Monitoring in South Carolina’s QRIS
CCPRC Meeting
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Where Have We Been?

- In 1992, South Carolina introduced the first Tiered Reimbursement subsidy system.
- There were three tiers in the system.
- It allowed all legally operating providers to participate:
  - Licensed Centers
  - Licensed Family and Group Homes
  - Registered Family Homes
  - Exempt Facilities (less than 4 hours per day)
  - Family Friend and Neighbor Care
Where Have We Been?

- Mandatory standards were developed for each tier, based on licensing regulations.
- Annual on-site assessments were implemented for all providers at top two levels.
- Higher payment rates were paid in combination with quality bonuses.
- In 2007, program transitioned to a QRIS - ABC Quality.
- Re-named tiers to levels A+, A, B+, B, and C.
Changing Political Environment

- Quality staff began monitoring Level C exempt providers, including family home providers.
- Licensing was also visiting licensed providers twice a year.
- Licensing took on the responsibility of health and safety monitoring for Level C licensed providers; quality staff no longer visited these providers.
- In 2014, legislation eliminated one licensing visit - only one a year is currently allowed.
- In 2014, legislation gave licensing the authority to visit registered family providers (previously allowed only upon complaint).
Where Are We Now?

- Phasing in Licensing visits for Registered Family providers.
- Reinstituting annual quality monitoring visits for Level C licensed providers.
- Strengthening monitoring of lowest level providers with new standardized health and safety assessment tool (formed basis for licensing visits to registered families).
- Analyzing information from a pilot conducted to monitor FFN providers (60).
Where Are We Now?

- Licensing forms the basis for ABC Quality.
- Quality is the “door” to the subsidy program.
- Working on an ABC Quality “Credential” for exempt facilities (currently only 4% of expenditures).
- Reviewing and revising ABC Quality standards, starting with 0-2; piloting and expert review.
- Looking at changes required by CCDBG law.
Where Are We Going?

- Background Checks for Exempt Facilities.
- Full Background Checks for FFN’s.
- Implementing FFN monitoring visits, likely in 2016; all CCDF providers will then be monitored by ABC Quality staff.
- Need to establish reasonable restrictions on eligibility for FFN subsidy providers:
  - Relative and non-relative.
  - Site visit prior to enrollment or within a specific time frame.
  - Determine if FFN’s should be required to become registered.
Questions?

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