Infant/Toddler Community of Practice: Sharing Initiatives from the Field

September 20, 2017
Hot Topics Webinar
Facilitators

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Objectives

Participants will

◆ learn about practices used in the implementation of other States’ infant/toddler specialist networks, and

◆ explore these promising practices and identify potential opportunities for their States’ systems.
Community of Practice Origin

- Peer-to-peer conversations about infant/toddler specialist networks began with six States in February of 2017.
States

- Colorado
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- South Carolina
- Virginia
- West Virginia
Infant/Toddler Specialist Network Defined

- An *infant/toddler specialist network* (ITSN) is a state-based (sometimes regionally managed) system that coordinates the work of infant/toddler specialists and is primarily funded through Child Care and Development Fund quality funding.

- The overall goal of an ITSN is to improve caregiver practices and increase the quality of each infant and toddler’s developmental experience.
Stages of Implementation

- **Emerging**: Beginning to research and consider implementing an infant/toddler specialist network

- **Installation**: Beginning to find the needed resources to implement the infant/toddler specialist network

- **Initial implementation**: Beginning implementation of the infant/toddler specialist network

These definitions are guided by the following resources:
Stages of Implementation

- **Full implementation:** An infant/toddler specialist network has been fully implemented

- **Full implementation and revision:** As a result of continuous quality improvement and evaluation, a State may choose to revise or redesign its infant/toddler specialist network

These definitions are guided by the following resources:
### Stages of Implementation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emerging</th>
<th>Installation</th>
<th>Initial Implementation</th>
<th>Full Implementation</th>
<th>Full Implementation and Revision</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<td>MI; MN</td>
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<td>CO; SC; VA; WV</td>
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State Capacity Building Center
## State Promising Practices

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<tr>
<th>Promising Practices</th>
<th>State Examples</th>
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<tr>
<td>Infant/toddler specialist network model that includes coaching</td>
<td>CO, MI, SC, VA, WV</td>
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<td>Infant/toddler training embedded into licensing requirements</td>
<td>CO, WV</td>
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<td>Reflective supervision</td>
<td>CO, SC, WV</td>
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<td>Relationship-based practices</td>
<td>CO, MI, MN, SC, VA, WV</td>
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<td>Coordinated professional development for infant/toddler providers</td>
<td>CO, MI, MN, SC, VA, WV</td>
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<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>CO, MN, SC, VA, WV</td>
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<td>Learning communities</td>
<td>MI</td>
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Promising Practices for Infant/Toddler Specialist Networks
Colorado

- Relationship-based curriculum
- Relationship-based coaching model
Michigan

- Learning communities
- Relationship-based practices
Minnesota

- Endorsement process
- Ongoing professional development
South Carolina

- Infant/toddler mentor teacher network
- South Carolina Program for Infant/Toddler Care demonstration site
Virginia

- Coaching with programs
- Evaluation
West Virginia

- West Virginia Infant/Toddler Professional Development Program for Caregivers (WVIT)

- Family child care initiative
Thank You and Next Steps
Resource
