

ExceleRate Subcommittee, Minutes of February meeting

ExceleRate Subcommittee of the ELC Quality Committee, Thursday, February 21, 2019, 10:00 – 12:00
National-Louis University, 122 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago, and by conference phone

Present

Mike Abel, Cindy Berrey, Deborah Chalmers, Pat Chamberlain, Debrah Clark, Donna Emmons, Dan Harris, Jamilah R. Jor'dan, Beth Knight, Tom Layman, Ashley Nazarak, Gail Nelson, Toni Porter, Teri Talan, Tammy Value, Dorothy Turner

1. Welcome and Introductions

Teri welcomed new member Ashley Nazarak, and potential new member Dorothy Turner.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Pat Chamberlain moved to approve the minutes of the January 17 meeting, Beth Knight seconded, and the minutes were approved by acclamation.

3. Review of updated one-page list of CQI Component Categories.

Some edits were made to strengthen the Family Engagement component (#5). Pat Chamberlain moved to approve the document as edited for submission to the Quality Committee. Ashley Nazarak seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Review of updated Inventory of CQI Supports and Recommendations

Minor edits were made for clarity and to correct typos. Pat Chamberlain moved to approve the document as edited for submission to the Quality Committee. Ashley Nazarak seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The group recommended that OECD maintain the inventory and update it periodically as a resource for support service providers and for programs. The group suggested that we circle back to it in the future and follow up where needed.

5. Discussion of short (2-page) recommendations document

The second bullet under Recommended First Steps was edited for clarity. Beth Knight moved to approve the document as edited for submission to the Quality Committee. Gail Nelson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Next steps

The Subcommittee reviewed the completed items on the Subcommittee's workplan and discussed the not-yet-started item 6: Develop site-based CQI practice standards differentiated by Circle. The group suggested that we identify what each of the 8 components could look like at Licensed, Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, and use that information to help program leaders and support service providers.

We decided to postpone any discussion of new standards for two reasons: (a) They might not be needed; guidance to help meet the existing CQI standards might be enough, and (b) we do not want to add any more standards within our current block system. If we adopt a hybrid system in the future, we might look at standards then. (In a block system, programs must meet all standards for each level. In a hybrid system, some standards are required across the board and others are optional but earn points that help the program's rating.)

Other steps suggested for future work included building evaluation and associated costs into support services and doing more work to make supports cross-sector and universally available.

7. Future meeting times and location

The co-chairs polled the group to see if it would be more convenient to meet in Lisle, while also maintaining the call-in option. Four people preferred Lisle, three preferred Chicago and the others were neutral. A videoconference option was also suggested. Teri invited members to contact Tom if they have additional thoughts about location.

Toni Porter recapped our next steps and thanked the participants.