YPQI Kick Off Webinar

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11.2.15

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Objectives

Participants will:

- Learn about the youth program quality construct.
- Learn what the Youth Program Quality Assessment (PQA) is.
- Learn the basic steps of the Youth Program Quality Intervention (YPQI).
- Be informed of the next steps for YPQI.
Agenda

- Logistics
- Introductions
- Why Focus on Program Quality?
- What is the Youth PQA?
- What is the YPQI?
- Program Self Assessment
- Next Steps
Introductions

Introduce yourself with:

1. Your name.
2. Your organization and location.
3. One thing you are looking forward to about this process.
Rate Your Program: Polls

- Think about a program you work with or know well. For the following activity, rate your program in each element of program quality. Use the following criteria:

1 Low
3 Medium
5 High
Rate Your Program: Polls (Create/insert Readytalk polls)

- Program space allows youth and adults to move freely while carrying out activities
- Staff use a warm tone of voice and respectful language
- Youth have structured opportunities to get to know each other
- Youth have opportunities to set goals and make plans.
Rate Your Program

- What was challenging about that activity?
- What is one question that arose for you?
WHY FOCUS ON PROGRAM QUALITY?
Researchers Agree on What It Takes to Support Development

The National Research Council & Institute for Medicine list the following key features of positive youth development settings:

- Physical and psychological safety
- Appropriate structure
- Supportive relationships
- Opportunities to belong
- Positive social norms
- Support for efficacy and mattering
- Opportunities for skill-building
- Integration of family, school and community efforts

- Community Programs to Promote Youth Development, 2002
WHAT IS THE YOUTH PQA?
Youth PQA History

- Youth PQA grew out of 40 years running summer camp for teens: Institute For IDEAS.
- Former HighScope Youth Development Group extracted best practices, developed training & then the Youth PQA.
- Youth PQA is similar to Preschool PQA which was rooted in the Perry Preschool Research Study done by HighScope.
What is the PQA?

1. A **validated** instrument designed to assess the quality of youth programs and identify staff training needs.

2. A set of items that measures youth access to **key developmental experiences**.

3. A tool which produces scores that can be used for comparison and assessment of **progress over time**.
Higher scores are associated with higher levels of youth engagement

- Youth self-reports of:
  - Belonging
  - Interest
  - Challenge
  - Learning
Lower scores are associated with youth disinterest
High quality instruction provides youth with opportunities to practice emerging social and emotional skills...

- Efficacy
- Communication
- Empathy
- Problem Solving

...that support success in adolescence and early adulthood.
Quality Construct: The Pyramid of Program Quality

- **ENGAGEMENT**
  - Planning
  - Choice
  - Reflection

- **INTERACTION**
  - Belonging
  - Collaboration
  - Leadership
  - Adult Partners

- **SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT**
  - Warm Welcome
  - Active Engagement
  - Encouragement
  - Session Flow
  - Skill-Building
  - Reframing Conflict

- **SAFE ENVIRONMENT**
  - Emotional Safety
  - Healthy Environment
  - Emergency Preparedness
  - Accommodating Environment
  - Nourishment

- **YOUTH VOICE IN GOVERNANCE**
  - Professional Learning Community

*6=Mute *7=Unmute
### III. INTERACTION: BELONGING | COLLABORATION | LEADERSHIP | ADULT PARTNERS

**BELONGING** | Youth have opportunities to develop a sense of belonging.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEMS</th>
<th>SUPPORTING EVIDENCE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Youth have no opportunities to get to know each other (beyond self-selected pairs or small cliques).</td>
<td>The staff started the session by facilitating 2 icebreakers (all of my neighbors and 2 truths and a lie)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Youth have informal opportunities to get to know each other (e.g., youth engage in informal conversations before, during, or after session.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Youth have structured opportunities to get to know each other (e.g., there are team-building activities, introductions, personal updates, welcomes of new group members, icebreakers, and a variety of groupings for activities)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Domain**

**scale**

**level/ indicator/ descriptor**

**Form**

**item**

**anecdotal evidence**
WHAT IS THE YPQI PROCESS?

ASSESS
Collect data about your program.

PLAN
Create an improvement plan based on data.

IMPROVE
Carry out your plan. Train and coach staff.
Where does the process happen?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy Setting</td>
<td>Policy enacts standards and supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manager engages standards and supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Setting</td>
<td>Manager enacts continuous improvement practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff engages in continuous improvement practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point of Service Setting</td>
<td>Staff enacts instructional practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Young engage in instruction and build skills</td>
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</table>
PROGRAM SELF ASSESSMENT STEP BY STEP

ASSESS
- Lead a team to assess the quality of instruction
- Provide real-time staff performance feedback

PLAN
- Lead team to create an improvement plan based on data
- Select aligned methods training for direct staff

IMPROVE
- Carry out plan to improve instructional quality
- Monitor progress and repeat cycle
Assess

The PQA allows you to observe what actually goes on in your youth programs.

How often do you have the time or energy to simply observe a program led by another staff?

How often do you rely on what you think happens in your programs?
Plan

Looking at the results of your assessment gives you a chance to make concrete plans.

What are your program strengths?

What do you want to improve?
Improve

During the improve phase you will implement your plans.

Targeted trainings.

Additional resources as needed.

Possible changes to the curriculum.
IMPROVE: Youth Work Methods Workshops

The improvement process is supported with professional development workshops:

- **Youth Voice**
- **Planning and Reflection**  

- **Building Community**
- **Cooperative Learning**
- **Homework Help**

- **Active Learning**
- **Ask - Listen - Encourage**
- **Reframing Conflict**

- **Structure and Clear Limits**

- **Teen Advisory Council**
- **Introduction to the Active-Participatory Approach**

**Engagement**

**Interaction**

**Supportive Environment**

**Safe Environment**

*Youth Voice in Governance Professional Learning Community*
Program Self Assessment: Questions?

ASSESS
- Lead a team to assess the quality of instruction
- Provide real-time staff performance feedback

PLAN
- Lead team to create an improvement plan based on data
- Select aligned methods training for direct staff

IMPROVE
- Carry out plan to improve instructional quality
- Monitor progress and repeat cycle
NEXT STEPS
## Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 12, 2015</td>
<td>PQA Basics</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1, 2015</td>
<td>Self Assessment Webinar</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 22, 2015</td>
<td>Scores Reporter Webinar</td>
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What Happens Next: PQA Basics

- Team leaders attend.
- At the training, you will receive a handbook and copies of the PQA to use for your program self assessments.
- Team Leaders will take the information back to additional program self assessment team members.
LINGERING QUESTIONS?
Please complete the webinar feedback survey.

THANK YOU &
ENJOY THE PROCESS!

Higher order engagement through choice, planning, and reflection.

Interaction through cooperative learning and leadership opportunities.

Supportive environment through welcoming, conflict resolution, active learning, encouragement, and skill-building.

Physical safety, emotional safety, and inclusive practices.

Youth decision-making in the organization. Time and space for staff to grow professionally.