

## **ExceleRate Subcommittee, Minutes of January meeting**

ExceleRate Subcommittee of the ELC Quality Committee, Thursday, January 17, 2019, 10:00 – 12:00  
National-Louis University, 122 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago, and by conference phone

### Present

Mike Abel, Elysia Aufmuth, Cindy Berrey, Maribel Centeno, Pat Chamberlain, Debrah Clark, Shauna Ejeh, Marsha Hawley, Amanda Heinz, Jamilah R. Jor'dan, Beth Knight, Tom Layman, Jenny Metcalf, Lilliam Perez, Toni Porter, Teri Talan, Tammy Value, Barb Volpe, Joyce Weiner, Pam Wicking

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Teri thanked outgoing co-chair Gail Nelson (who is staying on the committee) and welcomed new co-chair Toni Porter.

### **2. Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of the November 15 meeting were approved by acclamation.

### **3. Report on Quality Committee discussion of document “What does a program leader do?”**

The full Quality Committee was generally pleased with the document. Specific questions about how families are engaged in CQI have been noted and will be considered by the Subcommittee in its next draft of the document. Maribel Centeno distributed the Ounce’s new report on Strong Organizational Practices related to the Early Education Essentials, and described to the Subcommittee the Essentials “Parent Voice” and “Involved Families.” Parent Voice is about involvement in program design, values and direction. Involved families includes the operational components of parent meetings, teacher conferences, etc. Maribel suggested that the Early Education Essentials surveys could be adopted statewide as the first data source for site-based CQI. (The Subcommittee has also looked at the Early Childhood Work Environment Survey and the SEQUAL tool [Supporting Environmental Quality Underlying Adult Learning] as potential data sources on organizational work environment and culture.)

### **4. Inventory of CQI Supports and Recommendations for FY20**

Tom thanked the small group that drafted the inventory and initial recommendations in December. The Subcommittee discussed the format and what the final product would look like. There was a sense that one final document might give general recommendations for greater attention to CQI in state supports, but that at the same time the details shown in the current draft are important. At one level, additional funding and focus are needed, and at another level flexibility for support service providers will allow them to work out details individually and collectively.

As the discussion continued, some examples emerged of how collective attention to the details could work. For example, ISBE’s use of the new ECERS 3 CQI report (from Branagh) can be a model for use by DHS, contributing to a unified support system. On the same topic, The Center is using the new ECERS 3 reports in its support of Practice-Based Coaching.

Another potential area for coordination of supports emerged in discussion of PFA/PFAE monitoring visits. ISBE itself provides some support to programs based on monitoring results, and in addition, it might be useful to link programs to outside PD supports based on monitoring data.

The Subcommittee’s edits to the CQI Component Categories & Recommendations document are included in the attached version.

### **5. Next steps**

Subcommittee co-chairs will discuss potential formats and next steps for completing the recommendations at the next meeting. The co-chairs will also frame a Subcommittee discussion on the potential scalability of supports and to what extent the supports address programs at different levels of development. The next meeting will take place on Feb. 21 at the usual time and place.