

Quality Assurance Subcommittee

Meeting Notes for **November 4, 2013 9:00 – 11:00 am**

Pam Deardorff & Roni Pham, Co-Conveners

Community Action Agency

2475 Center St. NE

Salem, OR. 97301

Attendees

Heather Irace, Deb Johnson, Amber Ryerson, Barbara Malloy, Brittany Palmer, Robin Hill-Dunbar, Melinda Benson, Leslie Moguil, Autumn David, Emily Haworth, Pam Deardorff, Roni Pham, Michelle Jaeger, Dawn Hendricks, Crystal Persi

On the phone: Tammy Marino, Laurie Potts

Introductions, Good News, and updates

- Amber Ryerson from Central Coordination at Western Oregon University reported that NACCRAWARE went statewide today.
- Leslie Moguil from Oregon Child Care Coalition reported that OCCDC passed their federal review. OCCDC was pleased with the results.
- Pam from OCCD reported that myORO is now live and individuals can see their accounts.
- Roni reported that they just switched over last week changing from the Employment Department to the Department of Education servers which included switching to newer computers.
- Heather Irace reported that many of the people that she has talked to about myORO have already signed on.
- Deb Johnson reported that they recently visited the first star rated programs, and saw some great places.
- Crystal Persi reported that she had a big statewide meeting for Teen Parent Programs, and there were 29 programs that went through the Increasing Quality Training. They all received their welcome kits and they are very excited and energetic about participating.
- Dawn Hendrix from Clackamas Community College reported that she got married in August. Clackamas Community College finished up their core coursework for dual language. CCC is now working on infusing the new QRIS and Kindergarten Assessment data into the coursework as well as update their course outlines. They are integrating the standards from the QRIS into the coursework to make the teacher preparation program as relevant and employable to the students as possible.
- Michele Jaeger reported that she will be leaving her position with OCCD and moving to Washington.
- Laurie from Southwestern Oregon Community College reported that this year the certification visit went much more smoothly this year than it did last year.
- Tammy Marino is ramping up for the final pieces for the After School Conference this Friday and Saturday. They are a little over 300 participants at this point, and they may have more soon.

Review last meeting notes

The group reviewed the minutes from the last meeting which took place on September 9th, 2013.

- One edit: MIECHV, Material Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting which was authorized through the affordable care act. The state applied for the grant, not OCDC.
- The Credential Renewal was taken to the PDC, and they approved it. It is not in implementation and Pam will report back on how that goes.
- Sponsoring Org Quizzes: They are currently looking at the whole orientation and continuing to discuss how that is working. They appreciate the input.

Review QA Work Plan

This was the first time that the group saw the current QA work plan. This work plan was reviewed and edited this past summer. Pam reminded the group that these work plans came together by collaborating with PDC and the PDC leads to view the input that they've received. They also had the RTT grant and the activities within that which impacted the work plan. The Office of Child Care (OCC) is using the chairs of the sub-groups (PDC Leads) to monitor the RTT activities. The second thing that impacted this was the Grand Articulation Summit.

Quality Assurance sits in the middle with those goals. The goals themselves did not change, the activities within the goals changed. Pam mentioned that in every national meeting she's gone to in the last year focuses heavily on Goal 3.1. As we are required to report on the Technical Assistance, there will be a lot of work around that goal.

Update on Core Body of Knowledge Review

The technical assistance with PDW ended at the end of September. PDW put in a request to be able to continue working with Oregon until the end of December because there is still a lot of work to be done. They have also put in a request for continued technical assistance for next year. Those have not been approved yet. PDW is also working with South Dakota, so Pam has peer-to-peer calls with them. Pam is looking forward to that because they have similar concerns and questions. The goal is to make sure that it aligns with community colleges and with personnel prep standards. The majority consensus received from the input that was received from the groups was that that they want to look at a more integrated approach. This means looking at it as a framework for the CBK, and then looking for a way to identify the key areas under the CBK. As soon as Pam has a draft ready, she will bring that back to the group. They will need to have a format and an implementation plan which will be probably scheduled out 6 months to a year.

Pam asked for thoughts and concerns on this topic:

- One group member asked how many states have gone through that process. It was suggested that we look closer at how other states successfully completed it.
- Laurie Potts commented that this is a huge amount of work and some at the community college folks have gone through all of their coursework to align with CBK, and she wanted to mention that Lisa Reynolds is very interested in going back to look at some common certificates across the state. It was mentioned that it would be good to get her involved. She also commented that going towards the NAEYC standards will help to make everything align in the end.

Update on Oregon's QRIS

The group was updated on Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) with the following points:

- There is a group that meets once a week on Fridays to plan statewide rollout.
- Robin mentioned that they have the new budget out for hiring a quality improvement specialist. That funding will be available January 1st, and it is expected to have someone on board very quickly. Training will take place in February and March. There will be a new group of providers who will be able to submit portfolios around March/April through June 30th. After June 30 when the validation study and standards are examined, there may be changes.
- They are also working on the crosswalk for OPQ programs into the QRIS.
- They have also been working on the Head Start crosswalk.
- It was mentioned that the biggest step for the providers is getting the trainings. myORO has been great to help with that. Pam mentioned that one of the key points is to send in a copy of your degree.
- Laurie mentioned that if providers and staff can get to a Step 7 by using their community-based training, that's how they can get their college credit. Pam mentioned that that would be a good clarification message to get out there.
- It was suggested that in the future it would be great to be able to upload your own scanned documents for myORO.
- WOU is working on an online application process. This would allow users to complete the QRIS application, self-assessment, and the quality improvement plan. There are a total of seven documents will be available and that process is in progress.

Strategies to increase OR. Registry Trainers Cross Sectors

How do we increase the number of trainers in the training program? The group brainstormed the following:

- It was suggested to do presentations to get others involved in the university system. Partner with universities and ESD, EI/ECSE.
- Provide more trainings on filling out paperwork and streamline the paperwork.
- Set up more focus groups for trainer support.
- Specifically address the time that it takes to complete an application.
- Provide more sessions that address how to develop trainings.
- Look at the data, what is it telling us? Possibly connect to TRIM trainings.
- Examine regional training targets. Targeted invites.
- Connect with the early intervention specialists who are out in child care settings. Ask them, how can we get through this process? Help them in the process to become a trainer. There almost needs to be a "trainer mentor" who guides them through.
- It was suggested to do a survey with R&Rs and with the people who are already doing this.
- Laurie mentioned that they have good connections.

Michele asked the group about possible barriers in this process:

- Time was mentioned as a barrier. Robin has had to go through most steps in the process to get the them approved
- Incentives are also a problem.

Michele asked if we want to connect with people who are not connected to sponsoring orgs:

- What Robin has found once she began recruiting people is that others have asked how they can get involved. But after communication with them, they are unable to do it on their own. They have great content, but are unable to develop the training on their own.
- A group member mentioned beginning to campaign to get the word out there about it.
- Crystal asked if there are certain conferences that we can go to and recruit for particular agencies and skill sets. Ex: Early Intervention, Relief Nurseries, Home Visiting Programs, etc.
- It was mentioned that finding people who are already doing trainings, and recruit them into our system.
- Look at the data to see who is missing.
- If the licensing specialists knew that this was happening, they know directors who are doing trainings and they could send out email blasts to recruit that way.
- Crystal asked if there was a way to do a Trainer Education Award. This could be based on how many Set 2 or Set 3 trainings that the trainer is being produced per year. Crystal mentioned that to do quality trainings, you have to have quality trainers. Would there be money in the RTT funding? It was also suggested that it could be a one-time stipend. It could also pay for their time to go to the training, and meet with a mentor. This could be the answer of why someone would want to do this process.
- Michele mentioned that one strategy they have is to improve communication with the website to make that clear.
- Heather suggested that if there were a way for trainers to connect with each other to meet and talk about the process and how to involve others in trainings that would help to motivate one another. They could encourage trainers to get to that next level.
- Tammy had a group of trainers who met on a regular basis about five years ago. It started with a mini-trainer conference that she did. The group met monthly for 6 months after that. There were complications with finding a free meeting space and problems coordinating.
- Roni suggested a trainer overview that would take place four times per year.
- A group member suggested trainer scholarships to OAEYC and other conferences. It would be a specialized trainer scholarship to improve Professional Development.

Pam mentioned that this does come back to CBK, and how the standards are laid out there. In revising the CBK, it will be important to keep this topic in mind. Pam and Michele thanked the group for the feedback.

Provide input to the training session proposal

Michele talked in generality about the session proposal. The idea was linking QRIS and its foundations with the Head Start framework into the actual training proposal. This is to tie in awareness. In terms of the foundations, the biggest question that Michele has is, "Is this just an awareness of what children need and what training is provided?" Do you think it's just an awareness thing by encouraging particular cores or foundations? Is there value in starting to increase that awareness so that people start to identify and dig into those documents about what children need and what the trainings provide?

- The group mentioned that this is very important. One example being what the strategy is on addressing specific issues that may be removed/interwoven into the CBK. Trainers should be purposely addressing that issue.
- Crystal mentioned that there is value in drawing attention and accountability for your participants to present something to the programs but it may not be necessary to request the alignment with everything. Focus on how it aligns with the standards across the state.

- It was discussed that maybe it wouldn't apply, or maybe there is a part of QRIS that will address that.
- Pam mentioned that this was one idea that they had to make the training addresses the workforce standards and how that will affect the child outcomes. That won't be relevant for every training. It may just be linking into the child development.
- The group discussed having a checklist to make sure that it meets all of the standards, having adult education principles, having a glossary, etc.
- The other challenge that they have is considering the quality of the Distance Education courses.

Michele mentioned that she will get the draft out, and will ask for feedback from that.

Begin discussion on options for providing “training hours” for coaching activities

Pam suggested that we go away from today considering this agenda item. No states are doing that right now.

Next meeting: December 2nd, 2013 9:00 – 11:00

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