Illinois MIECHV CQI

Continuous quality improvement is a system that seeks to improve the provision of services with an emphasis on future results. Continuous quality improvement will be an essential component of Illinois MIECHV initiative that provides a mechanism to generate meaningful commitments from all levels of the program. For the purposes of programs in Illinois, CQI is the complete process of identifying, describing and analyzing strengths and problems and then testing, implementing, learning from and revising solutions.

The CQI process will include a cycle process of improvement, which promote excellence and continuous improvement. CQI process allows home visiting programs to look at their activities and performance and create plans for improvement, determines whether services meet predetermined expectations of quality and outcomes, attempts to correct observed deficiencies identified through the CQI process. It’s different from traditional quality assurance in that its focus is self-directed, self-determined change rather than change imposed by an external entity.

![CQI Process Map](chart.png)

- Early Learning Committee
- Home Visiting Task Force Executive Committee
- Home Visiting Task Force
- MIECHV State Funders (ISBE, IDHS, OECD)
- MIECV CQI Steering Committee (CPRD, ISBE, DHS, OECD, Governor’s Office, sites’ representatives)
CQI philosophy is that most things can be improved. Meaningful CQI efforts recognize that one learns as much from challenges and failures as from successes. Our goal is to provide the best possible services to the children and families that we serve. Through data review and analysis, benchmark data will offer new knowledge about potential challenges with program implementation and inform programs about training and technical assistance needs. The use of CQI methods in the MIECHV program is intended to improve program implementation and participant outcomes.

A culture of quality exists whereby data are valued and striving for process improvement and optimal outcomes is a shared vision of all members including both local and state levels. Central to this commitment is creating an environment where everyone strives to meet common goals, understands the targets they are being measured against, critically assesses and reflects on their own progress and performance, shares what they have learned, and has accountability to the overall initiative.