



the **Consortium**  
for resilient young children

**The Kindergarten Readiness Debate:**  
Evaluating Social Emotional  
Development and Early Childhood  
Mental Health Consultation Services in a  
Multi-Site Collaborative

American Evaluation Association Conference 2012



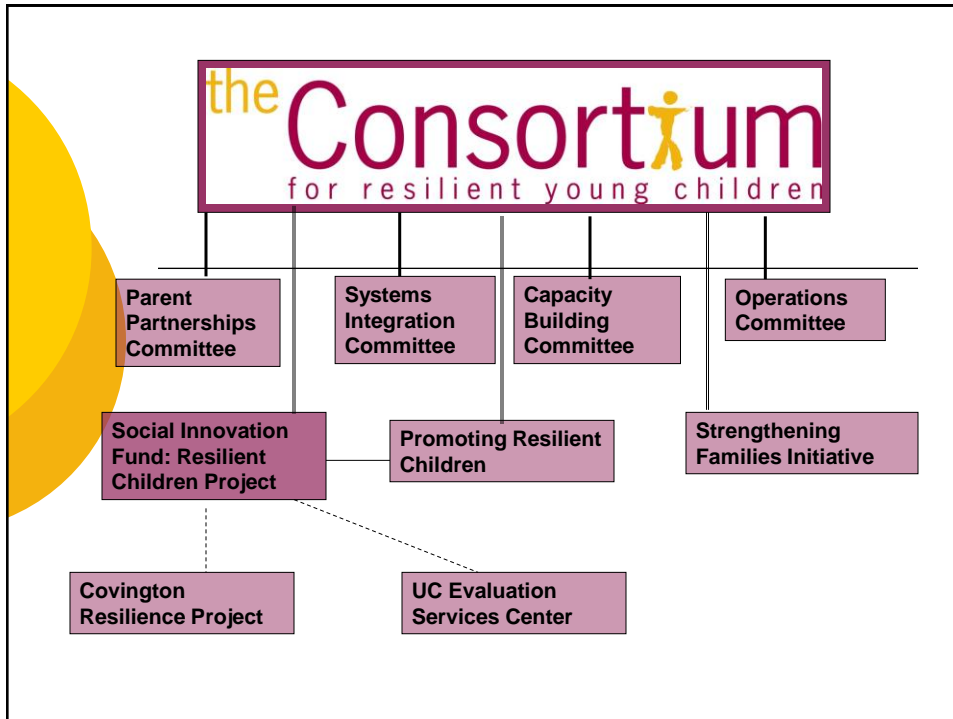

About the Consortium



**The CRYC is:**



- A regional collaborative of organizations specializing in Early Childhood Mental Health or Early Childhood Education and Care
- Comprised of 7 non profit agencies and 1 school district in the Greater Cincinnati region
- Not a 501(c)3





## Resilient Children Project





- Funded in February 2011 by the Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky Social Innovation Fund
- Expands the scope of two existing early childhood mental health consultation projects
- Provides comprehensive services to support young children's social and emotional development
- Increase the capacity of early care and education administrators and caregivers





## Resilient Children Project

- To expand early childhood mental health services in Cincinnati, Covington and Newport
- To increase the level of evidence through rigorous evaluation
- To support the infrastructure of the Consortium to engage the community and share best practices



## RPC Service Goal

To increase the effectiveness of early childhood staff in ensuring the social emotional development of pre-kindergarten children children.



## The Complex Ecology of ECMH Services



### Problem Statement

- Preschool expulsion
- Teacher stress & burnout
- Home-School disconnect

Teachers are so focused on managing behavior they were not able to engage children in learning



## The Complex Ecology of ECMH Services

### Benefits of Social and Emotional Learning

Good science links **Social & Emotional Learning** to the following:

#### STUDENT GAINS

- Social-emotional skills
- Improved attitudes about self, others, and school
- Positive classroom behavior
- 11 percentile-point gain on standardized achievement tests

- Conduct problems
- Aggressive behavior
- Emotional distress

#### REDUCED RISKS FOR FAILURE

Source: Durlak, J.A., Weissberg, R.P., Dymnicki, A.B., Taylor, R.D., and Schellinger, K. (2011). The Impact of Enhancing Students' Social and Emotional Learning: A Meta-Analysis of School-Based Universal Interventions. *Child Development*, (82) 1, Pp. 405-432.

# The Complex Ecology of ECMH Services



## On-site early childhood mental health consultation

- Universal, Targeted, and Intensive Services
  - Observation
  - Consultation
  - Coaching
  - Training
  - Assessment
  - Transition Services



# Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation



## Organizational Priorities and Values



- Collaborative
- Deliver High Quality Services
- Data Driven
- Innovative
- Transparent



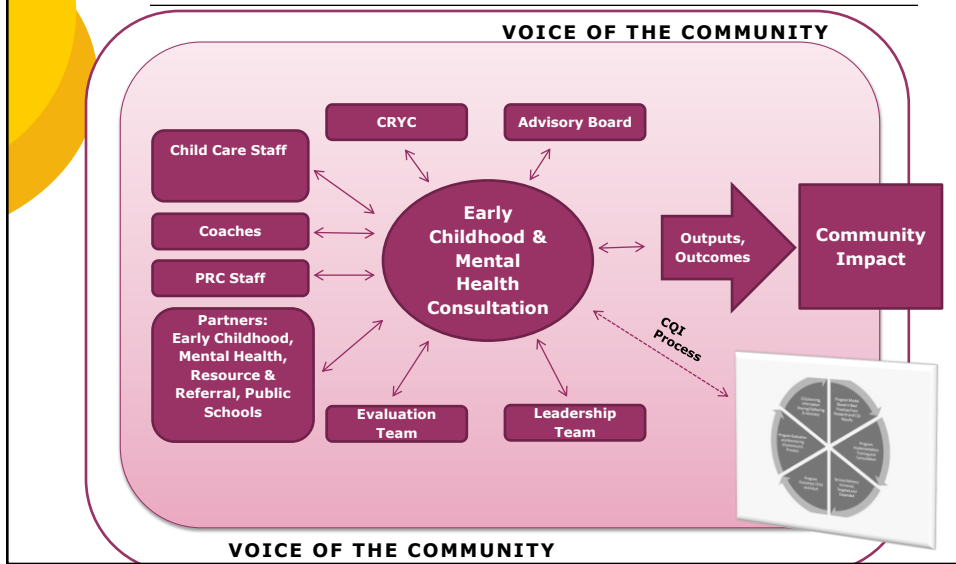
## The Role of Evaluation



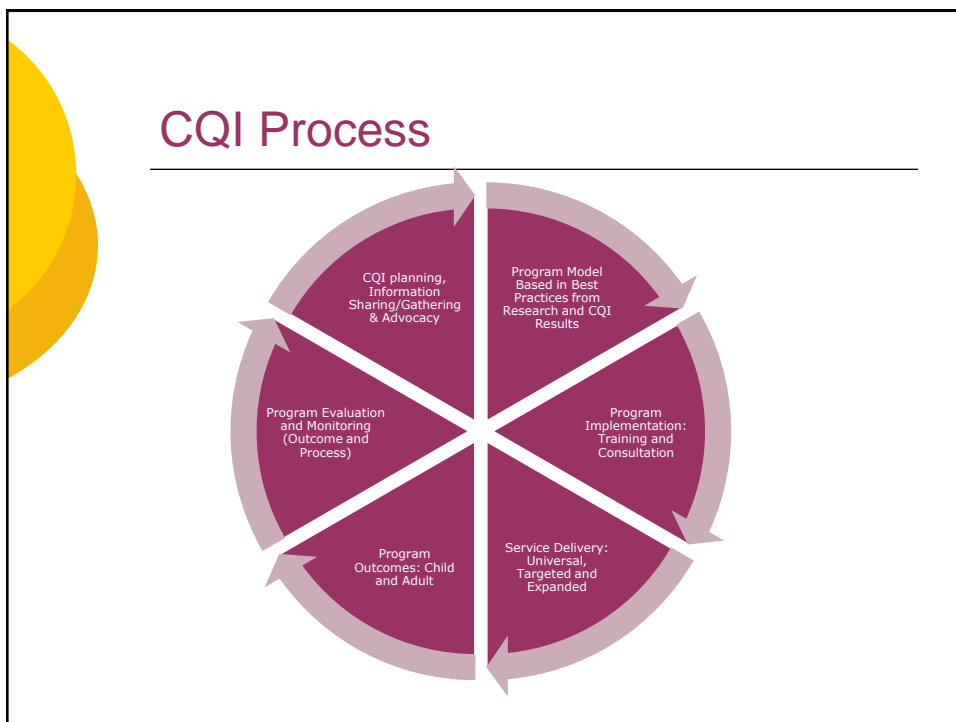
- Accountability
- Communicating Impact
- Program Improvement



## Work System



## CQI Process



## Infrastructure and Communication



- Prioritization of data feedback
- Building capacity of coaches to share data
- Sharing data through coaches
- Reporting to participants, stakeholders, community



## Resilient Children Project Contacts



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**[www.facebook.com/resilientchildren](https://www.facebook.com/resilientchildren)**  
**[www.twitter.com/resilientchild](https://www.twitter.com/resilientchild)**





## About UC Evaluation Services Center

- Our mission is to support, educate, and build the capacity of educational and human services programs to make data-based decisions for accountability, meaningful program improvement, and policy development.



Evaluation Services Center

## Working the Pyramid: Implementation Evaluation Within An Early Childhood Mental Health Context

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# DECA, KRA-L and DIAL: The Alphabet Soup of Measuring Kindergarten Readiness

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