs.gov

Dear Tribal Leader:

November 2023

I am writing to make you aware that the 2024 National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE), administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be collecting data in your community between December 2023 and June 2024. The NSECE is the only national survey of child care and early education use and availability. The NSECE has been conducted before at two different timepoints, first in 2012 and again in 2019. We are now collecting new, nationally representative information about all segments of early care and education (ECE) and families' needs for ECE services. Based on these prior efforts, we have learned an enormous amount about families who use ECE, as well as about those who provide ECE, such as ECE programs, teachers and caregivers, and individuals who regularly care for children who are not their own. We are excited about the possibility of learning how recent policy and program changes have affected providers and the availability of ECE services since 2019.

A key aim of the 2024 surveys is to describe all households that use ECE in the United States throughout the country, as well as to provide updated profiles of programs and individuals providing ECE. For this reason, it is essential that we are able to collect data from every community that is scientifically selected for this study. The 2024 NSECE includes center and home-based provider surveys, a household survey, and a child care workforce survey, all based on nationally representative samples. Households and providers in your tribal area have been randomly selected as a part of the 2024 sample. It is important for us to include households and providers in your area to get a complete picture of the current availability and use of ECE services. All data provided by households and providers will be used only for statistical purposes. Identities of programs and individuals will not be disclosed.

NORC at the University of Chicago, along with its partners, is conducting the 2024 NSECE on behalf of HHS. NORC staff will follow up with you to answer any questions you may have and to obtain your approval to conduct the study on your tribal land. You may also contact the NSECE project team at nsece24@norc.org or the Federal Project Officer, Ivelisse Martinez-Beck at the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S Department of Health and Human Services, at (202) 690-7885 or lvelisse.martinezbeck@acf.hhs.gov.

More information about the survey is available at <u>https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/project/national-survey-early-care-and-education-2024</u>. There you will also find reports and fact sheets based on the 2012 and 2019 NSECE surveys about the characteristics of the 121,000 center-based programs, 1.4 million teachers and caregivers working with young children in those programs, and 1 million paid and about 4 million unpaid individuals who regularly care for other people's children at home.

In addition, you will find insights into the early care and education experiences, choices and perceptions of the nations' parents and guardians of young children in 2012 and 2019.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this important study.

Sincerely,

Katie Hamm Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Early Childhood Development Administration for Children and Families

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB number for this information collection is 0970-0391 and the expiration date is 06/30/2026. Please send comments regarding the time required for this survey or any other aspect of the described information collection to: NORC at the University of Chicago, 55 E Monroe St, Ste 3000, Chicago, IL, 60603, Attention: A. Rupa Datta