

MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY

Early Care and Education Professional Development Network

Report: July 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017

Executive Summary

During July, August, and September of 2017, Maine Roads to Quality Professional Development Network (MRTQ PDN) has 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 contract period, a total of 6 trainings were delivered.** In those trainings, 100% 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." An additional 13 trainings began during this period and will conclude in the next quarter.
 - **MRTQ PDN staff and Technical Assistance consultants delivered 219 hours of on-site consultation during the contract period (includes preparation, follow-up, and travel time).** In addition, MRTQ PDN staff fielded 102 phone and email technical assistance contacts.
 - **There are currently 18 active Communities of Practice (CoP) groups throughout the state.** MRTQ PDN has CoP representation in all eight of the DHHS districts. A total of 207 participants attended MRTQ PDN-sponsored CoP groups during the contract period.
 - **Search committees were formed to hire four new District Coordinators (formerly called Education Consultants) and a new Training and Curriculum Coordinator.** All five positions have been filled by well-qualified applicants. New employee orientation will begin in mid-October, with extensive training and teambuilding occurring through the end of 2017.
 - **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. As of September 30, 2017, a total of 2,528 practitioners have completed the training.
 - **MRTQ PDN continues to collaborate with the Maine Afterschool Network (MASN) on professional development opportunities for before and after school programs.** Highlights of the work done during the contract period are included in Attachment L.
 - **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.
 - Presenting at the National Workforce Registry Alliance Conference in Arlington, VA in September.
- 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 261 new Registry applications** from early childhood 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, and the Maine PDN Advisory Committee;
 - **Maintaining the Statewide Electronic Training calendar.** During the contract period there were a total of 1,937 searches from 597 unique IP addresses. Thirty-eight MRTQ PDN trainings were listed on the calendar and 120 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.**