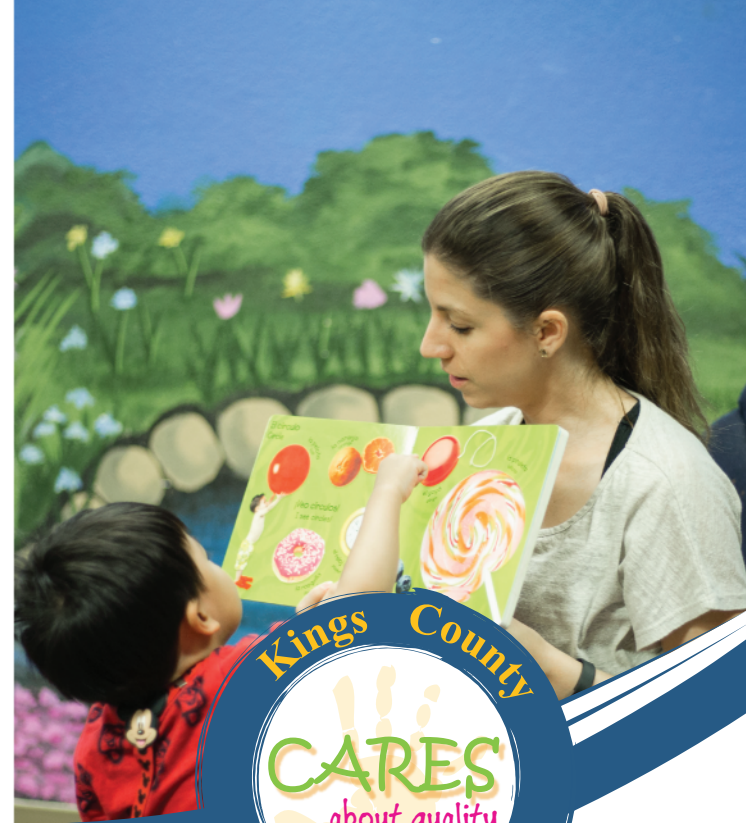




The Kings County Cares about Quality (KCCAQ) program will focus on providing professional development to early education programs in collaboration with First 5 Kings County, the Local Childcare Planning Council (LPC) and the Kings Community Action Organization (KCAO) Resource and Referral Program (R&R).



KCCAQ Program Outcome Goals:

The ultimate aim of the Kings County Cares About Quality program is to promote high-quality standards within the early care and education field; to work with child care agencies and community partners to determine the best course of action to leverage knowledge and resources and eliminate duplication of services; and to inform the public on what high-quality programming includes.

The program will provide training and technical assistance to ECE staff, rate and monitor the quality of Early Childhood Education programs, provide ECE quality improvement interventions, and provide incentives to programs and teachers to improve.



KCCAQ Program
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Provide support, encouragement, incentives and rewards to care providers who understand the importance of further educating themselves on the best developmental practices for young children.





Program Eligibility

Sites:

- Site must be in good standing with Community Care Licensing
- Children must be 0-5 years of age
- Must provide service and/or care for more than one child that is not your own
- Site staff must participate in a minimum of 10 hours of Professional Development through KCCAQ program
- Must be located in Kings County

Community Participants:

- Must work in a licensed center, licensed family child care home or non-licensed home, or work at alternate setting such as Family Resource Center or UCP Parent and Me program
- Must work for a minimum of 15 hour per week and for at least 9 consecutive months during one program year
- Must participate in a minimum of 10 hours of Professional Development through the KCCAQ program
- Must work in Kings County

Levels of Implementation

- Step 1:** Participating sites will have the option of choosing either Family Engagement or Effective Teacher Child interaction as a focus area.
- Step 2:** Participating sites will use the Family Engagement materials to begin implementation of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System and Environmental Rating System.
- Step 3:** Participating sites will engage in the Quality Rating and Improvement System rating process. Coaches will work with site administrators to identify areas for program improvement and developing a site improvement plan to increase program quality.



Continuous Quality Improvement Pathways

Effective Teacher-Child Interaction

Offers training and professional development to improve the capacity of teachers to use data in the classroom, to plan for developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate teaching strategies, and to use promising practices that foster appropriate interactions and environment.

Family Engagement

Help staff assess needs, provide resources, encourage parents' participation in their child's learning and conduct parent meetings that include information on quality early learning environment and school readiness.

School Readiness

All sites are required to assess and observe children using DRDP and to conduct social-emotional development screening using the ASQ. Sites are also expected to use ERS and comply with Title 22 health and safety standards.

Environment

All sites, FCC or center based, will have access to training with follow-up coaching/TA to systematically improve the quality of their environment.