

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.

Feature

Sprockets St. Paul Wraps Up SLPQI Pilot Year

Interested in hearing how the pilot year of the Summer Learning Program Quality Intervention (SLPQI) went?

The intervention, adapted from the YPQI, incorporates aspects unique to programs during summer months, along with an improvement cycle that has been adjusted to specifically meet the needs and flow of summer programs. Sprockets (St. Paul, Minn.) and Denver Public Schools were chosen to participate in the pilot program of this intervention that began last Spring.



[Read more](#) about how Sprockets is wrapping up this quality work and their plans for next year!

Opportunities

Join the Movement to Rethink America's Schools

Are you up for the challenge of reimagining the American high school? Now is the chance to add your voice; your ideas to innovate. The Super School Project, led by XQ, is an open call to reimagine and design the next American high school.

The XQ challenge allows teams to unite and take on the important work of rethinking and building schools that deeply prepare our students for the rigorous challenges of college, careers and life. Winning team concepts will be provided with expert support and a fund of \$50 million to support at least five schools over the next five years to turn their ideas into real Super Schools. [Find out more.](#)



Interested in Attending a Training of Trainers?

Looking to become a certified trainer of the Youth Work Management and Youth Work Methods workshops? Visit the events page at www.cypq.org for upcoming opportunities near you!

Managing Director

The Weikart Center is hiring a managing director for its Ypsilanti, Mich., office. The Managing Director will work closely with the Executive Director to supervise daily operations, manage talent development and employee relations, and provide strategic guidance and counsel across the organization to ensure that the Weikart Center achieves its mission and business objectives,



The incumbent will be a highly self-directed leader who possesses management experience, preferably in an education, human services, or a health related field. It is expected the Managing Director holds a Master's degree (or have equivalent experience) in a relevant discipline. Interested candidates may review the [job description](#) and are encouraged to apply by the end of November.

Community Partner Spotlight

EMU Bright Futures - Improving Quality In and Out of School

The continuous improvement cycle and an emphasis on quality programming are not new to the team at Bright Futures in Ypsilanti, Mich. Led by Director Lynn Malinoff this network of afterschool programs is currently in their ninth year as a Michigan Department of Education 21st CCLC grantee. With 20 sites across three school districts in Southeast Michigan, Bright Futures is invested in delivering high-quality programming to increase student academic achievement and student learning, as well as students' ability to develop grit and a growth mindset.



As an important part of student learning begins during the school day, Bright Futures has worked through their partnership with the College of Education at Eastern Michigan University, to share program quality best practices to educate and train new incoming teachers before they step out into the field. Utilizing the Weikart Center's [Youth Work Methods](#) as the training tool, Bright Futures is arming student teachers with the tools they need to be humble, vulnerable and able to increase quality during the school day.

Bright Futures and the College of Education are also working with Ypsilanti Community Schools to partner incoming teachers with veteran teachers in the field during professional development trainings focused around the Youth Work Methods. Using modules, such as, "Ask, Listen, Encourage" and "Structure and Clear Limits," these teachers are building a toolkit to create opportunities for reflection and to ultimately increase engagement within their classrooms.

You can read more about Bright Futures by visiting their [website](#).

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

