

QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT PILOT PROJECT

Administered by:

Advocates for Children of New Jersey

Sponsored by:

Programs for Parents

Advocates for Children of New Jersey

Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Agreement is made this day, _____ 2010 by _____ (Center Name), that the Center, its Director _____ (Name of Director), _____ (Name of Executive Director/Owner) and, its Board, as led by _____ (Name of Board President) will actively participate in the *Quality Rating and Improvement Pilot Project*.

1. The Director will share in a timely fashion all documentation requested by members of the QRIS team. Documents are reviewed for the purpose of designing training and technical assistance with and for the Center.
2. The Center agrees to participate in a thorough needs assessment, and to prepare an action plan for improvement based on its findings. This action plan will become the application for funding and will be provided to the QRIS team for review and further consideration.
3. The Center will fully cooperate with the administration of the *Quality Rating and Improvement Scale (QRIS)*, & *Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS/ITERS)* as well as other evaluation processes.
4. The executive director, center director and staff will participate in training and technical assistance activities that incorporate the goals and objectives of both the center and the *QRIS Pilot*. The areas of concentration may include but are not limited to: program/learning environment, family involvement, health & safety, professional development, personnel, business practices, and any other activities the *QRIS Pilot* deems necessary to fulfill the goals and objectives of this program.
5. If applicable, the Board of _____ (Name of Center) approves and supports the Center in its participation in the *QRIS Pilot* by permitting the executive director, center director and staff to attend the training activities; encouraging follow-up during and after on-site technical assistance visits made by the *QRIS* team or their designees; permitting the director to share requested non-confidential documentation for the purpose of review by the *QRIS* team to facilitate appropriate technical assistance.
6. The Center will submit updates as required through a regular progress reporting

format and will attend meetings of the network of participating agencies with members of the *QRIS* team.

- 7. The Center will receive funds from the *QRIS Pilot Project* to supplement its participation in the needs assessment and planning phase of this initiative. Distribution of funds will be based on achievement of benchmarks and disbursed at the discretion of the *QRIS* team as funding is available.
- 8. The Center agrees not to use any funds received from the *QRIS Pilot Project* to supplant other funding that has already been received, or will be received, from other sources.

Failure to comply with these agreements may result in measures up to and including termination from project participation.

This agreement must be completed, signed by the Executive Director, Center Director and the Board President (where applicable) and returned to ACNJ. The form must be returned by September 15, 2010 and mailed to:

Advocates for Children of New Jersey
Quality Rating and Improvement Pilot Project
Amanda Blagman
35 Halsey Street, 2nd Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 643-3876 x 205

(Program Director)

(Date)

(Executive Director)

(Date)

(Board President)

(Date)