



CARE FOR NEWCOMER CHILDREN(CNC): THE MODEL

When an Immigrant Serving Organizations (ISOs) is funded to provide care to newcomer children while parents participate in CIC-funded services, it now falls under the Care for Newcomer Children (CNC) model.

The Model

Development of the CNC Model and Requirements was carried out from July 2009 through March 2010 by a team from CMAS and with advice from an Advisory Committee. The Committee included academics and representatives of stakeholder groups from across the country. CMAS conducted extensive consultations with the settlement community to collect data and carry out interviews electronically and in person through site visits, meetings, and conference participation.

The CNC model builds on features of the current LINC childminding and Occasional Child Care programs while extending them to create a single, comprehensive system for CNC delivery that integrates a wide range of programming options. The CNC model is designed to be flexible, to permit ISOs to care for more newcomer children in a variety of formats and settings, and to ensure CNC programs can be modernized and streamlined in tandem with new policy initiatives and changes in adult service delivery.

The newest elements of the CNC model were tested at two pilot sites during the 2011/12 contract year.

Goals

- To support the delivery of settlement services by making it possible for ISOs in all provinces to offer safe and healthy CNC programs within a comprehensive and flexible system; to meet the needs of parents; and provide effective and efficient standards that manage risks and support newcomer child development.
- To move towards more efficient allocation of resources to ensure better uptake of settlement services while controlling costs.

What's new?

The CNC Model is comprehensive and gives you flexibility with:

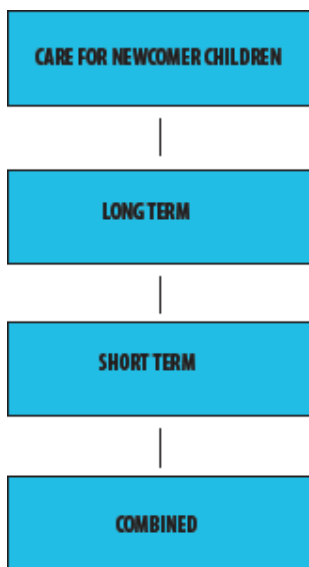
- More choices – you can play a more active role in assessing the needs of your organization and developing a CNC program that is tailored to meet those needs.
- New program types – Short Term Care and Combined Care. Short Term Care is new to all provinces except ISOs providing OCC in Ontario and Combined Care is new to all ISOs.

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In the CNC model of care, ISOs now have the following options available to them:

Types of Care

Three basic types of care are being adopted: Long Term, Short Term and Combined. These types of care could be offered individually or in combination. This would depend on client needs in relation to settlement programs, ISO capacity, and CIC approval.

Long Term Care

Long Term Care is similar to current Childminding and is defined as “care that is provided on a regular basis to the same group of children.” It will be chosen by ISOs offering regular, ongoing programs such as the current LINC.

EXAMPLE: Jorge is managing a site that primarily offers language classes and offers them during the day, evenings and weekends. For his clients attending the CIC-funded language classes, they are all eligible for CNC and so Jorge chooses to implement a Long Term care program. The same children are there with their parents, every day, for the duration of the session. He does not offer many Short Term workshops or events outside of LINC or ELT and does not have the client demand for them.

Short Term Care

Short Term Care is similar to the OCC currently available in Ontario and is defined as “care that is provided on an irregular, occasional basis to children who are usually different each time care is offered.” It will be chosen when care for an individual child is needed on an irregular, occasional basis by ISOs offering services such as SWIS and JSW.

EXAMPLE: Ursula has a very small but diverse centre for newcomers. Her organization offers many short-term workshops, information sessions, and events. Many of their clients are parents of young children. Ursula decides to offer Short Term care. For Ursula’s organization, there is no need for Long Term care because children will only be staying for a few hours or a few days. Her boardroom can be easily modified to accommodate the needs of the children, and she has sufficient room in an adjacent storage room for all required toys and equipment.

Staff (both managers and front-line staff) identify the following settlement benefits for immigrant parents and families using short-term child care:

- There is more flexibility to schedule services at the best time for the client.
- The quality of service is improved: parents do not have to bring their children to workshops or one-on-one sessions, and can focus more.
- Availability of short-term child care is empowering to clients: parents feel encouraged to take care of their own settlement needs when they know the child is safe and taken care of.
- Parents become more self-sufficient and more in control of their schedule.

*E-Nova Consulting and Eco-Ethnomics -
Assessment of the Combined Care Pilot*



Combined Care

Combined Care is the new option for ISOs. It gives ISOs the opportunity to mix children and is defined as “care for children who attend on a daily basis as well as children who attend on an irregular basis.” This care is offered in the same space at the same time.

Combined Care appears to be an effective way to extend childcare to immigrant and refugee clients

- It allows clients to use services that they were not using before they had access to child care.
- It allows newcomers to access services earlier in the settlement process and improves the client experience. This has a positive impact on the effectiveness of settlement services.
- It leads to positive settlement benefits for the child as well as for the parents.
- It can be provided without compromising the safety and quality standards for CIC-funded childcare.

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EXAMPLE: Jenna’s organization offers settlement services and full-time language classes. From time to time, she offers information sessions and the parents require care for their children during these sessions. Since Jenna offers few information sessions and does not have the additional space for a separate CNC program, Jenna decides to offer Combined care. She has a large enough space, and with careful scheduling for staffing and activities, she has the Short Term children join the children attending Long Term. She now can offer one childcare program for all, regardless of the CIC-funded service or how long the children will stay in care.

Benefits

The CNC model allows ISOs the flexibility to develop their CNC program based on specific organizational needs and resources available. It reduces barriers, allowing you to meet the needs of newcomer families and achieve your organizational goals. The CNC model allows you to:

1. Effectively meet the needs of your clients.
2. Support the distinctive settlement needs of newcomer families through improved programming.