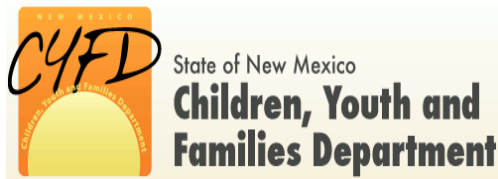




Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge Grant

Building a Strong Foundation for New Mexico





Sustainability Plan

Ensuring an ongoing support for New Mexico Early Learning System

New Mexico's Race To The Top
Early Learning Challenge Summit
December 8, 2017
Albuquerque, NM



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Quality



Quality

The **FOCUS Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System (TQRIS)** was designed to improve the quality of all early childhood programs. The system provides a strong foundation for children prenatally through kindergarten entry guided by a shared quality improvement framework.

- **Accomplished:** Common and aligned framework for program quality, providing professional development and other supports to help programs achieve a higher level of quality.
- **Current Status:** Over 900 early childhood programs including Child Care, NM PreK, Head Start, Title I, 619 Preschool Special Education, Home Visiting, Early Intervention Part C programs are participating in FOCUS. More than 700 early childhood professionals received TEACH scholarships and more than 1,000 early childhood educators received research-based training geared to improve quality practices.
- **Next Steps:** Full implementation of FOCUS for Registered Child Care Programs, Early Intervention and Home Visiting.

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Access



Access

- New Mexico's early learning system is poised to ensure that each child has access to quality services and supports that acknowledge his/her uniqueness to succeed in school and in life.
- **Accomplished:** Identification of Investment Zones covering 11 counties and 35 priority school districts in a community systems-building process that included cross sector leadership building and community development planning systems.
- **Current Status:** Designing an ongoing system for implementation focusing on collaborative leadership skills, strategic planning capacity.
- **Next Steps:** Develop a comprehensive Community Assessment for all communities, assess and leverage current resources, prioritize funding to meet communities' needs



Accountability

Accountability

- The Early Childhood Integrated Data System across public agencies serving young children and their families workforce development, report on program outcomes and assess gaps and opportunities for services in different communities.
- **Accomplished:** Development of a unique identifier for children and the integration of data across public agencies, including DOH, PED, and CYFD. Implementation and validation of an observation-based child assessment tool administered in every public school kindergarten classroom across the state
- **Current Status: The PED-PreK and Kindergarten Observation** online tool allows PED-PreK and kindergarten teachers to record, track, and submit their observations in the same system
- **Next Steps:** Develop reporting processes designed to improve program quality

Governance



Governance

- A stronger coordination and collaboration across the state agencies implementing federal and state early childhood programs ensure program alignment, limits duplication of resources and supports a continuum of services for New Mexico children and their families.
- **Accomplished:** Implementation of an Early Learning shared structure designed to ensure ongoing communication, shared-decision making and coordination of program with leadership representation
- **Current Status:** Developing a roadmap for a continuous shared structure beyond the duration of the grant
- **Next Steps:** Develop mechanisms for shared governance, shared decision making and ongoing coordination, assessing efficiencies, opportunities and structures

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