



## Parents as Teachers

### **Maximizing Quality and Fidelity: What's on the Horizon for the Parents as Teachers Quality Standards and Self-Assessment Process?**

2011 brings significant changes to Parents as Teachers curriculum and training, including the development of a new model implementation guide and a focus on meeting the 2011 Essential Requirements. All these changes have a corresponding, major impact on the existing quality standards and self-assessment process.

The 2011 revision has allowed us to more fully incorporate quality indicators into the fabric of the curriculum and training. However, as a result, the quality standards and self assessment process now need a close review and revision. The existing Parents as Teachers quality standards and accompanying self-assessment guidelines will be revised as of July, 2011 so that they are more clearly aligned with the essential requirements and new data reporting expectations.

So, what do programs do in the interim? We recommend that programs do not begin the comprehensive program self-assessment process at this time. The compliance assessment that will be completed as part of this year's APR is essentially a focused program self-assessment on a smaller scale. Until the revised standards and accompanying self-assessment guidelines are released in July 2011, programs should focus on understanding the essential requirements and completing the compliance assessment with their APR. In addition, supervisors should review the retraining information and determine the plan for existing parent educators to attend the foundational training (e.g. will you stagger their attendance, where are the training locations and dates, etc.) and then the model retraining.

If a program has already started the program self-assessment process this year, it is not wasted effort because the indicators are being brought into the new curriculum and training and will retain significant value. The learning that has been gained through the self-assessment process will still strengthen the program.

Whatever point of the process a program is at, they can take what they've learned and the information they've gathered so far and engage in discussion and shared learning during staff meetings, and supervision sessions. We highly recommend that the 2011 essential requirements be incorporated into any ongoing self-assessment process and an assessment of compliance with these be used to provide a focus.

If you have additional questions about these changes, please contact Karen Guskin, Director of Research and Evaluation at [Karen.Guskin@parentsasteachers.org](mailto:Karen.Guskin@parentsasteachers.org).