



## Report: April 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018

### Executive Summary

During the fourth quarter of the reporting period, Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) 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 this period. The following are a selection of highlights of the work completed by MRTQ PDN during this quarter:

- **During the quarter, a total of 22 trainings began and ended.** In the completed trainings, 98.6% of participants reported "somewhat agree" and "strongly agree" to the question: "I have gained knowledge and skills presented in this training and will apply them to my practice."
- **During the contract period, a total of 33 elective trainings were delivered.** A total of 308 participants attended the elective trainings.
- **MRTQ PDN staff and Technical Assistance consultants delivered over 584 hours of on-site consultation during the contract period (includes preparation, follow-up, and travel time).** This represents an increase of 29% over the previous quarter. In addition, MRTQ PDN staff fielded 584 phone and email technical assistance contacts. This includes nine calls to the Inclusion Warm Line during this quarter. The total phone and email TA delivered increased 29% over the previous quarter.
- **There are currently 25 active Communities of Practice (CoP) groups throughout the state.** MRTQ PDN has CoP representation in all eight of the DHHS districts. This quarter two new CoPs began - one in Augusta (Kennebec County) and one in Belfast (Waldo County). A total of 532 participants attended MRTQ PDN-sponsored CoP groups during the contract period. This represents a 24% increase in participation over this quarter in 2017.
- **A report summarizing the biannual evaluation of the Communities of Practice is included in Attachment N.** Of the 85 respondents, 90% indicated

that they agreed with the statement "The CoP provided opportunities for relationships and 93% agreed with the statement "I would recommend others join the CoP." The report also captures narrative responses regarding the benefits of the CoPs. One representative commenter shares "I have benefited because we are consistently sharing ideas with each other that we can take away to improve our program. The networking is great!! I love sharing what works for our program as well as learning what works for everyone else."

- **The eight District Coordinators (DCs) continued introducing themselves to practitioners and programs in their districts.** The DCs continue outreach to practitioners to share information about their role and the services offered through MRTQ PDN. This quarter the focus was contact to practitioners that have not received services from MRTQ PDN. This quarter 489 phone calls, emails, and in-person contacts were made. Data on number of programs contacted and number of practitioners who have used MRTQ PDN services will be reported at the end of the first year of this contract (August 2018). We are making gains in reaching all child care programs and practitioners.
- **MRTQ PDN was accepted to be part of a pilot with the Erikson Institute.** The pilot will offer state teams customized professional development around innovation, quality improvement methods, data collection, and using data for continuous learning and improvement.
- **MRTQ PDN continued the agreement with Better Kid Care at Penn State Cooperative Extension to offer the online training *Health and Safety Basics: Requirements for Certification to Maine providers.*** This training will meet the CCDBG-required health and safety training and will be offered free to Maine providers ongoing, as needed. MRTQ PDN staff have arranged for a Maine-specific code to be used on the Better Kid Care website, with monthly reporting of provider completion from Better Kid Care to the MRTQ Registry. A total of 306 individuals completed the training this quarter..



- **Work continues on the new MRTQ PDN/Child Care Choices website.** Testing continues on the migration of all MRTQ PDN and CCC applications to the cloud. The new websites are expected to come online in the next quarter.
- **MRTQ PDN continues to collaborate with the Maine Afterschool Network (MASN) on professional development opportunities for out-of-school time programs.** Highlights of the work done during the contract period are included in Attachment K.
- **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.
  - Pam Prevost, Registry and Evaluation Manager, continues to serve on the Board of the National Workforce Registry Alliance.
  - MRTQ PDN continues work with the Strengthening Family Child Care group, along with Child Care Licensing, Maine Family Child Care Association, higher education representatives, KVCAP, and family child care owners.
- **Maintaining the Child Care Choices website with accurate data regarding licensed programs and Quality for ME information.**

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

- **Processing 252 new Registry applications** from early childhood and out-of-school time 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, Child Care Advisory Council (CCAC), and the Maine PDN Advisory Committee;
- **Maintaining the Statewide Electronic Training calendar.** During the contract period there were a total of 1,131 searches from 383 unique IP addresses. Twenty-nine MRTQ PDN trainings were listed on the calendar and 12 trainings from other partners and college courses added.