Critical Outcomes for QRIS

- Obviously, child outcomes are critical, but other key outcomes are of great import

- Most believe that all facets of QRIS are focused on positive outcomes for children

- Are these relationships direct or indirect relationships?

- As states, we have been programmed to focus on child outcomes to sell our QRIS and have not acknowledged other outcomes adequately

Professional Development of Workforce

- The investment in workforce has an indirect effect on children

- However, it is also a long-term investment because potentially teachers & administrators remain in the field long after children move on!

- Teachers/Providers/Administrators are worth the investment because education is a laudable goal to improve their overall professional and personal well-being
- A well-educated workforce will also attract more well-educated staff to the field

QRIS Systemic Improvement

- Again indirect benefits to children by improving the system.

- However, administration and management improvements can also create cost benefits as well

- Some licensing standards (particularly health-related) may not have (or have limited) empirically supported outcomes (or are infrequent) but are essential for child well-being

Enhancing Family Outcomes

Most important variables for child success relate to family variables. However, touting family outcomes in a QRIS flies in the face of privacy and domain issues for families.

Measurement Issues in QRIS

- Many states face numerous issues related to measurement of quality:
  - Are there equivalent measures for all age groups & settings?
  - Are they designed for regulatory purposes? (Do they repeat other pieces of the regulatory process?)
  - Have they been used for so long that TA teaches to the test? (NC example)
  - Copyright issues

- Do the child outcome measures match the philosophical approach to learning & development advocated in best practice? (better measures of self-esteem, attitude toward school, self-regulation, etc.)

Conclusions

- Concerted effort to identify where research base is inadequate but promising or not worth the effort

- Yes, resources needed to build the research base to create a more readily identifiable set of "sure things"