



Report: July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018

Executive Summary

During the first 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 eight trainings began and ended; another 19 trainings began and will end in the next quarter.** In the completed trainings, 98% 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 35 elective trainings were delivered.** A total of 287 participants attended the elective trainings.
- **MRTQ PDN staff and Technical Assistance consultants delivered over 350.75 hours of on-site consultation during the contract period (includes preparation, follow-up, and travel time).** This represents an increase of 60% over the first quarter of FY18. In addition, MRTQ PDN staff fielded 508 phone and email technical assistance contacts. This includes 12 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 446 participants attended MRTQ PDN-sponsored CoP groups during the contract period. This represents a 115% increase in participation over this quarter in 2017.
- **MRTQ PDN delivered the first annual report to OCFS on August 1, 2018.** This report summarized the work of MRTQ PDN during the year, including reporting on the results of the biennial Professional Development Needs Assessment and recommendations for future delivery of services. Additional copies of the report are available upon request.
- **MRTQ PDN continues its work with the Erikson Institute regarding the delivery of PD services to family child care practitioners.** Two MRTQ PDN staff traveled to Chicago at the end of September as part of the project. They will be sharing their learning and insights during the second quarter.
- **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 346 individuals completed the training this quarter.
- **The new MRTQ PDN and Child Care Choices had a "soft" roll out at the end of September.** Testing is complete on the migration of all MRTQ PDN and CCC applications to the cloud. Both sites are live and staff are reviewing both to make final adjustments before promotion begins in earnest.
- **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.
- **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.
 - Pam Prevost, Sonja Howard, and Nick Curlew traveled to the National Workforce Registry Alliance Conference in San Antonio. Pam and Sonja took part in a plenary session regarding the work of iLookOut as well.
 - 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 220 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 870 searches from 326 unique IP addresses. Forty-three MRTQ PDN trainings were listed on the calendar and 58 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.**