Developing a Research-Based Conceptual Framework for QRIS
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INQUIRE’s work and timeline

- Workgroup discussions in 2013
- Plenary address delivered by Marty Zaslow at 2013 QRIS National meeting
- Brief published in 2014
- Session held at 2014 QRIS National meeting to generate ideas for outcomes
- Expert Panel meeting 2015
Original Plan: Propose a Complete QRIS Conceptual Framework

• Working definition: a QRIS conceptual framework provides an organizing structure for outlining goals and how they will be achieved
Original Plan: Propose a Complete QRIS Conceptual Framework

• Clarify the multiple goals of QRIS including but going beyond child outcomes
• Identify the activities needed to achieve the goals
  – See the gaps between expectations for outcomes and the scope and intensity of activities
  – Plan evaluation and monitoring activities to learn what is working
Goal: Create research-based recommendations for QRIS design with a more streamlined approach

- Focus on the health and safety foundations
- Build a strong top tier of quality
- Develop effective quality improvement supports that incentivize and promote movement

Put recommendations in the context of other necessary system supports
Focus on the Health and Safety Foundations of QRIS

• Acknowledge the critical role of licensing in QRIS
• Draw upon resources such as Caring for Our Children to strengthen licensing (or supports at the first tier of the QRIS if licensing standards can’t be addressed)
• Identify how plans aligned with CCDBG reauthorization should be connected to QRIS
Build a Strong Top Tier of QRIS

• Incorporate findings from a recent literature review of quality indicators included in QRIS
• Emphasize new research on quality thresholds
• Discuss new research on domain specific practices (math, literacy, supports for social-emotional development)
• Invest in supports that help and incentivize programs to advance toward practices at the top tier
• Coordinate with efforts to support the early care and education workforce
• Consider the importance of program capacity and leadership to engage in ongoing continuous quality improvement
Put Recommendations in the Context of Necessary System Supports

- Efficient, coordinated monitoring protocols
- Supportive technical assistance
- Effective professional development and connections with higher education
- Financing to support, reward and maintain high quality
Timeline for Next Steps

- Reconvene Expert Panel to review proposed outline
- Draft product will be available for QRIS National Meeting in July
THANK YOU!

If you have any questions about INQUIRE please contact the Project Officer:

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