Oregon's QRIS

Module 1: Introductory Training for Quality Improvement Specialists

Introductions

Checking in, can you hear me now?

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Module Series

1. **Introduction to Spark: Oregon's QRIS**
2. Engaging Early Learning Programs in Spark
3. Spark Quality Improvement Phase, part 1
4. Spark Quality Improvement Phase, part 2: Spark Standards
5. Spark Quality Improvement Phase, part 3: The Portfolio
6. Spark Quality Rating Phase
7. Spark Continuous Quality Improvement Phase

Training Logistics

- ✓ **Zoom**
- ✓ **Moodle**
  - *Training materials*
- ✓ **Agenda**
- ✓ **Handouts**
  - *Acronym handout*
- ✓ **Other logistics**
- ✓ **Watch for the Star**

Training Objectives

- Participants will understand the components, history and development of Spark
- Participants will review the roles of Spark statewide partners

Icebreaker

- Based on the training objectives, what is the one question that you want to be sure is addressed during today's training.

What is Spark?

Spark: Oregon's QRIS

Spark

Empowering early educators
to inspire children

What do you currently understand about Spark?

Spark is a

Quality

Rating

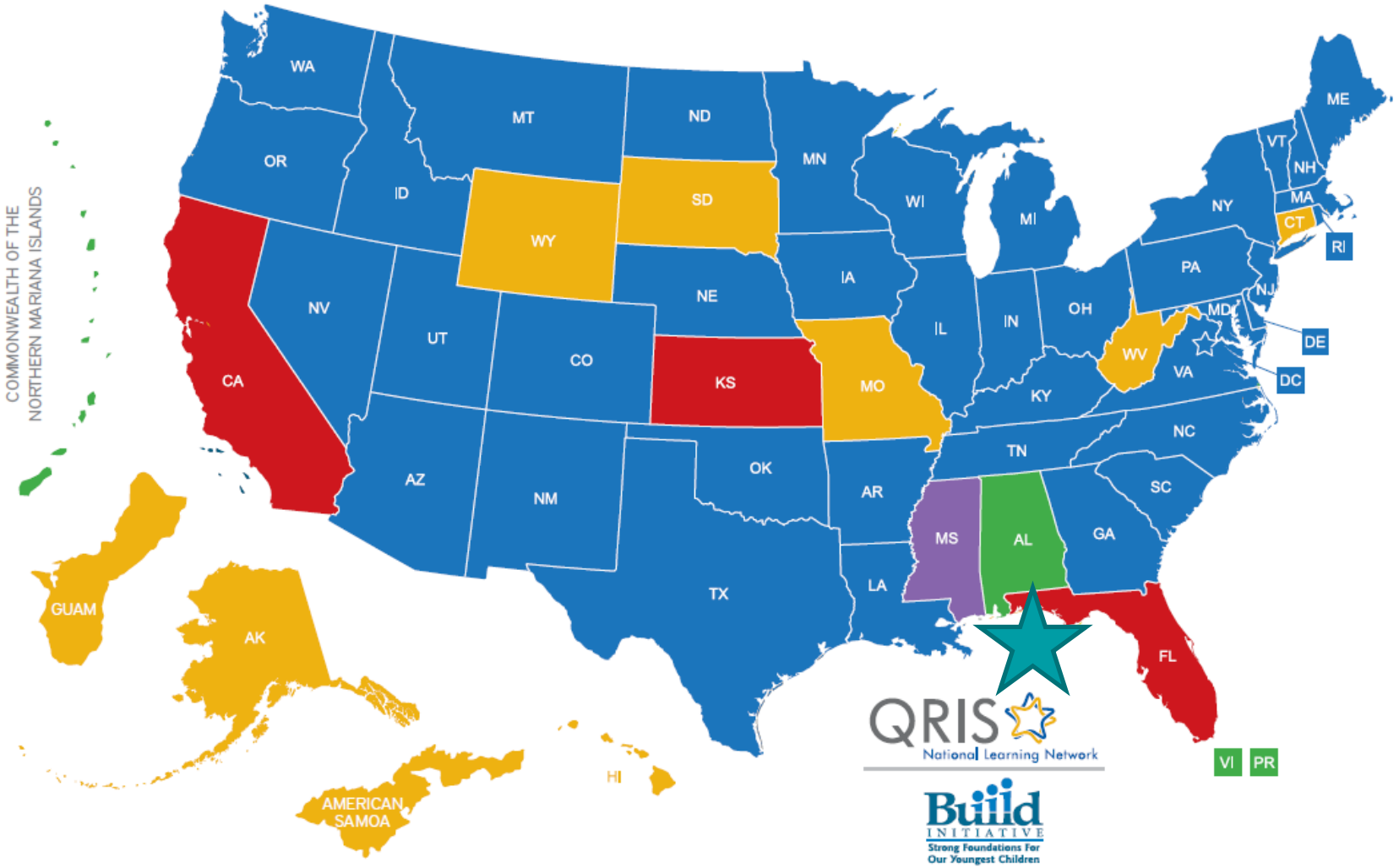
Improvement

System

Increased Quality and Better Outcomes for Children in Oregon

Current Status of QRIS in States

January 2017



Spark Components Phases

- Commitment to Quality Phase
- Quality Improvement Phase
- Quality Rating Phase
- Continuous Quality Improvement Phase

Break

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Narrative

Four providers have expressed curiosity to you about Spark.

- **Maribeth Lootens, the Director at Butterfly House, a Certified Center**
- **Carrie Middleton, a Registered Family provider and owner of Carrie's Ducklings Daycare**
- **Natasha Kulish, a Certified Family provider and owner at Sunshine Child Care**
- **Jackie Bainbridge, the early learning department head at Monmouth ESD.**

What do you think they may have heard about Spark, and what are some questions you think they might have?

Spark Standards and Portfolio Development Process

Standards Development Input Sources

- Review of research and best practices on early childhood care and education
- Caring for Our Children Standards
- Research and evaluation from QRISs around the nation
- Cultural and Linguistic Competency Technical Assistance from Build Foundation
- Race to the Top Grant Feedback
- Cost Modeling from national QRIS experts

Standards Development Principles

- Support positive child outcomes linked to school readiness
- "Few and powerful”
- Understandable, relevant, and intuitive
- Measurable and feasible to monitor
- Progressive/distinct among the levels

Portfolio System

- Balance of evidence
  - Documentation
  - Report
  - Observation
  - Data
- Reviewed by Early Learning Specialists

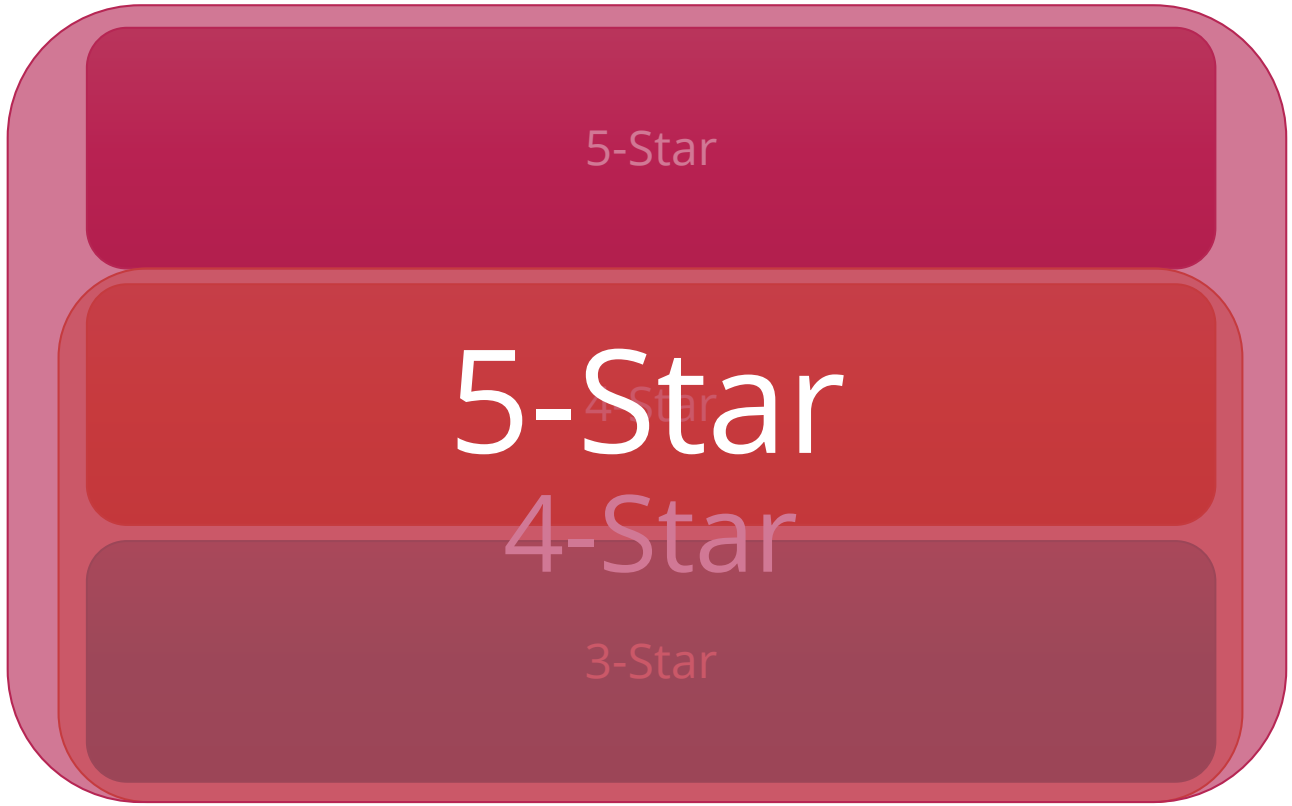
Spark Domains and Standards

Children's Learning and Development	• 12 standards
Health and Safety	• 6 Standards
Family Partnerships	• 4 Standards
Personnel Qualifications	• 5 Standards
Administration and Business Practices	• 6 Standards

Spark Standards Structure

Spark's 5 Tier Building Block System

Star Level Indicators: Building Block



Other Spark Details

- Spark rating by licensed site
  - Multiple-site portfolio available during Quality Rating Phase
  - Only licensed programs can participate

- Head Start, Oregon Programs of Quality (OPQ) and programs accredited by National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), Association of Christian School International (ACSI) eligible for accelerated process
- Materials available in Russian and Spanish

Alternative Pathway

- For programs that are not licensed by Early Learning Division
  - Office of Child Care does not have authority to license programs run by school districts and Educational Service Districts (ESD)
  - Holds current programs harmless if license expires between now and time alternative pathway is in place
  - Programs will keep star rating through the transition between licensing and the Alternative Pathway being developed

Questions and Comments

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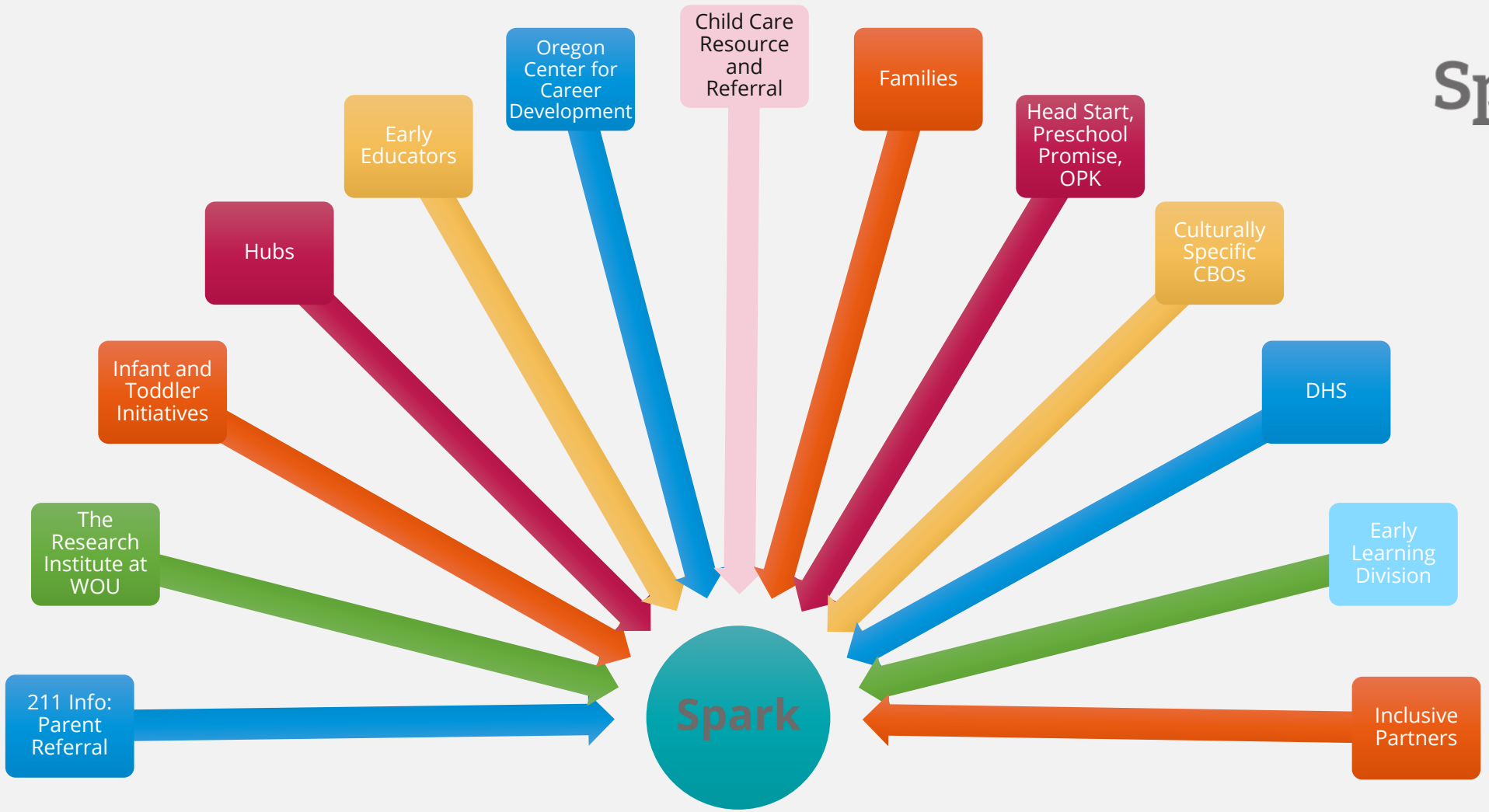
Introduction of Spark partners and their roles in relation to Spark


Spark
Child Care Resource and Referral
Oregon Center for Career Development
Early Educators
Families
Head Start, Preschool Promise, OPK
Hubs
Culturally Specific CBOs
Infant and Toddler Initiatives
DHS
The Research Institute at WOU
Early Learning Division
211 Info: Parent Referral
Inclusive Partners
Spark

Coordinated System with Key Early Learning Partners

- TRI (The Research Institute)
- OCCD (Oregon Center for Career Development)
- CCR&Rs (Child Care Resource & Referral)
- ELD/OCC (Early Learning Division/Office of Child Care)

The Research Institute (TRI)

TRI is responsible for the administration of Spark, including:

- Technical Assistance (TA) for Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS) and other early learning system partners
- Processes including supports and incentives, portfolio review, compliance review and rating maintenance

Oregon Center for Career Development (OCCD/ORO)

- OCCD partners with Spark by providing information and TA regarding professional development planning and tracking.

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs)

- CCRR&Ss engage and support programs' participation in Spark within their local communities.

Early Learning Division (ELD)

- Early Learning Division provides the funding and leadership for Spark. ELD is responsible for all final decisions related to Spark.

Questions and Comments

Spark
JEOPARDY!

What is Spark

Spark Standards and Portfolio Development Process

Statewide partners and their roles in relation to Spark

Professional Action

Complete the following:

- Join the QIS group on the TRI Spark website: http://triwou.org/projects/spark/groups
- Create an account for the Oregon QRIS Resources Website: https://www.oregonqrisresources.org/utility-pages/log-in/?redirectUrl=/
- Sign up for the Spark Newsletter. Go to http://triwou.org/pages/show/contact-us and request to be added to the mailing list by emailing qrishelp@wou.edu

Preview Module 2

- Spark eligibility, Welcome Kit, and Self Assessment
- Strategies to support programs planning next steps

Closing

- Final thoughts and questions
- Moodle
  - Check for understanding
  - Evaluation
- Certificates