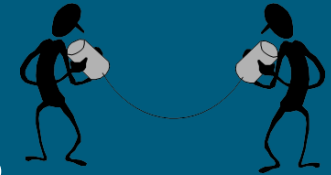# Let's Talk
Host - Debi Mathias
Director, QRIS National Learning Network
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www.qrisnetwork.org

Build
INITIATIVE
Strong Foundations For Our Youngest Children

QRIS
National Learning Network

It's More than Just a Star: Using QRIS Data to Drive Program Improvement

Myriam L. Baker, Ph.D.

Director of Research & Evaluation: Knowledge Universe

Michael Tuffiash, M.S.

Data Analyst: Knowledge Universe

Sheri Butters

Director of Assessment and Systems: Early Childhood Investment Corporation

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The Knowledge Universe® Family of Brands

Introductions and Agenda

- Who are we and what is Knowledge Universe?

- How the Research & Evaluation division of Education is involved with QRISs?

- Case studies

- Sheri Butters of Great Start to Quality, MI

POLL

Please indicate your primary role.

(one answer)

- QRIS administrator
- Data manager
- Evaluator
- Researcher
- ECE provider
- Other

Knowledge Universe Education

Government Relations, Education, & Accreditation Team (GREAT)
PRO Model

PROVIDE
Educational Excellence
- ✓ Curriculum
- ✓ Standards
- ✓ Professional Development

PROVE
Validate What We Do
- ✓ Accreditation
- ✓ Assessment
- ✓ QRIS

PROMOTE
Policy
- ✓ Maintain funding levels and eligibility
- ✓ Influence new legislation, regulations, policies, and thought leadership

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Our Work in R & E: What and Why?

RESEARCH	EVALUATION	ASSESSMENT
Answers questions about if our programs "work," and how well, comparatively?	**Informs continuous improvements and development in programs and instruction.**	**Our system of program measurement, linked to goals and objectives**
– Alignments – Data-related policy – Data Sharing Partnerships	– Analyses of key value indicators – Quality Rating Systems (QRS) – Public pre-kindergarten – Kindergarten readiness	– Developmental Assessment – Portfolios and observation – Kindergarten Assessment – Developmental Screening

* All ages, all centers   **limited scope of centers

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POLL

What kind of data do you use as part of your QRIS?
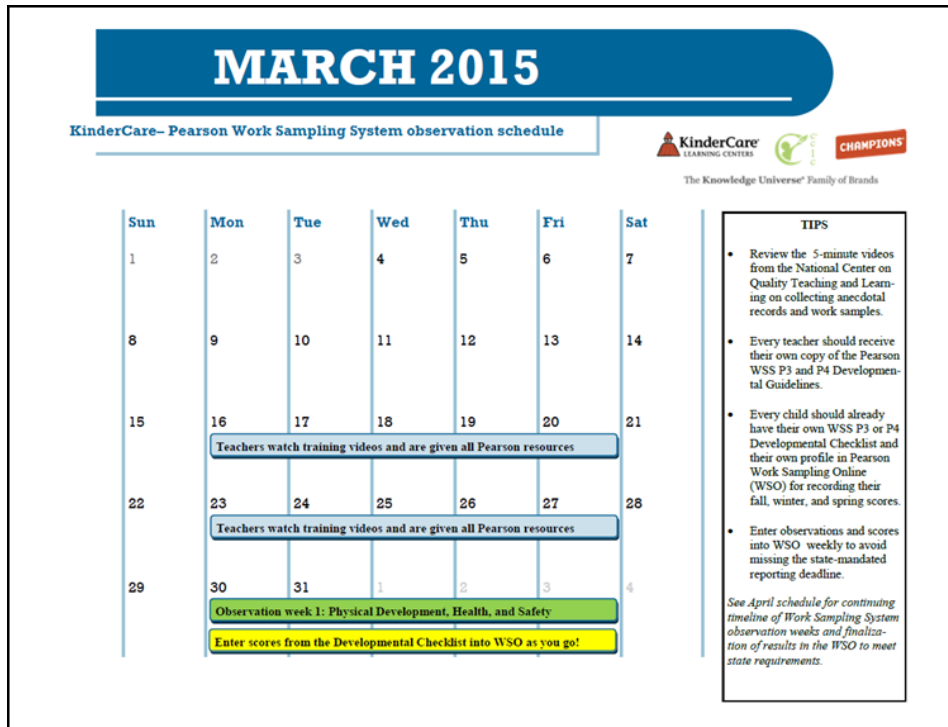
(check all that apply)

- – Child level assessments
- – Environmental scales
- – Scoring rubric (specific to your system of ratings)
- – Other

Case study 1: Improving participation

State "X" (QRIS & state-sponsored pre-K program)

- New schools / new to system
- Required reporting of child assessment outcomes to state for quality accountability
- State data manager identified data reporting issue (impacting multiple providers)
- Initial concerns around assessment outcomes / compliance → support & training?

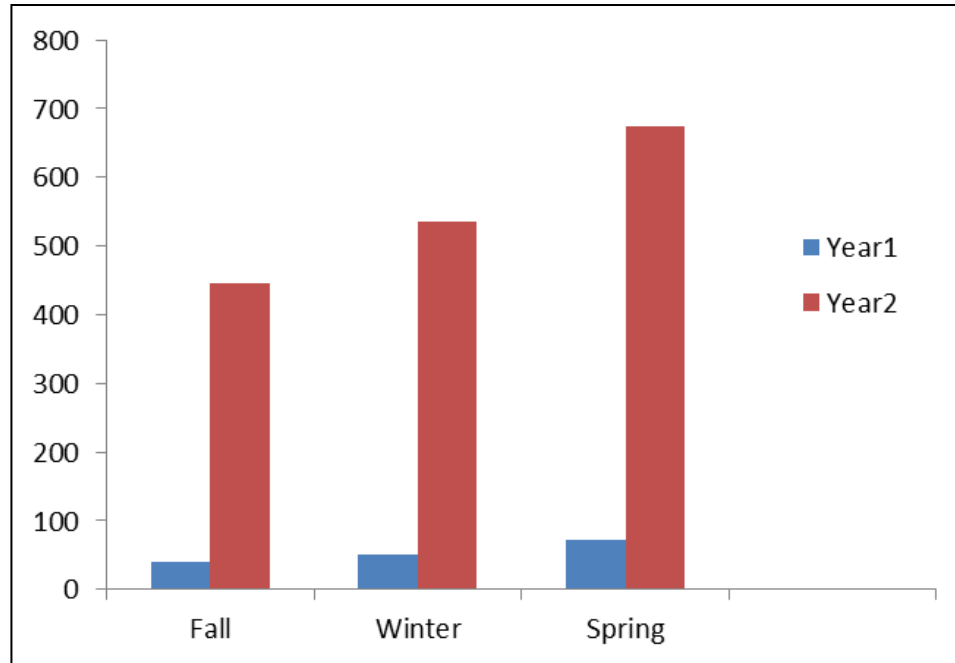# Case study 1: Improving participation

Advanced organizer tool

- Calendar/scheduling tips.

- Breakdown of abstract assessment demands into concrete, manageable tasks.

- Links to assessment vendor resources and best-practice / model observation videos.

Case study 1: Improving participation

- Ten-fold increase in reporting compliance.

- More robust data for outcome evaluations.

- Model tools/process for provider support in other states with child assessment requirements.

Case Study 2:
Improving Teacher Preparation

- State conducts three environmental measures, including CLASS®

- Celebration of higher ratings and scores on ERS and state rubric

- Identification of teacher support needs through CLASS®

- Quality advisors and teacher preparation director now developing content to bolster "Instructional Support" domain

Case study 3: Continuous Quality Improvement

- Centers complete a self-assessment to apply for "star" ratings, and upload "evidence" for validation

- Concerns with our outcomes

- Meetings with field leadership and quality and accreditation advisor

- Identification of process gaps

- Current state: Quality advisors have created a support "notebook" to all for consistent evidence

Opportunities

- Quality rating system development
    - Rubrics?
    - Site visit/observation protocols?
    - Coaching?
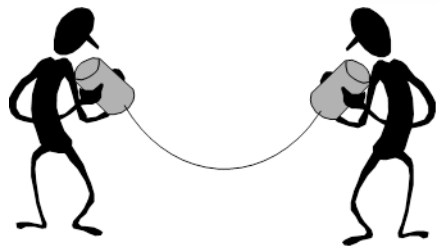   - Predictive validity?

Opportunities

- Workforce development
  - Recruitment/selection
  - Credentialing/certification
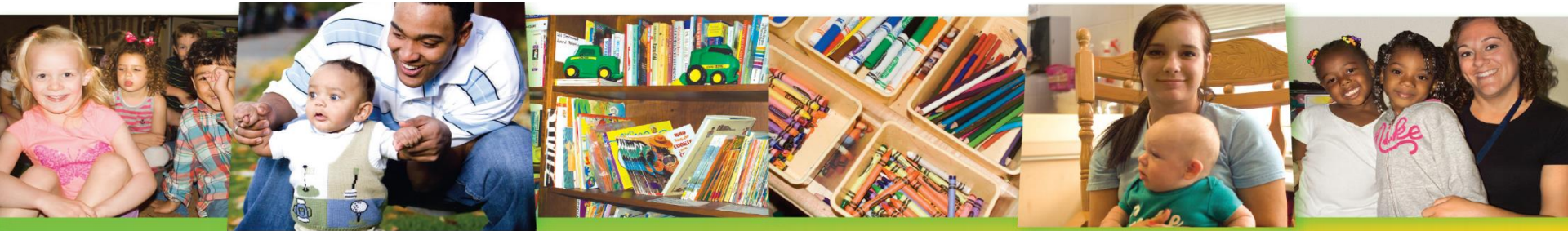 - Advancement/retention
  - Coaching/PD

Contact Information

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Let's Talk

Using QRIS Data to Inform Implementation of Quality Improvement Supports

Sheri Butters

Director of Assessment and Systems
Early Childhood Investment Corporation

Great Start to Quality

Start here for Quality Early Childhood Education

Great Start to Quality:
The Basics

The Basics

- Funded by the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Great Start

- Implemented by the Early Childhood Investment Corporation

- Includes all licensed and registered programs and providers

- 2,600 published ratings from one to five stars

Rating Process

A circular process flow diagram with the following steps connected by arrows in a clockwise cycle:

- Update Program Information
- Complete Self-Assessment Survey
- Upload Evidence of Self-Assessment Survey
- Submit Self-Assessment Survey
- Quality Improvement Planning and Implementation
- Validation of Self-Assessment Survey
- Assessment
- Published Rating

Great Start to Quality Data

Data Sources

- Online **self-assessment** based on more than 40 program quality indicators

  - All programs and providers pursuing a published rating of one to five stars complete a self-assessment survey

  - Data is available by program type and star rating for each indicator as well as geographically

- **Validation** of the self-assessment

  - Programs and providers at higher levels of quality are validated

  - Comparison data showing self-assessment to validation is available by program type, star rating and geographically

Data Sources

- **Assessment** data gathered through on-site classroom observation

  - Programs and providers validated at higher levels of quality are eligible for on-site observation to confirm their rating

  - Michigan utilizes three versions of the Program Quality Assessment (Infant and Toddler, Preschool, and Family Child Care)

  - Assessment data is available for each version of the tool and geographically

Data Sources

- **Quality Improvement Plans** designed to increase a program or provider's quality rating

  - All programs and providers have access to an online, customizable quality improvement plan once they submit their self-assessment

  - Data is available by provider type, self-assessment level, star rating, and geographically

Data Informed Implementation

State Level Planning and Decision Making

- State and regional implementation data is utilized to guide planning and decision making

  - Identification of statewide priorities for regional implementation

  - Guide policy and implementation decisions

Regional Quality Improvement Supports

- A network of Resource Centers across the state offer:

  - Individualized quality improvement technical assistance (i.e.: consultation and coaching)

  - Training and professional development planning

  - Access to quality improvement resources

Contact Information

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Questions, Reflections, Comments

For More Information

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