### Continuous Quality Improvement in PA

**Supporting Social Emotional Competence and Addressing Challenging Behavior (K1, K2, K3, K4, K5)**

The purpose of this form is to provide information about initiatives that could support programs in addressing CQI after needs are identified through examination of relevant sources of evidence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of activity/initiative:</th>
<th>Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Supports</th>
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| Purpose, goal and expected outcomes of the initiative. How is this activity important to program quality? | Early childhood mental health is defined as the developing capacity of the young child to experience, regulate and express emotions, form close and secure interpersonal relationships and explore the environment and learn – all in the context of family, community, and cultural expectations for young children. Early childhood mental health is synonymous with healthy social and emotional development which is influenced by: biological/genetic factors, quality of adult relationships, care-giving environments, community context. The Program goals are to:  
- Reduce the number of children expelled from child care due to behavior issues, 
- Increase the understanding of social and emotional development and its impact on educational success, and 
- Link and bridge systems and services on behalf of a child, family and program. As a result, practitioners become intentional teachers who recognize that social, emotional, and intellectual learning are inextricably linked. |
| Description of initiative and any component parts (Technical assistance available, professional development, program assessment inventories, etc.) | The ECMH Consultation Program is a child-specific consultative model which addresses the social-emotional development of young children within their early care and education (ECE) program. Services are provided at the request of the director or teacher and with the permission of the child’s parent or guardian. The program includes an array of customized services that are based on the Pyramid Model for Promoting the Social Emotional Competence of Young Children (Center on the Social-Emotional Foundations for Early Learning). |
| Program eligibility criteria or recommended programs for initiative | Age Group Serving: ☐ Infant/Toddler   ☐ Pre-K   ☐ SACC   ☒ All Program Type: ☐ All ☐ Head Start ☐ Early Head Start ☐ PA Pre-K Counts ☐ Early Intervention Providers ☐ School District ☐ PCHP ☐ NFP ☐ Keystone Babies Child Care: ☐ All X ☐ STAR 1 X ☐ STAR 2 X ☐ STAR 3 X ☒ STAR 4 X ☐ Center ☐ Group ☐ X Family Other: |
| Website(s) for initiative | www.pakeys.org  
www.parecovery.org |
| Identify focus areas the initiative addresses | ☐ Administrative Competencies  
☐ Best Practice in Teaching and Learning  
☐ Cultural Competence and Supporting Diversity  
☐ Engaging Families  
☐ Healthy Children/Families/Practitioners  
X ☐ Social Emotional Competence and Challenging Behavior  
☐ Other (list): ____________________________  
☐ Other (list): ____________________________ |

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| Other initiatives, resources, organizations or professional development that support or enhance the initiative | Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies for Preschoolers  
Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning  
Positive Behavior Intervention Supports |
|---|---|
| Audiences for direct participation in the initiative, list all that apply | X Directors  
☐ Management/Leadership Teams  
X Teachers  
X Assistant Teachers  
☐ All Staff  
X Parents  
☐ Board Members  
☐ Community Stakeholders  
X Children  
Is a component of the initiative that information be brought back to the program and intentionally shared with others?  
X Yes ☐ Not necessarily  
Notes: |
| Keystone STARS or Program Standards addressed and CBK Topic Codes (if applicable) |  |
| Additional information or materials | Pennsylvania Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program Report FY 09-10  
Center on the Social Emotional Foundations in Early Learning  
Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social Emotional Zero to Three |
| Contact person for questions about this Initiative | Michele Walsh, Early Childhood Mental Health Project Manager  
PA Key [micwal@berksiu.org](mailto:micwal@berksiu.org) |