Supporting Family Child Care Providers in QRIS: Research, system, program, and provider perspectives on family child care networks as a promising quality improvement strategy

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What is a staffed family child care network?

Family child care networks offer a menu of ongoing supports to providers including visits to homes, training & professional development, and other targeted supports through a qualified specialist.

Family child care networks may be stand-alone organizations or embedded in the work of other types of agencies.

Bromer et al., 2009; Bromer & Porter, 2017
Why are networks important?

- Promising strategy for improving quality of care for children and sustainability and stability of neighborhood-based child care for families
- Could reverse the decline in FCC supply by providing services that are responsive to provider needs related to navigating licensing, subsidy and QRIS systems
- Endorsed by CCDBG—24% reported that they would fund networks in 2016 plans
Prior research on networks

Bromer et al., 2009; Lanigan, 2011; McCabe & Cochran, 2008; Musick, 1996; Porter & Reiman, 2015

- Network affiliation ~ higher quality care
- Promising features of networks ~ higher quality care:
  - Combinations of services
  - Frequent quality-focused provider visits/in-home consultation
  - Training, group and peer supports
  - Relationship-based support
  - Specially-trained staff
How staffed networks promote quality

Factors

Organizational & staff characteristics

Child care & provider characteristics

High-quality supports

Types of services
Support positive provider-child interactions
Sustainability of child care services

Implementation practices
Relationship-based approaches
Fidelity practices

Outcomes

Provider outcomes
Caregiving & environment quality
Child & family well-being

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San Francisco
Family Child Care Quality Network
Family Child Care Quality Network (FCCQN)

1. Initiated in 2012 with 5 year funding contract

2. In partnership with Wu Yee Children’s Services another R&R serving San Francisco

3. Supported 280 FCC Providers over 5 years

4. Ten Quality Consultants, two Managers, two Directors

5. Funded by City & County of San Francisco through Office of Early Care and Education and First 5 San Francisco
The Numbers
Children Served - ages

Ages Served

- I/T (0-2.9) 6.6%
- Preschool (3-4.9) 26.4%
- School-Age (5+) 66.9%

January 2016 Child Enrollment
Children Served - income

January 2016 Child Enrollment
Who are our QN Members?
FCC Quality Network – Demographics

**Ethnicity**

- Asian - 48%
- Hispanic - 36%
- African-American - 7%
- Caucasian - 6%
- Bi-racial - 3%
Demographics

First Language

- Chinese - 55%
- Spanish - 28%
- English - 16%
- Other - 1%

First generation immigrants – 32%
Demographics

**Age**
- 25-35: 20%
- 36-55: 60%
- Over 55: 20%

**Gender**
- Female: 97%
- Male: 3%
FCCQN impact on QRIS participation
FCCERS scores increased

- Total FCC Providers
  - >=4.5
  - <4.5

Year | Total FCC Providers | >=4.5 | <4.5
----|---------------------|-------|-------
2012 | 53                  | 111   |
2013 | 85                  | 90    |
2014 | 134                 | 46    |
2015 | 178                 | 34    |
QN and SF County Comparison
Toddler CLASS - 153

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>QN Members</th>
<th>SF County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emotional/Behavioral Support</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged Support for Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
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QN, SF County and National Comparison
CLASS PreK - 39

- Emotional Support
- Classroom Organization
- Instructional Support

QN Members • SF County • National

childrenscouncil.org • facebook.com/childrenscouncil • twitter.com/childcaresf
QRIS Rating - 89

- Tier 1: 0
- Tier 2: 3
- Tier 3: 31
- Tier 4: 46
- Tier 5: 9
Supportive Resources for FCCQN Members

Mental Health consultation
Inclusion training and consultation
Professional Development opportunities

City College of San Francisco
San Francisco State University
WestEd
First 5 San Francisco
FCCQN Events
FCCQN Events and Conference
Provider Leadership Academy
Figure 1. Pipeline of Services to Increase Supply of Quality Family Child Care

Quality Goal: Child Development Awareness

Licensing

Quality Awareness

Quality Improvement

Continuous Improvement

Developmental Progression

Informal Caregiving

Unlicensed, Interested in Learning More

Committed to Getting Licensed

Licensed, Not Yet in ELS System

In ELS System, Not Yet Rated

QRIS-Rated, Not Yet Tier 3

QRIS Tier 3+

Stage

Intro to Child Development

Orientation/Screening

Commitment to Licensing

Licensing Support

Intro to Quality

Business Success

Qualified for ELS

Foundational Quality Competencies

Get Rated

Quality Rating Support

Tier 3 Rated

Tier 4 or 5 Rated

Milestone

Adopt basic practices

Phase I

Unmet Need

Funding Commitment Secured

Unmet Need

FCCQN Current Local Investment

Unmet Need

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QN Members Angela, Phillip and Sandra Siharath
One System: Supporting All Early Learning and Care Programs and Providers across the Continuum of Settings
What is Quality Counts California?

Quality Counts California (QCC) is a statewide system of locally-implemented quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS) connecting families to high-quality early learning and care programs, and ensures infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children have quality early learning experiences in their local communities.
Why is QCC so important?

• QCC supports all programs and providers across the continuum of settings to participate in quality improvement efforts.

• Quality investments are aligned and coordinated to ensure greater impact on outcomes and supports across the early learning and care system.
QCC as a Systems Building Lever

Improved system of quality that engages all quality partners and early learning and care settings across the continuum.
FY 2016–17 Children Served by Participating Sites

- Center: 191,144
- Alternative Setting: 59,151
- Family Child Care: 16,104

n=266,399
FY 2016–17 QRIS Participation Relative to Statewide Licensed Capacity

Source: QCC Common Data File FY 2016-17, R&R Network 2016
Licensed FCC and Center Participating in QRIS

- Family Child Care: 1,977 QCC Participating, 26,702 Licensed Total
- Centers: 3,489 Licensed, Not Participating in QCC, 9,114 28% of Licensed Total

Source: QCC Common Data File FY 2016-17, R&R Network 2016
Increasing Family Child Care Participation Through QCC

- Revised QRIS Block Grant and the application
  - Moving to a Quality Counts California QRIS Block Grant Request for Applications where quality improvement is the focus
- Clearer messaging of support
  - Ensure that the Infant/Toddler QRIS Leads understand programs CAN participate without being rated
- Update to the Rating Matrix
  - Developing a scaled-down Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP)
Questions?

- Fred Rogers: “We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say "It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem." Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes.”