



Report: October 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018

Executive Summary

During the second 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 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 20 trainings began and ended.** In the completed trainings, 95% 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 29 elective trainings were delivered.** A total of 453 participants attended the elective trainings. Included in these elective trainings are the MRTQ PDN Communities of Practice (CoPs) that included training hours, as well as three one-day conferences co-sponsored with MaineAEYC.
- **MRTQ PDN staff and Technical Assistance consultants delivered 612 hours of on-site consultation during the contract period (includes preparation, follow-up, and travel time).** This represents an increase of 73% over the previous quarter and a 110% increase over the second quarter in FY18. In addition, MRTQ PDN staff fielded 535 phone and email technical assistance contacts. This includes nine calls to the Inclusion Warm Line during this 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. A total of 494 participants attended MRTQ PDN-sponsored CoP groups during the contract period. This represents an 11% increase in participation over this quarter in 2017.
- **MRTQ PDN and OCFS have continued meeting regarding the revisions to *Quality for ME*.** The *Quality for ME* manual is in the process of being revised and will be shared and posted to the OCFS website in January. In addition, Maine has been invited to participate in the BUILD Initiative's Think Tank 3.0 as one of six states to participate in peer learning and discussion around statewide QRIS systems. Work with the Think Tank begins in January.
- **MRTQ PDN continues its work with the Erikson Institute regarding the delivery of PD services to family child care practitioners.** Data collection and meetings continue with support from the Erikson Institute.
- **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 practitioners*.** This training will meet the CCDBG-required health and safety training and will be offered free to Maine practitioners 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 practitioner completion from Better Kid Care to the MRTQ Registry. A total of 144 individuals completed the training online this quarter.
- **Seven practitioners were awarded 2018 Marcia Lovell Awards at the MaineAEYC conference at Bowdoin College in October.** Information about the award and the winners is available in Appendix F (*Pathways Winter 2019*).
- **Two new on-demand trainings are available on the new website.** The new trainings - one on homelessness and the other the annual renewal for the health and safety training requirement - will be promoted to the public during the second quarter. In addition, the Quality Improvement Toolkits, funded through the Davis Family Foundation, have been



added to the on-demand training section of the website.

- **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.
 - 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.

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 327 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 1,728 searches. Fifty-six MRTQ PDN trainings were listed on the calendar and three trainings from other partners and college courses added.
- **Maintaining the Child Care Choices website with accurate data regarding licensed programs and Quality for ME information.**