QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Monday, March 15, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Meeting will be conducted via Teleconference Only

Website Link: https://smcoe.zoom.us/j/2956956869
Meeting ID: 295 695 6869    Password: Not Needed
Dial-In Option: 1-669-900-9128

Welcome, Introductions, and Check-In
Mary Browning

Approval of the March 15, 2021 Quality Committee Meeting Agenda
Mary Browning

Approval of Minutes for January 11, 2021 Meeting
Mary Browning

Overview Quality Committee’s 2019-24 Strategic Implementation Plan
Mary Browning

Quality and Inclusion Matrix Update:
Susan Jeong & Lisa Zimiga

• Status of pilot project with IEEEP sites

• Next Steps (Discussion: Priority and Role of Quality Committee)
  ○ Family Providers version
  ○ Pilot in other sites
  ○ Build compendium
  ○ Utilization by coaches
  ○ Criteria for specialization

Quality Committee Schedule for Future Meetings: Discussion
Mary Browning

Summary and Adjournment
Mary Browning

Website Link for general meeting:
https://smcoe.zoom.us/j/93254355286?pwd=QEU0Q3NGcksvYU1jVG5ycVJXTFRpUT09
Meeting ID: 932 5435 5286    Password: 101
Child Care Partnership Council Quality Committee Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Virtual meeting via Zoom

CCPC Members Present: Cheryl Oku

Members of the Public: Soodie Ansari, Mary Browning (Committee CoChair), Jennie Chien, Andrea Burnett, Lisa Shaanan, Donna Yuriar, Susan Jeong, Edirle Menezes

Minutes: Taken by Mary Browning

Call to Order and Introductions
Mary Browning called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Committee members introduced themselves and shared one strategy they use to care for themselves or to care for colleagues.

Susan Jeong was welcomed as a new member to the committee. Susan recently joined SMCOE’s ELSS team as the Coordinator of Quality and Inclusion. In her new role, Susan will be overseeing the IEEEP grant, which is funding the pilot of the Inclusion Matrix, the development of which was a focus for the Quality Committee over the past two years.

Mary acknowledged the passing in December of Sheri Geesey who had previously contributed to work done by the Quality Committee in development of the Inclusion Matrix.

Agenda
Mary reviewed the proposed agenda which had been emailed to members in advance. There were no recommendations for revisions / additions.

Minutes:
Minutes of the September 28, 2020 Quality Committee meeting were distributed via email prior to the meeting. There were no recommendations for changes and the minutes were approved.

Master Plan Overview:
Edirle Menezes, SMCOE’s Coordinator of Early Learning Quality Improvement, was invited as a guest speak to overview the California Master Plan for Early Learning and Care (entire plan may be viewed here: https://californiaforallkids.chhs.ca.gov/home), with a focus on the potential impact for QRIS and the work of the Quality Committee. Edirle noted that the plan is quite extensive (113 pages). Because the plan was only recently released, she and others are still
attempting to completely understand the recommendations which are framed around the following 4 goals:

1. Unify programs to improve access and equity. Streamline requirements for birth through age three programs, providing access to care and learning for all three-year-olds experiencing poverty, and providing universal preschool access to all four-year-olds.

2. Support children’s learning and development by enhancing educator competencies, incentivizing, and funding career pathways, and implementing supportive program standards. Enhance standards and provide affordable and accessible pathways for the entire workforce to advance in their competency and compensation.

3. Unify funding to advance equity and opportunity. Adopt a new reimbursement and rate model that brings all types of care and learning support into one structure that acknowledges costs associated with quality, including characteristics of children and competencies of the workforce.

4. Streamline early childhood governance and administration to improve equity. Design and implement data systems that support positive impacts on the results and quality of care for children through sharing and integration of data that impact the ways in which families and the workforce experience the system.

A few observations made by members of the Quality Committee regarding the Master Plan and its possible implications for the state and local Quality Counts and for the work of the Quality Committee included:

- The provision of equitable, high quality early learning opportunities for all children in California was the focus of the entire Master Plan.

- Implications for Quality Counts were present conceptually in all goals, and played a central role in implementation of the plan, though it is not yet clear how these ideas will be operationalized. Some key references to QCC in the Master Plan included:
  - QCC to be reconceptualized as the “overarching framework to align and leverage all of the state’s ELC workforce investments and quality initiatives”
  - Workforce investments, incentives and supports would be “implemented through the QCC framework so that investments are tied to quality and providers are supported to improve”

- Members of the Quality Committee were pleased that the Master Plan focused on equity, and that it specifically prioritized the needs of dual language learners and children with identified disabilities, two priorities of San Mateo County’s Quality Committee

- Members of the Quality Committee did not view the Master Plan as sufficiently prioritizing family engagement, another priority of San Mateo County’s Quality Committee

Members of the Quality Committee appreciated Edirle’s overview and offered to provide local feedback / input regarding operationalization of the plan as opportunities for feedback are made available.
Inclusion Matrix update:
Mary Browning shared a revised version of the Inclusion Matrix, which removed the checkboxes next to quality indicators from the existing matrix. This change was made for clarity, so providers using the Matrix did not rate themselves on these indicators. Mary shared that the 5 pilot sites from the IEEEP grant have completed a self-assessment utilizing the Inclusion Matrix, and that overall the feedback regarding the ease of use and the utility of the Matrix was positive. Mary noted that 4 of the 5 pilot sites had previous experience with the Matrix and/or contributed to its development, so a true test of its utility should involve a broader set of early childhood providers. Mary noted that while the next scheduled meeting of the Quality Committee is March 15, she may call an interim meeting of those interested in continuing to work on the pilot and further development of the Inclusion Matrix.

Adjournment: Committee meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m. for committee members to join the large CCPC meeting.

Next scheduled meeting: March 15th, 2021, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.