



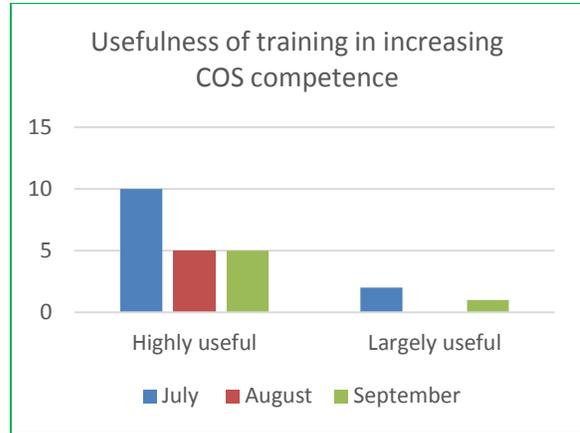
# SSIP PHASE 3 Quarterly Summary

## SEPTEMBER 2017

The end of September brings the close of the first quarter. In case you are wondering, the title doesn't have a typo- we are still in Phase 3. Although the State Systemic Improvement Plan is a five year plan, it only has three phases. This is year 2 of Phase 3, the Implementation and Evaluation Phase.

The Local Leadership Teams (LLT) are continuing to grow their skills, building their capacity as teams, and reaching more service coordinators and providers. Teams are using adult learning principles to support their peers during professional development opportunities and focused conversations.

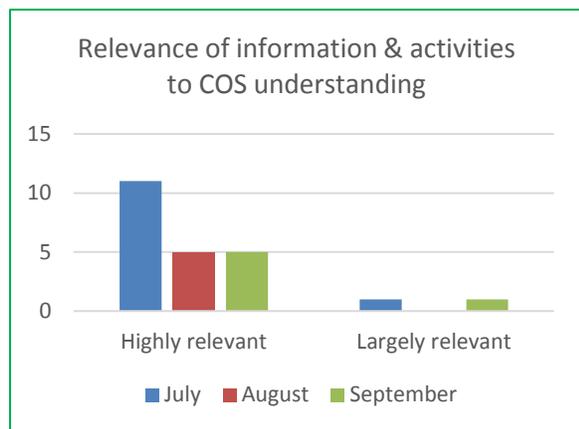
Evaluation data from these events continues to be positive. Participants are enjoying the opportunity to have a place to discuss and reflect on their COS practices.



The qualitative data also continues to provide insight. For instance, participants have shared the following insight:

I will incorporate the language used to help the families understand the process.

"I liked that we talked about how we have been changing the way we think about ratings"



The 3 LLTs continue to inform our decisions about the actions necessary to improve the EI system in the state of Illinois. The evaluations of the activities in their areas guide corrections to the plan and inform which practices ultimately get scaled up.

### Stakeholder workgroup updates

**Leadership Team Workgroup:** This group continues to think about support needs for the LLTs and how a communication plan can keep all stakeholders informed about our work.

**Professional Development/Technical Assistance (PD/TA) Workgroup:** This group has continued to refine the PD rubric, has created a guidance document for using the rubric, and has scheduled curriculum reviews.

**Performance Support Workgroup:** This group is currently working on a revision of the Cornerstone screen that captures information about the child's present levels of development and child outcomes. They are also reviewing options for how to assess fidelity to the COS process and how to ensure that intervention teams are being supported properly.

**Messaging Workgroup:** The brochure for families has been finalized. A checklist for evaluating EI materials has been created. The group is now working on a brochure for referral sources.



### Office of Special Education Program (OSEP) Feedback

You may recall that each year we need to submit a report of our SSIP activities to OSEP. While the plan is ours, they provide feedback to us on our plan, the progress made, and what will need to be addressed in future submissions. The Bureau had the opportunity to speak with Illinois' OSEP liaison and SSIP reviewer in August. Their feedback was quite positive. They felt that the plan was clear and contained necessary components. They noted the volume of activities occurring and the critical importance of the LLTs. They reinforced the importance of ongoing stakeholder involvement in the plan's evolution. They are also excited to hear more about the results of the activities that have occurred- both in terms of their effectiveness in meeting intended outcomes and the impact of these activities on practice in next year's report.



**Remember:** If you have questions, comments or concerns about our plan, please contact Ann Freiburg ([ann.freiburg@illinois.gov](mailto:ann.freiburg@illinois.gov)) or Chelsea Guillen ([cguillen@illinois.edu](mailto:cguillen@illinois.edu)).

**"All progress occurs because people dare to be different."**

-Harry Millner, writer