

# SSIP Evaluation Workshop 2.0: Taking the Online Series to the Next Level

## **Evaluating Infrastructure Breakout**

**Improving Data, Improving Outcomes Pre-Conference**

**August 14, 2018**

# State Groupings for Breakout Sessions

## Salon F: Practices

- GA, MA, LA
- CO, UT, AR
- CT, PA, ID-B
- HI, ID-C
- IL, WY

## Salon E: Infrastructure

- CT, IL, CO
- GA, FL

# Expected Outcomes

Participants will increase awareness of:

- Existing tools to measure infrastructure outcomes
- Considerations for selecting or adapting a tool to measure results of infrastructure improvements
- Using multiple methods to evaluate infrastructure outcomes
- How one state adjusted their evaluation plan to measure infrastructure improvements, including selecting tools

# Evaluating Infrastructure Improvements

- **Evaluate progress:** How is implementation going?
  - Not simply describing the activities that were implemented but relate them to the initial analysis
  - Reporting on benchmarks or other indicators of system change
- **Evaluate outcomes:** What changes are we seeing? What's the impact of those changes?
  - How will the infrastructure support local Early Intervention Programs to implement EBPs?
  - How will the infrastructure support scaling up and/or sustainability?

"To measure an outcome is  
to measure the end  
result, not the work  
involved in getting there".



# Definitions: Outputs and Outcomes

- **Outputs:** Direct, observable evidence that an activity has been completed as planned
- **Outcomes:** Statement of the benefit or change you expect as a result of the completed activities. Outcomes can vary based on two dimensions:
  - 1) When you would expect the outcomes to occur, i.e., short-term, intermediate or long-term (impact); and
  - 2) The level at which you are defining your outcome, e.g., state level, local/program level, practitioner, child/family.

For more information, see key terms and definitions in *Evaluating Infrastructure Improvements Session 1 Pre-Work*:  
[https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure\\_Session1\\_Pre-Work\\_011718\\_Final.docx](https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure_Session1_Pre-Work_011718_Final.docx)

# Example: Finance

- Activity: Develop and implement a plan to improve EI finance system to access additional Medicaid funds.
- Output: Finance plan
- Outcome:    ????  
What do you want your system to look like as a result of developing and implementing the finance plan to increase access to additional Medicaid funds?
- Performance indicator: ???  
How will you know you achieved the outcome?

# Determining Data Collection Approach

1. Start by considering existing tools relevant to your infrastructure improvement (e.g., ECTA System Framework, model developer tools, other frameworks)  
For ECTA System Framework: Is there a component that aligns? If so, is there a subcomponent or quality indicator that aligns?
2. Does the tool measure what you want it to measure? If not, can it be adapted?
3. Will it measure improvements over time?
4. What data do you already have (e.g., fiscal, personnel, accountability data) that can be used with the tool or will you need to collect new data?
5. What additional data could you collect to better understand infrastructure improvement (e.g., qualitative data)?



# Existing Tools for Evaluating Infrastructure

- ECTA System Framework
- State or Local Child Outcomes Measurement Framework
- Benchmarks of Quality for Home-Visiting Programs
- Model developer infrastructure tools



See Evaluating Infrastructure Improvements Session 2 Pre-Work:

[https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure\\_Session2\\_Pre-Work\\_013118\\_FINAL.docx](https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure_Session2_Pre-Work_013118_FINAL.docx)

# ECTA System Framework: Quality Indicators/ Elements of Quality

## Personnel/Workforce

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Show Evidence

QI 1

QI 2

QI 3

QI 4

QI 5

QI 6

Hide Evidence

QI 7

QI 8

QI 9

QI 10

QI 11

QI 12

### Quality Indicator Rating (Calculated)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | None of the elements is yet planned or in place.   |
| 2 | Most of the elements are not yet planned or in place.                                    |
| 3 | Some elements are in place; a few may be fully implemented.                              |
| 4 | At least half of the elements are in place; a few may be fully implemented.              |
| 5 | At least half of the elements are in place; some are fully implemented.                  |
| 6 | At least half of the elements are fully implemented; the rest are partially implemented. |
| 7 | All elements are fully implemented.  |

### Element of Quality Rating (EQR)

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | No - element not in place <u>and</u> not planning to work on it at     |
| 2 | No - element not in place <u>but</u> planning to work on it or getting |
| 3 | Yes - element partially implemented                                    |
| 4 | Yes - element fully implemented  |

|      |   | Rating            | PRIORITY |
|------|---|-------------------|----------|
| QI 7 | A statewide system for inservice personnel development and technical assistance is in place for personnel across disciplines.   | QI Rating: 5      |          |
| a    | A statewide system for inservice personnel development is aligned to national professional organization personnel standards across disciplines.<br><br>Evidence: Have been aligning practices around key principles of EI and started aligning with DEC RPs. Trained on DEC RPs and have Key principles and DEC RPs on website. Also implemented Foundational Pillars training on EI. Provided roll out of that training and regions are in process. Have it proposed as a required training in EBP training continuum matrix. Everything that we built on coaching, EBP all align with DEC RPs and ASHA, AOTA, APTA standards. Incorporated the professional organization position statements in the EBP trainings. Started the process of aligning with AIM Early ID. We are trying to get staff endorsed by AIM Early ID and we are taking | Element Rating: 3 |          |
| b    | A statewide system for inservice personnel development is aligned to state personnel standards across disciplines.<br><br>Evidence: Started the process of aligning with AIM Early ID. We are trying to get staff endorsed by AIM Early ID and we are taking the SE competencies developed by HI. We have state Core Competencies for early childhood but have not yet incorporate these into our PD inservice system. The EC3 workgroup developed the core competencies  | Element Rating: 3 |          |
| c    | The statewide system for inservice personnel development provides a variety of technical assistance opportunities to meet the needs of personnel.<br><br>Evidence: Provide TA through multiple formats including VCE, phone calls, quarterly meetings, monthly hub leadership calls, email, in person. Use these modes frequently.  | Element Rating: 4 |          |

# Measuring Improvement: Using Framework Self-Assessment Tools

- Measure change over time: from Time 1 to Time 2
  - Compare QI ratings, e.g., Time 1 = 3, Time 2 = 5
  - Compare percent of elements fully implemented, e.g., Time 1 = 20%, Time 2 = 50%
- Compare to a standard
  - QI rating = 6, at least 50% are fully implemented, the rest are partially implemented
  - At least 50% of the elements are fully implemented

*Quality Indicator rating scale, 1 to 7: none to all fully implemented*

# Considerations for Tool Selection or Adaptation

- Is the tool aligned with the infrastructure improvements you are implementing?
  - If not, could it be adapted?
- Is it measuring what you want to measure?
- Is it practical to administer?
  - Number of items
  - Time required
- Can it be implemented consistently across those using the tool?
  - Clarity of instructions and items
- Does the tool allow for enough variation to measure different degrees of progress?
- Does the tool provide useful information (e.g. data to determine if modifications to improvement activities are needed)?


# Decision Points for Adapting Tool



- Design of the tool
- Phrasing of items – single concept
- Phrasing of items – clarity
- Selecting the response options
- Pilot testing the measure
- Method for rating
- Recorded sessions (if applicable)
- Randomization process (if applicable)
- Raters
- Training for raters

Feely et al (2018)

## Considerations for Using the Tool

- Who participates (e.g. stakeholder groups, local programs, state staff)?
  - How will information be collected (e.g., data system, checklist, self-rating scale, behavioral observation, interviews)? Online or hard-copy?
  - Will data need to be collected from comparison groups? If so, will it be through pre- and post-collections?
  - When will data collection happen?
  - Is it easy to administer? Is training needed?
- 



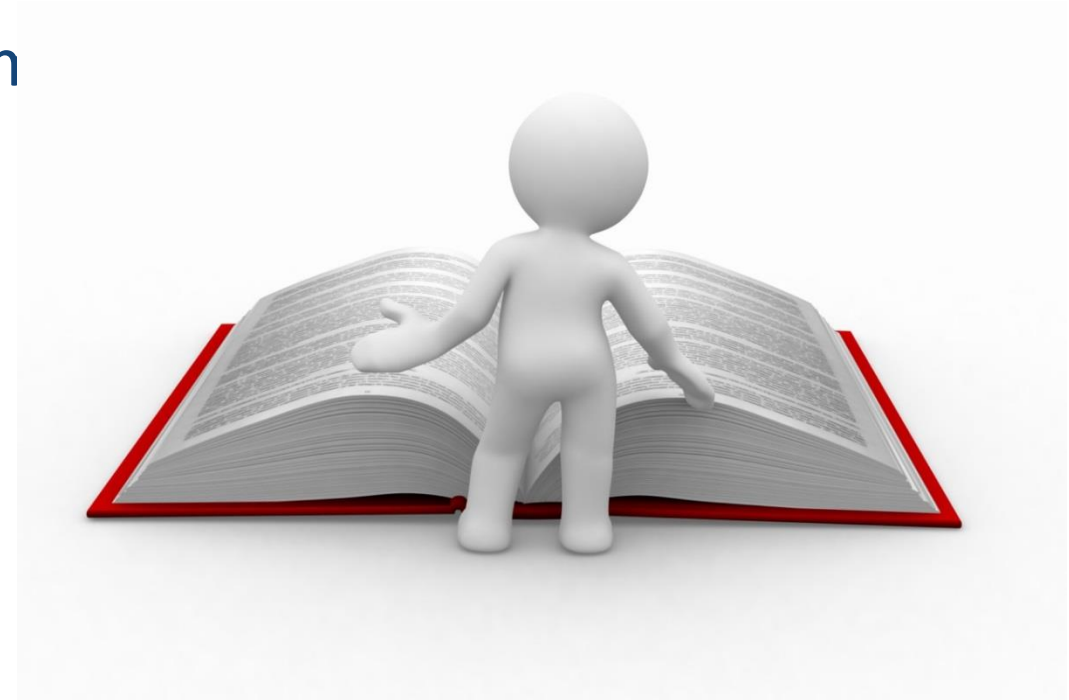


# State X Example: Infrastructure Evaluation Challenges

- Implementing a variety of improvement activities related to:
  - In-service PD system
  - Local program infrastructure to support implementation of EBPS
  - Child outcome measurement system
- Only measuring progress of infrastructure improvement through outputs (e.g. not measuring infrastructure improvements outcomes)
- Uncertain about available tools to measure infrastructure improvements and how to select or adapt them
- Limited state and local program staff time to adapt/develop tools and collect data

# State X: In-service PD Improvement Activities

- Enhancing their in-service PD system by developing:
  - provider competencies
  - training materials
  - procedures to sustain coaching with new providers





# State X Outcome Evaluation of In-service PD

| Outcome Type                     | Outcome   | Evaluation Question(s)  | How will we know (Performance Indicator)   | Measurement/ Data Collection Method   | Timeline/ Measurement Intervals            | Analysis Description   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| State System-Level: Intermediate | A sustainable statewide system is in place to support high-quality personnel development and technical assistance | <p>a. Has the statewide system for in-service personnel development and technical assistance improved (incremental progress)?</p> <p>b. Does the state have a quality system for in-service personnel development and technical assistance?</p> | <p>a. The QI ratings for Indicator PN7 in the in-service personnel development subcomponent will have a QI rating of 5 in 2018</p> <p>b. The Quality Indicator PN7 for the in-service personnel development subcomponent will have a QI rating of 6 or 7 in 2019</p> | System Framework Self-Assessment on in-service personnel development and technical assistance (Personnel/Workforce, subcomponent 4 – PN7) | <p>a. 3/18</p> <p>b. Post measure 3/19</p> | <p>a. Compare the automatic calculated QI self-assessment score for PN7 to a rating of 5 in 3/18</p> <p>b. Compare the automatically calculated QI self-assessment score for PN7 to a rating of 6 or 7 in 3/19</p> |

# State X: Local Infrastructure Improvement

- Improvement Activity: Supporting demonstration sites in establishing the necessary personnel infrastructure to implement Coaching in Natural Learning Environment EBPs (Shelden and Rush)
- Outcome: EI Demonstration Sites will have the team structure necessary to implement EBP (Coaching in Natural Learning Environments)
- Tool: Checklist for Implementing a Primary Coach Approach to Teaming (Shelden & Rush)

# State X: Improving Child Outcome System

- Improvement Activities: Improving child outcome measurement system (e.g. developing new COS resources to support consistent COS ratings, developing family materials on COS process, developing processes for EI program's ongoing use of COS data, revising COS training materials)
- Outcome: The state has an improved system for Child Outcome Measurement
- Tool: State Child Outcomes Measurement System Framework Self-Assessment [Data Collection, Analysis, and Using Data]

# Questions



# State Work Time



# How we will Work Together



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- Today is a conversation
- Ask questions
- Tell us what you want to work on
- Tell us how we can support you going forward

# Optional Worksheets for State Work Time

- Evaluation Plan Worksheet
- Selecting an Infrastructure Tool Worksheet
- Decision Points for Adapting a Tool Worksheet

# Key Resources

- Definitions:
  - *Evaluating Infrastructure Improvements Session 1 Pre-Work:*  
[https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure\\_Session1\\_Pre-Work\\_011718\\_Final.docx](https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure_Session1_Pre-Work_011718_Final.docx)
- Tools for evaluating infrastructure improvements:
  - Evaluating Infrastructure Improvements Session 2 Pre-Work:  
[https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure\\_Session2\\_Pre-Work\\_013118\\_FINAL.docx](https://dasycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Infrastructure_Session2_Pre-Work_013118_FINAL.docx)
- Questions to refine evaluation, including data collection:
  - Refining Your Evaluation: Data Pathway – From Source to Use:  
<https://dasycenter.org/refining-your-evaluation-data-pathway-from-source-to-use/>



# Contact Information

Christina Kasprzak, ECTA  
[Christina.Kasprzak@unc.edu](mailto:Christina.Kasprzak@unc.edu)

Sherry Franklin, ECTA  
[Sherry.Franklin@unc.edu](mailto:Sherry.Franklin@unc.edu)

Ardith Ferguson, NCSI  
[afergus@wested.org](mailto:afergus@wested.org)