

MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY

Early Care and Education Professional Development Network

Report: April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015

Executive Summary

For the second quarter of 2015, Maine Roads to Quality, Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) has continued its work toward promoting professionalism in the field of early childhood and increasing the quality of care offered through the provision of a statewide system of professional development. The full report outlines the details of MRTQ PDN's progress toward our contract deliverables. The following are a selection of highlights of the work completed by MRTQ PDN during this quarter:

- During the second quarter, a total of 33 trainings began. **This brings the total number of trainings beginning during 2015 to 72.** MRTQ PDN will likely hit the goal of 100 trainings offered per year during the third quarter.
- **MRTQ PDN staff and training consultants delivered over 258 hours of on-site technical assistance (TA) during the second quarter (includes prep and travel time).** This is an increase of 71 hours, or nearly 38%. In addition, MRTQ PDN staff fielded TA via phone and email from 387 individual practitioners, an increase of nearly 40%.
- **MRTQ PDN staff worked with the Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services (DLRS) to attend regional child care licensing open house meetings to share information regarding the MRTQ PDN Communities of Practice (CoPs).** Every participant at every forum received MRTQ PDN's handout on the CoPs that includes information about where they are located, how to join, and who to contact to start a CoP.
- **In partnership with the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), MRTQ PDN piloted a new curriculum called "Foundations of Inclusion – Relevant Laws Featuring the Americans with Disabilities Act."** The evaluations for this 6-hour training were very positive. CCIDS is currently finalizing revisions to the pilot and the completed training will launch statewide later in 2015. Additional new trainings relating to the Maine Inclusion Credential will be piloted during the third quarter, including "Foundations of Universal Design and Individualizing" and "Positive Supports for Challenging Behavior."
- **On April 1, approximately 21 Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council (CAN council) managers, educators and community trainers attended a train-the-trainer in the Strengthening Maine Families 101 curriculum at Educare Central Maine.** Also trained was one MRTQ education staff. Representing all of the current CAN councils, they will now be offering training for child care providers in their county area. Additionally, each council has a trained educator who can, and has been, training additional staff in their own agency on the Strengthening Families approach.
- Because this quarter marks the six-month point of the contract, **MRTQ PDN has included an analysis of programs enrolled with *Quality for ME*, included in Attachment O.** Our data show that for the 409 programs receiving at least one service through MRTQ PDN, 75% of the programs

are enrolled with *Quality for ME*. Over a quarter of the programs are currently at a Step 1. Programs at Step 4 represent 19% of all programs served by MRTQ PDN.

- Revisions to the MRTQ PDN Evaluation Plan are being implemented. **Evaluations have been completed for 33 Core Knowledge Trainings. Training evaluation reports have been shared with the MRTQ PDN Leadership and Evaluation Teams and shared with individual trainers following the completion of training.** During this quarter, a team of MRTQ PDN Evaluation and Leadership staff met to review the training evaluation results for this year.
- **MRTQ PDN has collaborated with a number of stakeholder groups during this quarter, including:**
 - Working with the Professional Development Alignment Team to host a stakeholder meeting in June.
 - Staffing the Early Childhood Higher Education Committee.
 - Working with the Maine Afterschool Network to increase membership and to conduct an environmental scan of services for school age children in Maine.
 - Contributing to the revision of program approval policies and procedures for Child Development Services.

These highlights represent some of the new and expanded work being done by MRTQ PDN during the first quarter of 2015. In addition to these initiatives, MRTQ PDN continues to offer its core services, including:

- **Processing 272 new Registry applications** from early childhood practitioners;
- **Attending 100% of the meetings of the** Child Care Advisory Council, Maine Children's Growth Council, Professional Development Accountability Team, and the Early Childhood Higher Education Committee;
- **Awarded \$18,161 in scholarship funds to 16 practitioners.**