

An aerial photograph of a lush, green forested hillside. A paved road with a white center line winds through the trees, curving from the middle-left towards the bottom-right. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

# 384 Miles to the Oregon Border

Collaboration in Long-Distance Partnerships



# Region 1

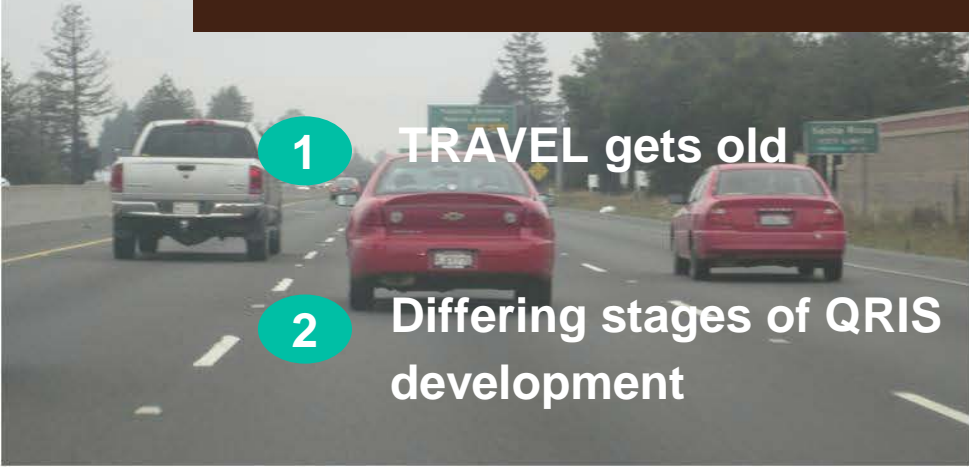
## Presenters:

Angela Glore, Del Norte  
Megan Richards, Solano  
Jerri Leighton, Sonoma  
Leah Benz, Sonoma





# Challenges faced by L-A-R-G-E regions



1

TRAVEL gets old

2

Differing stages of QRIS development



3

Meeting Rural and Urban needs

4

'Building capacity' in region with the distance factor

## Rating Matrix for Selection of QRIS Database



Criteria	Not Met	Partially Met	Fully Met	Details
1. Permits data collection on all required elements (pg2)	0	1	3	iPinwheel will design an export that includes all needed data elements
2. Required data can be easily exported to Excel	0	1	2	See above. Export looks clean and in wide format rather than long. Nice import/export functionality—easily update and import your data.
3. Affordable	0	1	3	Cost per site: \$150/site for counties < 50 sites; \$225 for mid-sized counties # users/county included: unlimited
4. User friendly for QRIS staff	0	1	3	Intuitive layout with clickable buttons organized from the region down to the classroom level
5. Accessible and easy to use for participating providers (i.e. fillable forms)	0	1	2	Security settings based on user type. Teachers can enter professional development data, DRDP data (and send it to tech), enter child level data, and view scores and coaching info.
6. Vendor assistance provided in transferring existing data	0	1	2	Full service help in transferring data (even when data is messy)
7. Ongoing TA and user training provided at no cost by vendor	0	1	2	Online help reference materials, plus offer in person and webex training and available anytime by email/phone at no extra charge
8. Reports are useful for informing practice	0	1	2	Commonly used reports available—counts, summaries by tier level, coaching status reports for managing and monitoring coaches' workload
9. Reports/analyses in system are useful for evaluation	0	1	2	Reports: interactive graphs Analytic capabilities w/in system (y/n): Yes (R capability)
10. Customization is available by self or at little/no charge by vendor	0	1	2	Mostly vendor based customization—but willing to create new reports and customize fields upon request if changes will be of use to others as well. You can currently include links to survey monkey and next year will be able to create your own surveys in the system.

# ASR Survey

<b>Training Topic</b>	<b>Counties Needing Training</b>	<b>Counties with Capacity</b>
ASQ Intermediate/Advanced	Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Solano	Del Norte, Sonoma
CLASS Observation Recertification	Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Solano	Del Norte, Marin, Sonoma
CLASS Trainer Recertification	Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Solano	Sonoma
DRDP Preschool Intermediate/Advanced	Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Solano	Del Norte, Humboldt, Sonoma
ECERS Intermediate/Advanced	Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Solano	Del Norte, Sonoma
Introduction to DRDP Infant/Toddler	Del Norte, Lake, Marin, Solano	Humboldt, Sonoma
Introduction to DRDP Preschool	Del Norte, Lake, Marin, Solano	Humboldt, Sonoma
Overview of BAS	Del Norte, Lake, Marin, Solano	Sonoma
Overview of PAS	Del Norte, Lake, Marin, Solano	Sonoma

# Meeting in person is critical

- Builds trust
- Calls and emails are more effective
- Partnerships continue at statewide meetings and conferences
- Makes the work FUN



## Dropbox > Region 1 Hub Resources

Name

- ipinwheel how-tos
- Marin Quality Counts Resources
- Professional Development Hours Evidence
- Quality Counts Humboldt Resources
- Quality Counts Napa County Resources
- Region 1 Hub Coaching Collaborative
- Solano County Resources & Logo
- Sonoma Quality Counts Resources

## Quality Counts

Promoting Excellence in Early Care & Education

### What is a Quality Improvement Rating System (QIRS)?

A QIRS rates early care and education programs using consistent criteria and provides ongoing support to help early care and education programs improve their quality. A QIRS can also help families easily identify high-quality early care and education for their children. Nearly every state in the nation is engaged in improving the quality of early education programs through statewide Quality Improvement and Rating Systems (QIRS).

In California, the QIRS consists of a five-tiered rating system. A higher rating earns sites a higher tier. California counties implementing a QIRS have agreed to use the same rating requirements and are continuously refining the system.

### How does a QIRS help young children?

Research shows that children learn best in stimulating environments with well-trained and well-educated teachers. Because the early years are the most important time in a child's development,

higher the quality of early care more children benefit. A QIRS care for their child and creates overall quality of early care and

### Which sites can participate?

Preschool Programs and Family Care Home Education Network children. Ultimately we hope to participate in the QIRS, raising giving families more information

### How is QIRS related to

Sonoma County is rich in initiatives for our workforce. These programs include:

- Gateway to Quality – provide
- Child Signature Program – provide
- Sonoma CARES Plus – provide
- Value in Preschool – provide
- READY (Road to the Early)
- TALLK (Teachers Acquiring)
- Santa Rosa Junior College
- Behavioral Consultation Program

### Who do I contact to learn more?

Leah Benz  
First 5 Sonoma County  
Leah.Benz@sonoma-county.ca.gov  
707.595.6654

What kind of support do sites receive to improve quality?



## Solano Quality Early Learning System

Quality Counts



### What is Quality Care?

We know you want the best for your child! When you choose high quality care, it makes a big difference in how well your child does in school and later in life. Research shows that high quality child care programs have specific characteristics in common, and looking for these characteristics can help you determine the most nurturing and stimulating environment for your child.

### Why Quality Matters

In your child's first five years, his brain will develop more than at any other time in his life. That is why it is important your child gets the best early care and education possible during these years.

### Children in Quality Early Learning Programs:

- Will be better readers
- Will get better grades in school
- Are more likely to graduate from high school and go to college

### Quality Programs Offer:

- A safe environment that is created for children's learning
- Teachers with specialized education and training
- Teaching through fun activities that help children develop and learn

### How does the Solano Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS) help?

The Solano QRIS is a system that supports improvement of quality in early care and education programs for Solano County's children. The primary focus of QRIS is to enhance program quality, however, some sites may also volunteer to be formally rated. All participating programs receive onsite coaching, observations, evaluations, and professional development. Solano QRIS services are limited, and due to cost, not all early education programs are able to participate.

Choosing a high quality program means a brighter future for your child.

For more information about the Solano Quality Early Learning System and Solano QRIS, visit our website: [www.solanocoe.net](http://www.solanocoe.net) or contact:  
Lisa Eckhoff Solano QRIS Manager  
Solano County Office of Education  
Leckhoff@solanocoe.net 707.399.4407



### Marin Quality Counts Participant Agreement 2017

Participation in **Marin Quality Counts** is voluntary. However, rating, incentives, awards, coaching and professional development require participating programs and providers to commit to fulfilling the participation and/or rating process outlined in the Participant Guidelines and below. In order to be eligible for services, incentives, awards and other benefits, participants are required to fully comply with the Marin Quality Counts Participant Guidelines and requirements.

The Lead Agency for your program during 2017-2018 will be: \_\_\_\_\_

Marin Quality Counts participant \_\_\_\_\_ (site/provider name) has been selected to follow these steps in \_\_\_\_\_

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Step 5

Step 6

Step 7

Step 8

Step 9

Step 10

Step 11

Step 12

Step 13

Step 14

Step 15

Step 16

Step 17

Step 18

Step 19

Step 20

Step 21

Step 22

Step 23

Step 24

Step 25

Step 26

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Step 35

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Step 37

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Step 39

Step 40

Step 41

Step 42

Step 43

Step 44

Step 45

Step 46

Step 47

Step 48

Step 49

Step 50



### IMPACT Information and Guidelines 2016

**IMPACT** (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) is a quality improvement program partially funded by First 5 California and implemented and structured specifically by First 5 Humboldt to fit the unique needs of Humboldt County. IMPACT's goal is to help children ages 0 to 5 and their families thrive by increasing the number of high-quality early childhood settings and supporting and engaging families in the early learning process. Through these efforts we can empower families with the information and support they need to optimize their children's development so more Humboldt County children enter school ready to learn and become active participants of their communities. Research shows that high-quality programs make a lasting difference in children's lives. IMPACT also builds the foundation for future participation in Humboldt County's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), so providers can easily take advantage of both programs.

IMPACT will help improve early childhood settings in our community by:

- Giving early childhood professionals valuable tools and one-on-one coaching for improving their programs
- Establishing uniform standards of excellence in early childhood settings
- Empowering parents to make well-informed decisions
- Improving outcomes for children who attend high quality early childhood settings throughout Humboldt County

### Benefits of Participating in IMPACT

All IMPACT participants receive the following:

- One-on-one coaching and/or technical assistance from a trained expert in quality early childhood settings
- Access to training, Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and numerous professional development opportunities
- Access to a centralized database for tracking your progress through IMPACT as well as a stipend for keeping your program data updated
- A Quality Counts Humboldt, IMPACT seal to display at your site demonstrating your commitment to providing a quality early childhood setting
- Eligibility for material and cash awards each year of \$250 for programs and individuals within participating programs who meet the minimum requirements. **Programs and individuals who go above minimum requirements could be awarded a stipend of up to \$1,000 in year 2020.**

### Eligibility for Participation in IMPACT

IMPACT is open to First 5 Humboldt funded Playgroups or licensed settings such as; Family Child Care Homes, private Title 22 Child Care settings, Tribal-affiliated programs, Head Start programs, or State Funded Preschool and alternative early childhood settings which provide services to parents and children 0 to 5 in Humboldt County. Individual participants must be 18 years of age and working in a participating program. Licensed settings must be current and in good standing with Community Care Licensing and priority will be given to Playgroup and Family Child Care Home providers initially.



A vintage red passenger train is shown from a side-on perspective, moving through a dense forest of tall evergreen trees. The train consists of several red passenger cars with windows and a dark roof. The forest is lush with green foliage, and the ground is covered in fallen leaves and pine needles. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

# It's all about the COACHING

- Camaraderie
- Professional Learning Community Staff
- Shared training

## Tools that work:

- Dropbox, Google docs, Email, Zoom
- Rotating locations
- Subcommittees by interest
- Flash drive

**FAIRFIELD**  
COUNTY SEAT SOLANO COUNTY



# Challenges along the way

A photograph of a long, brightly lit hallway with a central walkway and glass-walled rooms on either side. The hallway is long and narrow, with a central walkway that is slightly elevated. The walls are white, and the floor is a light-colored wood or laminate. The rooms on either side have glass walls and doors. The lighting is bright and even, creating a clean and professional atmosphere.

- No one was RTT - blind leading blind
- Grant \$ varied - some could hire multiple staff, some could hire none
- QRIS/IMPACT separate in some, together in others
- Slow starts
- Varied expectations
- Varying needs
- Inability to take advantage of what was offered
- Staff transitions
- Distributing \$ from County Government

# Just do something

Hire people

Spend

Vote and move on

Keep it simple

Try things and re-adjust if needed

Keep egos out of it





# QUALITY COUNTS, CA

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## REGION 3 SUB HUBS

PRESENTED BY: DENISE GALE

REGION 3 IMPACT COORDINATOR

# QUALITY COUNTS, CA 10 REGIONAL HUBS

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# REGION 3 IS ORGANIZED INTO 3 SUB HUBS

## Region 3

11 consortia (14 counties)



## Region 3

11 consortia (14 counties)



# THE IDEA BEHIND SUB HUBS

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- Sub Hubs were formed to support regional efficiencies.
- To deepen the partnering of the counties/consortia that are close geographically.
- To streamline communication and voting across the region.
- Share/Pool local assessors, observers & trainers.
- Maximize success by balancing size of counties, resources and QRIS experience.



# STRUCTURE :VOTING LEAD

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- Each Sub Hub identifies their own Voting Lead.
- Voting Leads support decision making at both the regional and state levels.
- Voting Leads are determined annually.

# STRUCTURE: COMMUNICATION LEAD

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- Each Sub Hub identifies their own Communication Lead.
- The Communication Lead facilitates Sub Hub meetings and breakout sessions at regional meetings for the purposes of discussing issues, making decisions and implementing strategies for IMPACT funding.
- Communication Leads are determined annually.

# STRUCTURE: QRIS ANCHOR

- Region 3 independently contracts with three QRIS Anchors one per Sub Hub.

\*\*QRIS Anchors also have various certifications that they offer trainings on to the entire Hub/Region.

- QRIS Anchor's ERS responsibilities include:
  - Maintaining 90% reliability with State Master Anchor on all 3 ERS tools.
  - Conduct new certification trainings and recertifications.
  - Conduct ERS assessments as needed when training does not take priority.
  - Conduct virtual monthly Assessor Learning Community with all Region 3 assessors.

# STRUCTURE: QRIS COACHING SPECIALIST

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- Region 3 will independently contract with one QRIS Coaching Specialist that will support all three Sub Hubs.
- Provide general coaching support across the region.
- Maintain reliability and TTT status on the Pre-K, Toddler and Infant tools.
- Develop and implement plans to support CLASS observers and coaches including: materials, training, coach/observer learning community.
- Conduct CLASS observations as needed when training does not take priority.

# SUB HUB PLANS

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- Each Sub Hub is given an equal number of dollars annually.
  - The amount is determined by the region as a whole.
  - The funds are only a portion of the available funds that will be expended by the region in that year.
- Sub Hub plans are developed annually ensuring training and technical assistance is community based and meets local needs.
- Sub Hub plans are submitted in both budget and narrative form.

# LESSONS LEARNED

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## CHALLENGES

- We were not able to hire an Anchor in the Valley Sub Hub.
- Asking our 2 Anchors to cover the Valley Sub Hub was challenging because of the amount of travel.

## REALIZATIONS

- Consortia within Sub Hubs are not realistically able to pool or share raters, assessors and trainers.
  - Small counties often have none-of-the above.
  - Everyone has a full time job with little time to commit to rating, assessing or training.

# QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU





# FLIPPING THE COACHING RELATIONSHIP

Danielle Singley  
Region 3 Coaching  
Specialist



# THE ISSUE

- High caseload
- Travel time
- Part Time/Contracted Coaches
- Coaches across region averaging one face to face visit per month
- Coach's Role
- Time to develop content

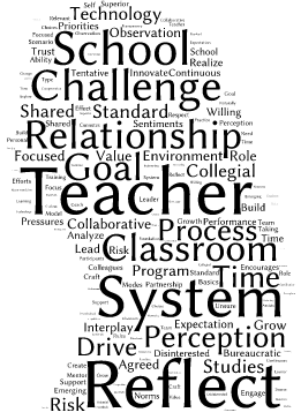


# WHAT WE KNEW FROM THE PAST

Virtual Coaching when used consistently is highly effective

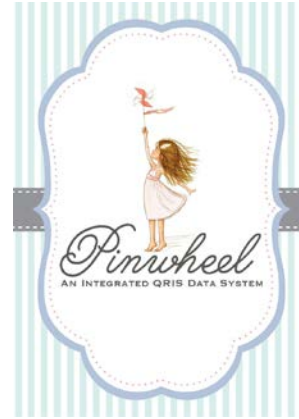
## Coaching Models

- Know/Learn/Book Learning
- See/Watch/Identify in Others
- Do/Practice/Classroom Work



# TRIAL STORIES FROM THE FIELD

- Year in CLASS with myTeachstone
- iPinwheel Virtual Coaching
- Voicethread
- Practice Based Coaching
- Coaching Companion



VOICETHREAD



# A FUTURE PLAN

- Collaborative virtual coaching cycles developed by coaches
- Housed on common platform: iPinwheel
- Accessible to all collaborators in virtual coaching library

