

Exploring the Opportunities for OST Programs in Better Beginnings



Webinar Logistics

- All participants please mute line to start. Do NOT put line on hold.
- Select mute option on phone or type *6. Line can be un-muted by pressing *6 again for the opportunity to ask questions or make comments.
- Webinar features
- A copy of this Power Point presentation will be sent to all registered participants.

Agenda

- Quality Matters
- What is Better Beginnings?
 - History
 - Components
 - Resources and Supports Available to OST Programs
 - Incentives for participation
- Q&A with webinar participants
- Next Steps



Guest Presenters

Tonya Russell – Director, Division of
Child Care and Early Childhood
Education

Nichole Parks – Project Coordinator,
ASU Childhood Services

Nikki Caton – Division of Child Care
and Early Childhood Education

Jennifer Harris – School Age Special
Projects Coordinator

Quality Matters for Children and Families in Arkansas

Tonya Russell



Historical Development of Better Beginnings



2004 -
Present



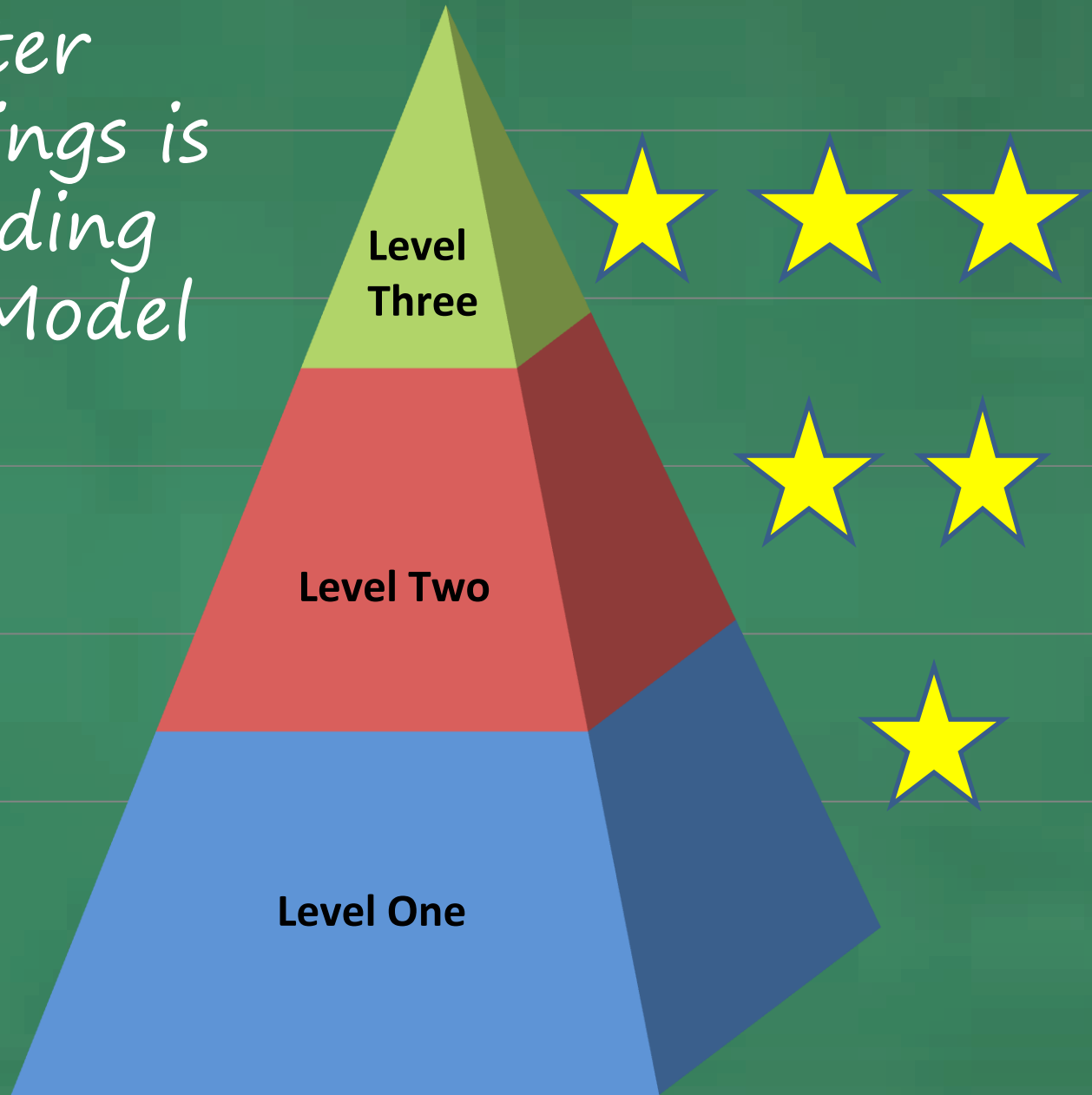
better beginnings
EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST

What is Better Beginnings?

- Emphasizes quality child care and out of school time programs
- Empowers parents by providing an online tool that identifies and locates quality programs in their community
- Gives providers valuable tools to improve the quality of their program
- Establishes standards of excellence
- Provides a path for providers to meet or exceed these standards



*Better
Beginnings is
a Building
Block Model*



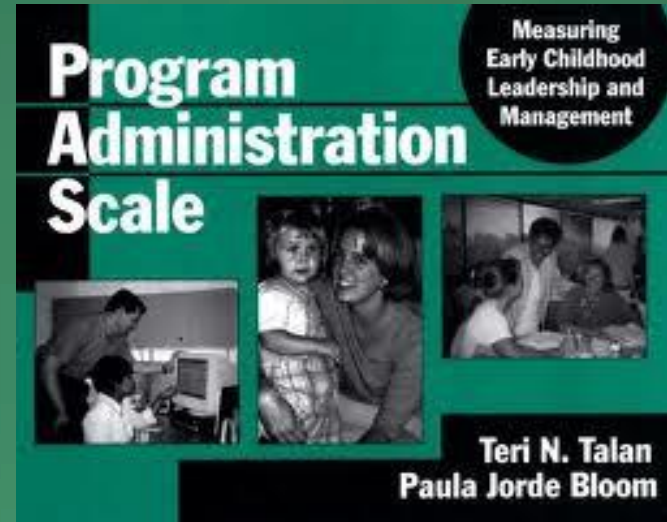
Components of Better Beginnings for OST Programs



- Administration
- Administrator/Staff Qualifications/Professional Development
- Learning Environment
- Environmental Assessment
- Child/Youth Health & Development

Administration

PAS



Strengthening Families

Administrator/Staff Qualifications & Professional Development

- Membership in TAPP Registry
- Completion of SACERS or YPQA Training
- Training on physical activities for children and youth
- 40 Developmental Assets Training
- Training addressing program planning/management and leadership



Learning Environments



- Use of daily schedules
- Program activity plans incorporate 40 Developmental Assets framework
- Division of program space into interest areas
- Use of Youth Portfolios

Learning Environments

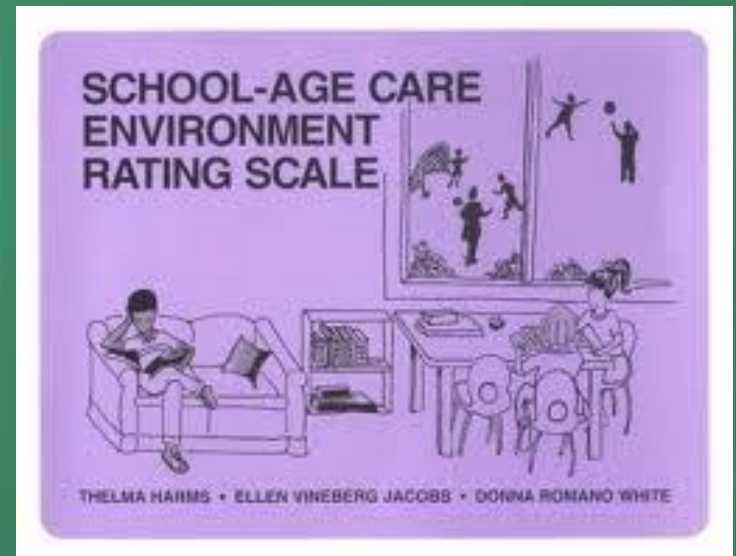
- Use of daily schedules
- Program activity plans incorporate 40 Developmental Assets framework and physical activity



- Division of program space into interest areas
- Use of Youth Portfolios Linkages to ADE K-12 Frameworks

Environmental Assessment

Program engages in self and external assessment using one of the following research-based tools:



Child/Youth Health and Development

- Distribution of ARKids First information to families
- Applicable Medical and educational plans for children are shared
- Programs share information with families about child/youth development, health, physical activity, nutrition, and medical homes.



Tools to Support OST Programs

Online trainings
that meet Better
Beginnings
Requirements

Online School Age
Tool Kit at Better
Beginnings Website

Free onsite
technical
assistance to focus
on program
quality elements

Trainings and technical
assistance help programs
use quality assessment
tools –
YPQA and SACERS



Arkansas Youth Development Institute (YDI)

- All Courses are FREE!
- The content of the courses are of relevance to youth workers serving children and youth in elementary – high school.
- Free Supervisory Guides for select courses help supervisors take online course content back to site and take action!

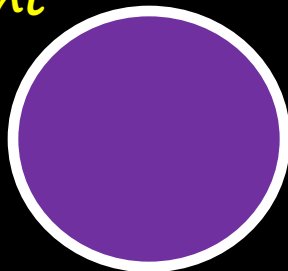


To learn more about YDI visit www.aosn.org and click on YDI tab.
Informational 1 hour webinar being held
March 15th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Arkansas YDI courses



- Overview of Positive Youth Development Approach
- **Child Development**
- **Adolescent Development**
- Engaging Parents
- Working With Culturally Diverse Youth
- **Unhealthy Coping Behaviors in Youth**
- Maltreatment of Youth
- **Health Disparities and Their Impact on Academic Achievement**
- **Age Appropriate Discipline**
- **Conflict Resolution**
- Bully Prevention
- Civic Engagement: Engaging Young People in Civic Life
- **Working With Girls**
- **Building Assets With Youth**
- Cultural Competency for Youth Workers





Other Online Trainings

- *Physical activity and nutrition trainings*
 - *Foundations of Nutrition: MyPyramid*
 - *Snack Time: Providing Healthy Snacks in Your After School Program*
 - *Engage Youth to Live Healthy Lives and Build Healthy Communities*
 - *Physical Activity: Ability Awareness*
 - *Physical Activity 1: Up and Running*
 - *Physical Activity 2: Maximize Potential*
 - *Physical Activity 3: Going the Distance*



To begin taking these online trainings visit the
TAPP Registry website at
<http://professionalregistry.astate.edu> and
click on “Training Opportunities” and
“Online Courses”.

All Better Beginnings trainings (including face
to face options) are registered with the
TAPP Registry.



Online Out of School Time Tool Kit

www.arbetterbeginnings.com

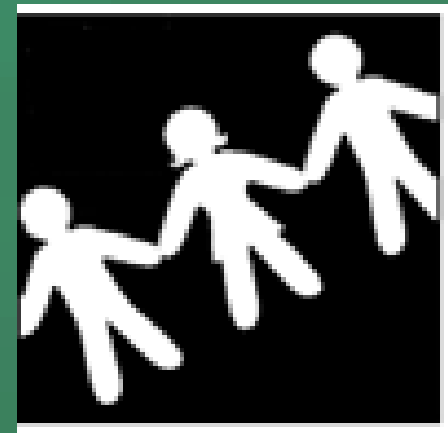


FREE Onsite Technical Assistance Opportunities

Provided by ASU
Childhood Services



Visit chs.astate.edu and
click on “Downloads” –
look for “Technical
Assistance Request” form



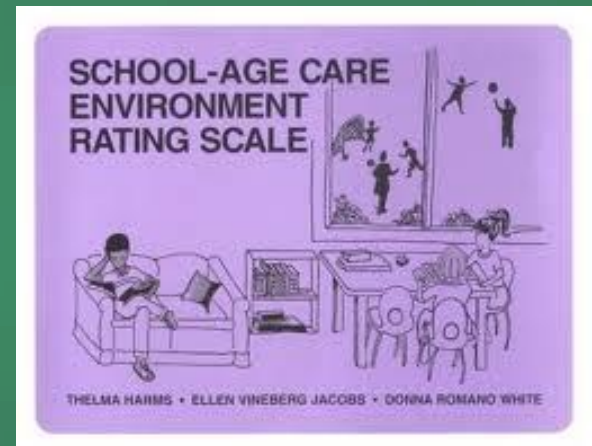
Quality Assessment Support



Foundational trainings and support to conduct self assessments as well as opportunities for external assessment

Two variations of the tool exist and are based on the ages of youth being served:
(K-6th grade) and/or
(4th -12th grade)

Ongoing support in developing program improvement plans and coaching for quality improvement



Most suitable for traditional child care facilities serving children in grades K-6th

New Webinar Opportunities

Friday, March 11th – 1:00 – 2:00

"New Developments to the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Afterschool Meals Program"

Tuesday, March 15th 6:30 – 7:30 pm

"Arkansas Youth Development Institute Kick Off"

Thursday, March 31st – 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

"Introduction to the Youth Program Quality Assessment"

Notice is being sent out thru AOSN list serv of these webinars. If you are not a part of this list serv and would like to participate contact Jennifer Harris at jenharris@astate.edu

Program Incentives for Better Beginnings Programs

Nikki Caton



Questions?

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*“You’ve given them the
sun and moon.
Now give them the stars.”*



www.arbetterbeginnings.com

