

# MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY

## Early Care and Education Professional Development Network

**Report: October 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016**

### Executive Summary

For the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016, Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) has continued its work toward promoting professionalism in the field of early childhood care and education 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 final progress toward our contract deliverables for years 2015 and 2016. The following are a selection of highlights of the work completed by MRTQ PDN during this quarter:

- **During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016, a total of 24 trainings began, bringing the total number of trainings completed during 2016 to 118. The total number of trainings for 2015 and 2016 is 244.**
- **MRTQ PDN staff and Technical Assistance consultants delivered 410 hours of on-site collaborative consultation (previously called "on-site technical assistance") during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (includes preparation, follow-up, and travel time).** This total is a 30% increase in delivery hours over the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter in 2015. In addition, MRTQ PDN staff fielded 165 phone and email technical assistance contacts.
- **In partnership with the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), MRTQ PDN continues to market the Inclusion Warm Line to programs.** An Inclusion Warm Line brochure has been developed, as has a web page on the MRTQ PDN and CCIDS websites. In addition, MRTQ PDN has written about the Inclusion Warm Line in the quarterly newsletter, *Pathways*, for multiple quarters. Revisions have been made to the MRTQ Registry to more accurately capture contacts made to the Inclusion Warm Line; updated reports will be available in 2017.
- **There are currently 20 active Communities of Practice (CoP) groups throughout the state.** MRTQ PDN has CoP representation in all eight of the DHHS districts. A total of 435 participants attended MRTQ PDN-sponsored CoP groups during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, up from 206 participants during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015, over a 100% increase.
- **MRTQ PDN continues to collaborate with the Maine Afterschool Network (MASN) on professional development opportunities for before and after school programs.** Highlights of the work done in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter are included in Appendix Q.
- **The new MRTQ PDN weekly email newsletter, *SHORTcuts*, has been published regularly since the end of June, 2016.** Items typically included address MRTQ PDN activities, general news and announcements, online resources for practitioners and families, and listings of upcoming conferences. The link is sent out to all Registry members with online access and other stakeholders, including the Early Childhood Higher Education Committee, the MRTQ PDN Advisory Council, and licensing workers.
- **MRTQ PDN partnered with the Maine Centers for Disease Control (MeCDC), Central Maine Community College, and University of North Carolina to implement a pilot with Go NAP SACC.** Four practitioners participated in the pilot. Go NAP SACC (Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care) is an online self-assessment tool for early childhood programs that is specific to nutrition and physical activity of children ages 0-5. Ten MRTQ PDN Consultants have been trained in the use of Go NAP SACC during this quarter. Ten practitioners have entered into Memorandums of Agreement (MOA's) and have started the Go NAP SACC process.
- **MRTQ PDN has collaborated with a number of stakeholder groups during this quarter, including:**
  - Regular meetings with staff and supervisors from the Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services (DLRS) to discuss the training and technical assistance needs of both child care programs and DLRS staff.
  - Two staff presented an overview of MRTQ PDN for the 5210 Let's Go! Program Coordinators. Information was shared regarding the MRTQ

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Registry, Career Lattices, training, on-site consultation, and the Inclusion Warm Line.

- MRTQ PDN staff met with Laura Newman from Portland Trails and the School Ground Greening Coalition to discuss collaborating on mini-grants for programs to make improvements to their outdoor environments.

These highlights represent some of the new and expanded work being done by MRTQ PDN during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016. In addition to these initiatives, MRTQ PDN continues to offer its core services, including:

- **Processing 262 new Registry applications** from early childhood practitioners;
- **Attending 100% of the meetings with** the Office of Child and Family Services, Licensing Supervisor Meetings, the Maine Children's Growth Council, Professional Development Accountability Team, and the Maine PDN Advisory Committee;
- **Awarding \$13,816 in scholarship funds.**
- **Maintaining the Statewide Electronic Training calendar** for a two year total of 26,147 searches from 5,285 unique IP addresses. 255 MRTQ PDN trainings were listed on the calendar and 447 trainings from other partners and college courses added.