

Welcome to the SDA 4 RAC Meeting!



Purpose

SPARK needs you, your time, and your voice.

The purpose of the Regional Advisory Council is to strategically aid and advise SPARK Learning Lab about our services, so we can better support those who support Hoosier children and families.

We know your time is precious and thank you for joining us tonight.



These Hoosiers are worth it...



Meeting Overview

- Review Old Business
- New Business
 - SPARK Annual Report
 - PTQ Education Requirements
 - PTQ Cohorts
 - New Discussion Board Feature (Groups)
 - COVID-19 Data and Updates
 - Stories of Success During COVID-19
- Highlights from the Field
- Public Comment
- Agreements and Action Items
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting

RAC Member Introductions

- Name
- Organization name and role



Review Old Business

- At the beginning of each meeting, the Council reviews action items and recommendations from the previous meeting and discusses progress made
- View meeting minutes for each SDA on the SPARK website
<http://indianaspark.com/regional-advisory-councils/>

Old Business – Communication Related Recommendations

In order to engage providers who aren't on social media, SPARK will post some information on the community section on SPARK's website.

Exploring the possibility of adding a widget to our website that scrolls updates.

Old Business – Data Recommendations

The RAC would be interested in data regarding how many programs are engaged with SPARK, including various tier assignments by county so we can identify gaps.

Due to a robust agenda, SPARK can make this data available at our September RAC meeting.

Old Business – Fingerprinting Recommendations

Mike will confirm whether or not child care workers who are switching to working in a different program need new fingerprints if they haven't been unemployed by a child care provider for a period of 180 days.

Fingerprints are portable between early childhood programs within the state of Indiana, meaning that if a person has a viable fingerprint in the last three years and has been employed in an early childhood program within the last 180 days, a new fingerprint is not required at the time of hire.

Old Business – Partnership Recommendations

SPARK will look into partnering with CCR&Rs to compile resources, such as where the workforce can get CPR training, TB tests, etc.

SPARK engaged our partners at the Child Care Resource and Referral agencies. Many of the CCR&Rs have information on how and where to access many of the the indicated pre-employment activities.

Old Business – PTQ Recommendations

RAC members would like SPARK to post PTQ insufficiency data publicly (on SPARK's website). SPARK will confirm with OECOSL if this is acceptable.

SPARK can continue to give updates to interested RACs at RAC meetings, but unfortunately we are unable to post this data publicly.

Old Business

Questions?





New Business

SPARK Annual Report

- Goal: Exceed expectations in supporting Indiana's identified early childhood education and care programs become safer and higher quality.
- Objective 1: Maintain PTQ Enrollment (% of eligible)
- Objective 2: Increase # of programs advancing in PTQ by 5%
- Objective 3: Support 90% of non-compliant programs with Quality Improvement Plan

SPARK Annual Report

- Objective 4a: Refer 90% of those interested in increasing their education to IN AEYC
- Objective 4b: Deploy 12 resources or events that support degrees, credentials, and certificates
- Objective 5a: Support programs with prior safe sleep violations, ensuring that 80% do not have a recurrence
- Objective 5b: Deploy 6 resources or events that support best practices in Safe Sleep (example [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) English & Spanish)

PTQ Education Requirements

- Based on data, are there any trends that the RAC would like to highlight?
- Are there any recommendations for SPARK moving forward?
- What other data would be helpful?

PTQ Cohorts

- 83 programs completed the PTQ Cohorts in March 2021.
- 128 demonstrated interest in the a PTQ Cohort April-June 2021, 98 are currently enrolled
- Current Cohorts include PTQ Advancement, PTQ Maintenance, Making the Accreditation Decision, Accreditation Self-Study, and VCP

SPARK learning lab has made a major impact at the St. Jude Early Learning Ministry. The cohorts have given me guidance to steer the ELM in the right direction to becoming an extraordinary facility. Having this opportunity to collect thoughts from a person a few times a month has opened up my thought process on how to run our program. The creative ideas I have received during the cohorts have made an impact on the teachers and students. I believe SPARKS learning lab and the cohorts are very beneficial and thank you for the chance to take part in this process.

If my Coach didn't reach out and help with PTQ when she did, I would have dropped out. I never felt supported with my past coaches and all of the changes have left me confused. This cohort provided the support I needed to be successful.

To sing Nicole's praises...her kindness, compassion, and willingness to constantly make sure that we were all going to be successful in our jobs was amazing! Such a breath of fresh air and a hand on my shoulder letting me know I could do this and she'd be right there with me the entire time. It's been amazing and vital to my success!

After the first meeting, I knew that I was in excellent hands, not just due to coach's assistance and constant willingness to help, but because I had a group of other Directors and Administrators who were also working towards their PTQ goals. Having this group to meet with throughout the month was vital to my learning process and to my success! I immediately knew that I had others to guide me, to answer questions, and to brainstorm ideas and suggestions with. To say that the cohort group was amazing for me is a true understatement. I have enjoyed this experience so much, I requested to repeat the group experience with a new cohort this spring.

MY SPARK LEARNING LAB GROUPS USER TESTING Insights & Next Steps for Implementation



USER TESTING INSIGHTS

User Testing Insights & Satisfaction

100%

Groups is easy
and user-friendly

100%

100%

60%

Likelihood to use
over similar tool

60%

n/a

78%

Overall
Satisfaction

100%

66%

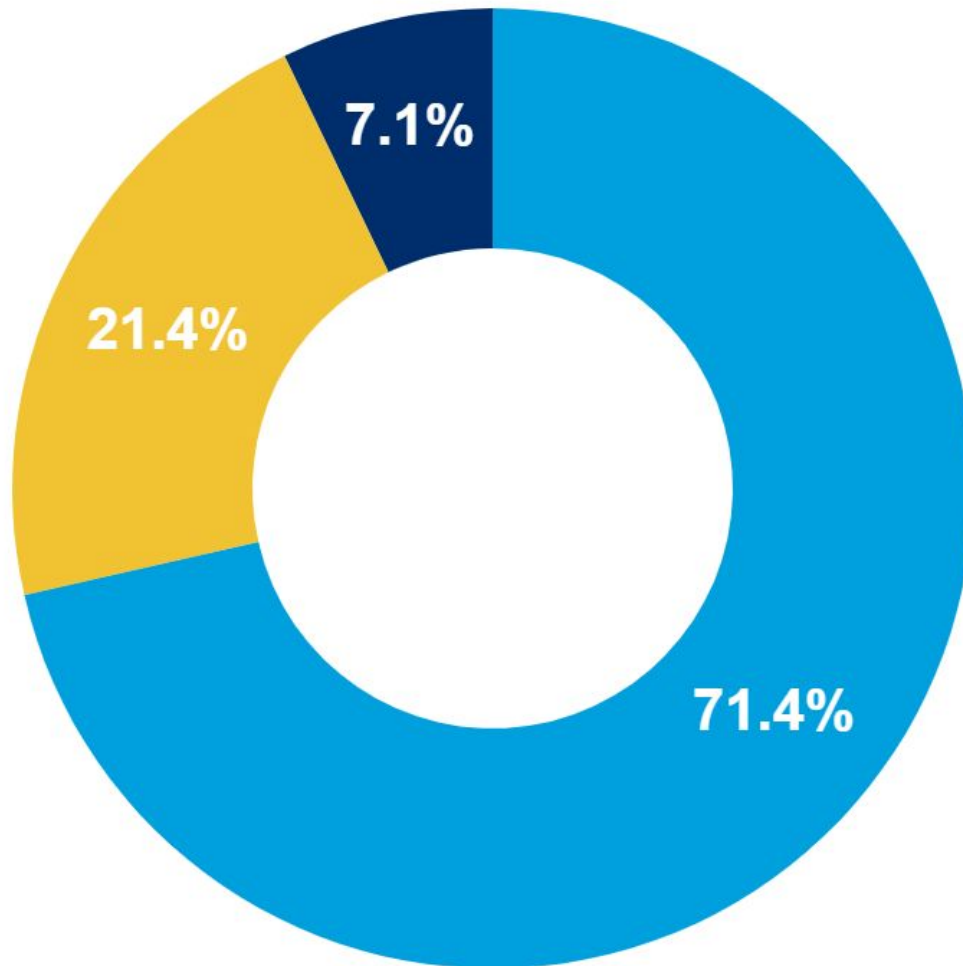
67

Net Promoter
Score

80

57

How should SPARK set up Groups access at initial rollout to users?



- Some Groups are open to all, and some are Invite or specific criteria must be met to participate
- All Groups are open to all users and they can join anytime
- No Groups are open to the public, but based on specific criteria must be met to participate

How would the Groups feature be best used by SPARK?

- Peer mentoring
- Directors only
- Peer to peer engagement on defined topics
- Continued collaboration after Professional Development
- General updates from SPARK

Timeline

- April 1-15 2021 - Determine best use of Groups
- April 16-30 - Design groups and load into My SPARK Learning Lab
- May 1-15 - Make visible to participants and invite participation

COVID-19

- March 25th - [Indiana's CRRSAA Plan recording](#)
- April 11th - Emergency Relief Grants
 - Provides a 20% increase for active CCDF vouchers through August 27th
 - All eligible programs must complete *SPARK! Fundamentals to Business Sustainability Collection* during that time

COVID-19

- May 2021 - Essential Frontline Families Scholarships
 - Frontline is defined by the Governor's Executive Order
 - Pays 80% of tuition up front with family responsible for 20% based on your program's policies
 - Through October 2021
 - SPARK, in partnership with ELI, IAN, and OECOSL, will offer a pre-requisite information session that includes a readiness assessment

Stories of Success During COVID-19

What has gone well within your program and/or community?



Highlights from the Field

What are you hearing from the field and programs in your community?

Local successes
Issues or concerns
News
Other updates



Public Comment

- We want to hear from you!
- What questions/comments do you have for SPARK and the Council?



Agreements

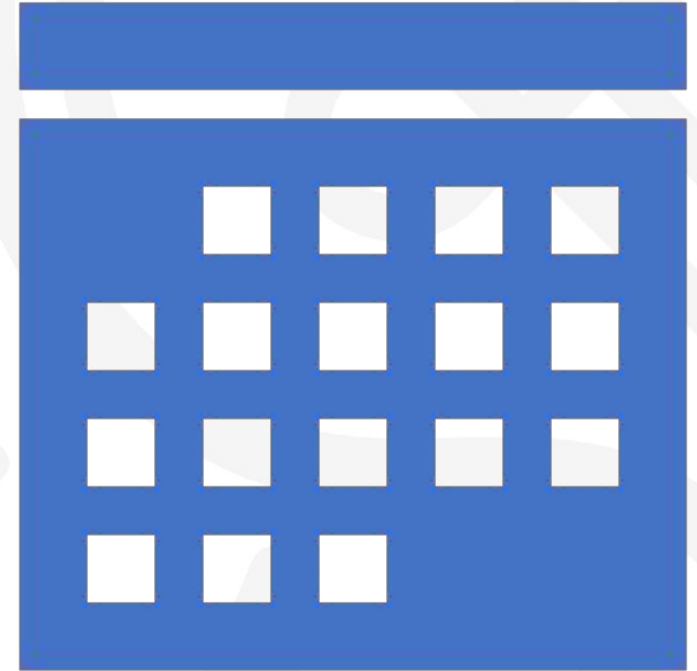
Based on what has been presented, RAC discussion, and public comment, what suggestions and perspectives need to be captured for SPARK Learning Lab or partners to consider?

Items from Old Business
SPARK Annual Report
Educational Requirements
PTQ Cohorts

New Discussion Board Feature (Groups)
COVID-19 Data and Updates
Stories of Success during COVID-19
Highlights from the Field
Other Items

Meeting Schedule

- Tuesday September 7, 6:00-8:00pm EST



Agenda Items for Next Meeting



What topics and/or SPARK supports would the Council like to discuss in September?

Stay Connected with SPARK

- Sign up for SPARK newsletter: <http://indianaspark.com/>
- Follow SPARK on social media!
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [Twitter](#)
 - [Instagram](#)
- Email RAC@indianaspark.com with questions



Let's Spark a Conversation!