

Overview of Infant Toddler Consultant Modules Project

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Origin

- Increased interest in quality of infant toddler care settings
- Emergence of consultant, coaching providers
- Creation of new materials and other resources to support teacher-caregivers
- Expectations of positive impact of early care on health and development

Context of NTI

- HCCA Campaign created network of resources which form a template for consultant support
- NTI provides generic modules relevant for all consultants, coaches, mentors
- HCCNE seeking project to continue partnership
- Area of IT offered opportunity to grow

Infant Toddler Modules

- Developed to be 'discipline specific' for infant toddler growth and learning and to complement NTI
- Designed to provide consultants with summary of best practice and current thinking and with resources and activities they can use to promote the use of these by teacher-caregivers

NTI Modules

- **Building Consultation Skills**
- **Building Curriculum Development and Training Skills**
- *Caring for Children's Oral Health*
- **Caring for Children Who Are Ill**
- **Caring for Children Who Are Maltreated**
- **Caring for Children with Special Needs**
- *Environmental Health*
- **Field of Child Care**
- *Infectious Disease in Child Care Settings*
- *Injury Prevention in Child Care Parts A and B*
- **Mental Health in the Child Care Setting: supporting social and Emotional Development**
- **Nutrition and Physical Activity in Child Care**
- **Quality in Child Care and How to Measure It: The Early Childhood Environment Rating Scales**
- **Staff Health**

Infant Toddler Modules

- Module I – Relationships: The Heart of Development and Learning
- Module II – Infant Toddler Development, Screening, and On-going Assessment
- Module III – Infant Toddler Curriculum and Individualization

Pilots

Used interdisciplinary approach that includes 'consultants' and 'managers' in health, education, mental health, social services and directors from child care and Early Head Start

– Pilot I – 2007 using 5-day format

- 45 participants (26 infant toddler)
- 7 teams (5 child care, 2 Early Head Start)

– Pilot II – 2008-2009 using 6-day format

- 24 participants (16 infant toddler)
 - Additionally, 1 director and 8 partners/guests
- 3 teams (1 child care, 2 Early Head Start)
- Integration of Part C

Outcomes

- Increase consistency through schedule changes and multi-year assignments
- Increase hiring of better qualified staff
- Increase use of parent input and partnering
- Increase in targeted teacher-caregiver coaching and training
- More policies specific to infants, toddlers

Outcomes

Vignette – A state-funded child care center providing care for children aged 6 weeks to school-age that has operated for 30 years in its community. Staff are seasoned. The present director began as a teacher aide there 25 years ago and now has her doctorate and is an adjunct instructor in an ECE program. The 'newest' manager on her team has been with the program for 9 years! They will talk about the value of the training to their team.....

Outcomes

- In the first clip when asked by a Pilot 2 participant how the training impacted them as a team they spoke about working more closely together now...
- In the second clip they describe the impact of the training on their additional efforts to engage parents of infants and their updating of infant toddler materials in the classroom...

New England Collaboration

- IT Modules project grew out of New England partnership, including RO/ZTT support
- All states participated in reviews of draft modules and in developing plans for implementation
- CT pilots open to consultants and partners from other states
- Cross state collaboration has been helpful to identify training tools, approaches and resources
- Potential for multi-state training

Ideas, Next Steps