

## When does this begin?

We are launching the QRIS now through December 2009. It is the intent of GSC-W to continue to solicit funding to make the demonstration project ongoing until the entire county is covered. The continuance of the funding is the success of the impact on quality in the individual sites. Those who participate in the QRIS will have direct input into how this project is developed in the future, both county-wide and state-wide.



GSC-W is working in collaboration with The Skillman Good Neighborhoods Initiative and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan Early Learning Communities.

To learn more about Great Start Collaborative-Wayne and the Quality Rating & Improvement System, visit us online at: [www.greatstartcollaborativewayne.org](http://www.greatstartcollaborativewayne.org).



### Mission

The mission of the Great Start Collaborative-Wayne (GSC-W), is to engage the entire community to assure a coordinated system of services and resources to assist all Wayne County families in providing a great start for their children from birth through age five.

### Vision

A Great Start for every child in Wayne County: safe, healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life.

## Become a



## Partner



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## What is the Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS)?

A system that helps support child care providers to improve the quality of their program both in the process of delivery (child/adults relationships, environmental quality, teaching processes, etc.) and in the structure of their program (parent/caregiver relationships, business aspects, qualifications of caregivers, collaboration with others, etc).



## Who qualifies to participate in this demonstration project?

For year 1, this demonstration project will be offered to anyone who has been licensed or registered to provide child care in a center or home setting for at least one year in the following zip codes: 48208, 48209, 48210, 48216, 48217, and 48223. This is a voluntary project. The intent for the GSC-W is for this project to slowly expand year by year to cover the entire county as funding is available. This demonstration project is based on recommendations for a Michigan Quality Rating and Improvement System submitted to the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) for consideration with the intent to go state wide after pilot project results and funding becomes available.

## How does this work?

There are two levels of participation and two levels of rewards or incentives.

### Level 1: PARTICIPANTS

1. By participating in at least 3 neighborhood early childhood network meetings per year or demonstrating at least 10 hours of approved training, a qualified child care provider will receive the Great Start Collaborative-Wayne (GSC-W) seal of partnership.
2. Local professional development trainings will be made available to all child care providers who qualify.
3. All who attend neighborhood early childhood network meetings will receive an incentive gift worth at least \$25.
4. All who receive the GSC-W Seal of partnership will have their site listed on the GSC-W website, 4 C's list of recommended sites and other publications.



### Level 2: QRIS enrollees

Those who choose to participate fully in the QRIS system, voluntarily enroll in the program and will receive 1-5 Diamonds as recognition of the quality by participating in the following steps:

1. Be matched up with an early childhood specialist to help mentor and coach you through the improvement process.
2. Have an initial assessment utilizing the High Scope Program Quality Assessment (PQA) and other checklist developed by the ECIC and GSC-W to determine quality.
3. Develop, with the mentor's assistance, an improvement plan that addresses the specifics of what each site needs.
4. Work the plan with the mentor's assistance in identifying resources, professional development, and equipment.
5. When the site is ready a second assessment will be completed and a diamond rating is assigned.
6. A certificate will be given to each site with their Diamond rating.
7. With permission, public announcements will be made.
8. A cash merit award based on the size of the site and the number of Diamonds will be given to those who are 2 Diamonds and above.
9. A cash bonus for those who service DHS families will be awarded in December based on the number of children with DHS subsidy and the rating level of 2 Diamonds or above.
10. The steps will then be repeated as funding allows with 2 years working on the next improvement plan.