



New Mexico FOCUS TQRIS Evaluation Activities

Sarah Daily

New Mexico TQRIS Pilot Kick-off Meeting

February 14, 2013

Our Mission

Child Trends seeks to improve the lives of children and youth by conducting high-quality research and sharing it with the people and institutions whose decisions and actions affect children:

- Programs that serve children and families
- Policy makers
- Foundations and philanthropists
- The media

Our Team

- **Kathryn Tout, Project Director**
- **Rebecca Starr, Project Manager**
- **Katie Green, Project Coordinator**
- **Tamara Halle, Senior Research Scientist**
- **Sarah Daily – Research Scientist**
- **Carlise King – Data and Technical Assistance Manager**
- **Sarah Friese – Sr. Research Analyst**
- **Ladia Albertson-Junkans- Sr. Research Assistant**
- **Laura Rothenberg – Sr. Research Assistant**
- **Meg Soli – Sr. Research Assistant**
- **Paula Daneri – Sr. Research Assistant**



Goals of our Partnership

To study and support the new FOCUS TQRIS:

Activity 1: Study the new FOCUS rating criteria and process

- Review FOCUS ratings process
- Pilot revised criteria and ratings process
- Validate FOCUS with programs and children

Activity 2: Develop a new Continuous Program Improvement process

- Draft tools, resources and gather feedback
- Pilot and refine
- Finalize for program use

Activity 1: Study the new FOCUS rating criteria and process



Step 1: Review FOCUS Rating Criteria and Process

- **Review rating documents from 50 newly rated programs**
- **Conduct interviews with FOCUS staff**
- **Provide recommendations for strengthening rating, monitoring, and verification processes**
- **Develop documentation to support training and reliability for raters**

What will programs be asked to do?

- **FOCUS administrative data will be provided to Child Trends for review of the rating process.**



Step 2: Pilot revised criteria and ratings process



What will programs be asked to do?

We may be asking for your feedback on your experiences in the FOCUS TQRIS, which may include:

- Phone interviews
- Online surveys



Step 3: Validate FOCUS with Programs and Children

- **Use ERS, CLASS and other measures of quality to validate the levels of quality in FOCUS**
 - For example, to what extent do these rating tools distinguish meaningful levels of quality?
- **Collect information about children's development to identify any connections with FOCUS quality levels**
 - Children attending rated programs will be assessed in the fall and spring of 2014-2015

What will programs be asked to do?

- **We may ask to come to your program to conduct on-site observations.**
- **We may come to your program to assess children on early language/literacy and math skills.**
- **We may ask you to fill out information on children's social/emotional development.**



Activity 2: Development of Continuous Program Improvement process



What steps are involved?

- **Develop a tool to support programs in continuous quality improvement**
 - Tool will assess concepts that are relevant to programs and that are linked to child outcomes
- **The first draft will be developed early 2013**
- **Final draft mid-2013 followed by an implementation and monitoring plan**

What will programs be asked to do?

- **We may ask you to use the CPI tool and ask for your feedback.**
 - The tool will involve assessing your programs strengths and weaknesses
 - Working with materials/activities designed to help you improve program quality
 - Your FOCUS consultant will work with you closely as you learn to use the tool

Questions?





Contact information:

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