

SUMMER 2013

All of us at QUALITYstarsNY hope you are enjoying these last days of summer. Before the new school year begins, we wanted to take the time to share and acknowledge the hard work that our staff and participants have accomplished and report upon some of the exciting developments that are underway.

Implementation Update

QUALITYstarsNY is excited to report that 336 participating programs have submitted their Standards Self-Study, a critical component of [Phase Two](#) of the Quality Improvement process. The QUALITYstarsNY rating team has been actively reviewing and evaluating each site's documents and materials and generating Provisional Ratings.

A team of QUALITYstarsNY independent assessors have been simultaneously working with sites to conduct Environment Rating Scale (ERS) assessments. The results of these observations will inform the sites' Active Ratings.

Participants are taking advantage of the range of quality improvement supports and opportunities available to them. In addition to working with their designated Quality Improvement Specialist to review Provisional Ratings and create individualized Quality Improvement Plans (QIP), many providers and site administrators have been actively participating in local Learning Communities. These Learning Communities provide opportunities for program leadership and staff to come together to share and learn best practices through peer mentorship. Read about a recent Learning Community meeting in our Spotlight column.

A Look Ahead: Fall 2013

In This Issue:

- [Implementation Update](#)
- [Spotlight: Buffalo Learning Community](#)
- [Get Ready for QUALITYstarsNY](#)
- [Submit your Story: Strong Start for Children Campaign](#)

Support the Strong Start for Children Campaign

Contribute your personal experiences about child care to the campaign. Help advance the vision of quality care for all children.

[Learn more and Submit](#)

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What is QUALITYstarsNY?



- Active Ratings and ERS assessment results to be issued.
- Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) trainings to become available in preparation for 2014 CLASS observations for centers and public schools.
- QUALITYstarsNY website to launch Family Portal - a designated space on the website to help families identify quality early learning programs and promote quality at home and in the classroom.

Download the Brochure



Spotlight

Author, attorney, and acclaimed keynote speaker, Holly Elissa Bruno, joined over 50 QUALITYstarsNY participants at the Buffalo Early Learning Community for two days in early August. Holly met with Family Providers to host an interactive training on her book, *Managing Legal Risks in Early Childhood Programs*. She also met with center directors to discuss themes in her book, *What You Need to Lead an Early Childhood Program: Emotional Intelligence in Practice*.



Recounting the Learning Community meeting to her QI Specialist, one participant reported, "This was a great day for both my assistant and myself. We learned some new things and met some great people. Most of all Holly was fun and made us laugh. We walked out with a renewed energy and we are thankful for the opportunity!"

Get Ready for QUALITYstarsNY

Although QUALITYstarsNY is not accepting additional participants at this time, programs can get ready to participate in QUALITYstarsNY and access all of the exciting quality improvement resources that will be available to them by following some key steps. These activities include: reviewing the QUALITYstarsNY Program Standards and getting supporting documentation in order, joining [Aspire, New York State's Workforce Registry](#), and enhancing

staff professional development. Learn more about how to [Get Ready for QUALITYstarsNY.](#)

Strong Start for Children Campaign

Submit personal stories about your experiences with child care!

As part of the [Strong Start for Children Campaign](#) to support a bold federal proposal to expand high-quality early education, The National Women's Law Center (NWLC) is collecting stories to illustrate how quality child care and preschool helps children get off to the right start. The NWLC will turn these stories into a book and deliver them to key federal decision-makers whose support is needed to advance the federal early learning proposal.

Please join us in supporting the NWLC by submitting your story before **September 10**. It's easy to do and can help thousands of young children. [Share your story today!](#)

***Thank you for your ongoing dedication to QUALITYstarsNY!
We look forward to working together to advance this important initiative.***

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QUALITYstarsNY is coordinated by the [New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute](#).

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