

Program Quality News

From the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Program Quality News connects education and human service leaders with research, case studies, tools and training to improve the quality of youth programs.

FEATURES

The Weikart Center is Moving!

Effective Aug. 19, 2013, our new address will be:
The David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
301 W. Michigan Ave., Ste. 200
Ypsilanti, MI 48197



Staff phone numbers and email addresses will remain the same. From Aug., 14-20, it might be difficult to reach us as we make the transition to the new space. We are taking measures to ensure connectivity, but in the case of a temporary outage, we appreciate your patience.

Pilot Family Engagement Initiative Underway in Michigan

Five 21st Century Community Learning Center program sites will participate in a pilot intervention this fall geared at increasing family engagement with their middle school students' academic success and skill development. This pilot program, offered in partnership with the Michigan Department of Education, supports families using academic socialization practices: that is, what parents, families and afterschool programs can do to promote the values, skills and expectations that support academic engagement. The intervention culminates in a youth-led conference with staff and family members where youth can practice planning, leadership and communication skills with their families.



A Fall 2012 presentation by Charles Smith at the YouthNex Center at the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education summarizes the research behind the intervention, as well as the target outcomes for the project. [View the talk here.](#) YouthNex is putting together a book about the key points from conference presenters. We will share a link to the book when it becomes available.

CALENDAR

Host the Next Youth Work Methods Training of Trainers!

The Weikart Center is looking for networks who are interested in hosting a Youth Work Methods Training of Trainers (TOT). If your network or organization plans on sending more than five people to a Methods TOT, you should consider hosting!



[Contact Ravi Ramaswamy for more information.](#)

Youth Work Management Training of Trainers

Want to learn how to train your afterschool staff to increase the quality of their work? This Training of Trainers is targeted at managers and site leaders who wish to be able to support their sites throughout the quality improvement cycle. Graduates of the Management TOT can facilitate the Planning with Data and Quality Coaching workshops, as well as provide comprehensive logistical and professional development support to staff who are involved in the process.



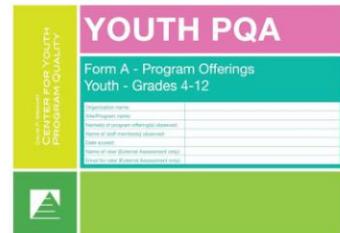
Where & When: Seattle, Wash., Sept. 26-27 & Rochester, NY, late Oct.

[Register now for Seattle >>](#)

Network Leader Learning Community Webinar: Effective External Assessment

There are lots of moving parts in planning for external assessment. Learn tips for scheduling, preparing assessors and sites, managing data collection and tracking assessments. Begin with the end in mind to make the process as smooth as possible!

**Target audience: Current Weikart Center clients and network/system leaders who are building and managing quality improvement systems.*



When: August 20, 1 p.m. ET

[Register now >>](#)

Ready Youth Informational Webinar

This fall, the Forum for Youth Investment will be working with up to 20 communities to engage in the Ready Youth Learning Cohort, a peer network of school and community leaders who will use a set of tools and supports built around the enhanced Gallup Student Poll. The process begins with a powerful measure of youth voice: the Gallup Student Poll, which each year measures the hope, engagement and well-being of several hundred thousand young people. The student data will be collected during the month of October, so this gives folks a short-but-doable timeline to get involved.

When: Wednesday, Aug. 21, 3 p.m. ET.
[Learn more here.](#)

Coaching for Continuous Improvement

Learn how to improve supports, including how to maximize data-driven planning for out-of-school-time programs you serve. During this training, you'll examine the structure and philosophy of the Technical Assistance and Coaching Support Systems (TACSS) model as a way to deepen the Youth Program Quality Intervention.



Where & When: Burlington, Vt., Oct. 3-4 and Chicago, Ill., Oct. 25-26.

Please contact [Ravi Ramaswamy](#) or [Angelina Garner](#) for more information.

Ready by 21 National Meeting 2014

We invite you to join us at our conference in spring 2014 in the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area. At the 2014 meeting, we will deliver a number of presentations from the Ready by 21 Expanded Learning Initiative with special sessions for program evaluators and others interested in outcome measurement and evaluation. We will also present and request feedback on the Weikart Center's prototype program quality certification rooted in an evidence-based quality management standard. Finally, we will continue to keep you up to date on our standard content - quality improvement systems and quality instructional practices.



Tentative Location and Date: Cincinnati, Oh., Apr. 22-25.

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The Forum for Youth Investment is the proud parent company of The Ready by 21 National Partnership, the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, the Children's Cabinet Network and SparkAction.org.

