

Research shows that
Quality Early
Learning
Programs...

- ➔ Improve young children's development
- ➔ Enhance school readiness
- ➔ Help close the achievement gap
- ➔ Improve health, social-emotional and cognitive outcomes



For more information:

Ashley Chavez
Quality Counts Program Director
Community Child Care Council (4Cs) of
Sonoma County
131-A Stony Circle Suite 300
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

(707) 522-1413 ext. 114
achavez@sonoma4cs.org



QUALITY COUNTS

Promoting Excellence in Early Care and Education



Sonoma County's
Quality Improvement Rating System
(QIRS)

<https://www.sonoma4cs.org/quality-counts/>

Quality Counts provides
information, resources
and support to participants

Funded by First 5 California and
California Department of Education

Quality Counts is a collaborative initiative promoting excellence in early care and education for programs, providers and families. Our work includes the Quality Improvement Rating System (QIRS) for Sonoma County.

What is the Quality Improvement System Rating (QIRS)?

QIRS is a voluntary program focused on providing information, resources and support to early care and education programs and providers serving children birth through age five. Our goal is to enhance the quality of early learning programs and recognize the valuable work that is being done in our county. Information, resources and support is provided in the following areas:

- Child Development and School Readiness
- Social Emotional Development Health,
- Nutrition and Physical Activity
- Effective Teacher-Child Interactions
- Professional Development
- Environment
- Program Administration
- Family Engagement



Eligible Programs Serving Children Birth to Age Five Include:

- Private Center-based Programs Family
- Child Care Homes & Providers Early
- Head Start / Head Start
- State-funded Preschool and Child Care Programs
- License-Exempt Programs
- Eligible Alternative Sites serving young children

OPPORTUNITIES

CHILD DEVELOPMENT & SCHOOL READINESS

- Learn about the California Early Learning Foundations and Curriculum Frameworks
- Learn about evidence-based best practices
- Learn about and receive effective health promotion practices to keep your program healthy and safe.
- Receive tools and support for early identification and intervention services for children

TEACHERS & TEACHING

- Become part of a learning community focused on raising program quality
- Participate in no cost professional development opportunities in English & Spanish
- Receive resources to enhance teacher-child interactions
- Become eligible to receive stipends or incentives for approved professional growth or academic coursework

PROGRAMS & ENVIRONMENT

- Access resources and materials to enhance environments, teaching and learning.
- Receive resources and support on program administration and leadership
- Receive resources and support on family engagement practices



Why should my program participate in QIRS...?

...because Quality Counts!

- Receive ongoing coaching support as well as training and technical assistance that will benefit you and your staff
- Gain access to no/low cost workshops and trainings
- Discover new ideas to enhance learning experiences for young children
- Be part of a supportive network; share ideas
- Receive information to help market your program
- Receive recognition from families, peers and community members as providing a high quality program
- Find out about how to receive cash and material awards
- Receive no-cost program assessments by trained and reliable external assessors