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Presentation for the NYS Early Childhood Advisory Council

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# Early Learning Systems Building

QUALITYstarsNY is New York State's quality rating and improvement system providing

- Coordination and alignment between child care, Head Start, Pre-K and K-12 systems
- Targeted resources and supports outlined in quality improvement plans for early childhood providers based on their ratings
- Quality assurance mechanism ensuring accountability for the State's investments in education



# We're Growing!

- Currently there are 759 QUALITYstarsNY programs across all 10 economic development regions.
- We support 15 of the 16 Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative (ESPRI) communities.
- Further expansion planned for:
  - Oneonta\*
  - Utica\*
  - Binghamton\*
  - Elmira\*
  - Newburgh\*
  - South Bronx\*
  - East Harlem
  - Brownsville
  - Sunset Park
  - Staten Island

\*ESPRI communities

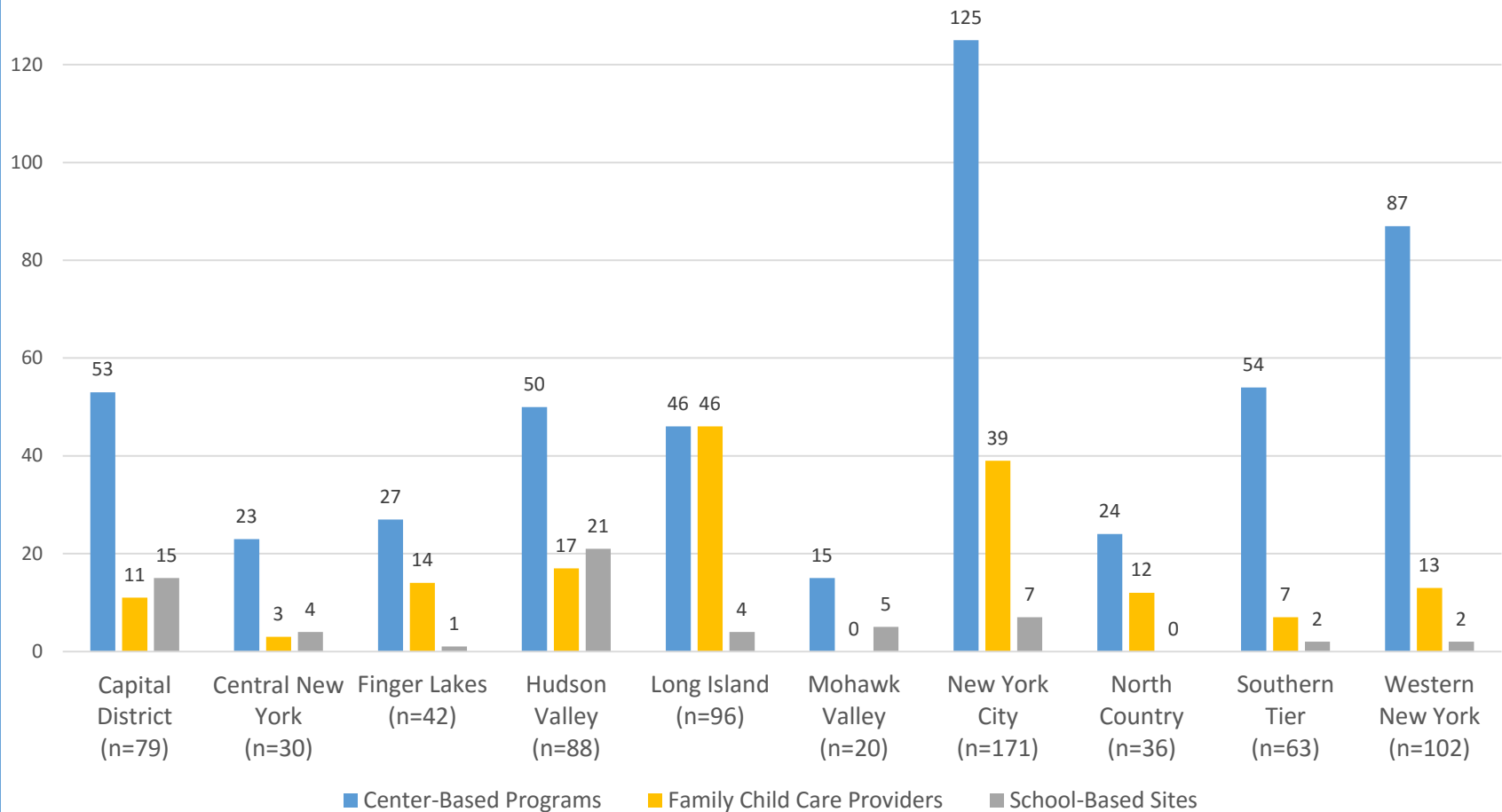




# Who We Serve

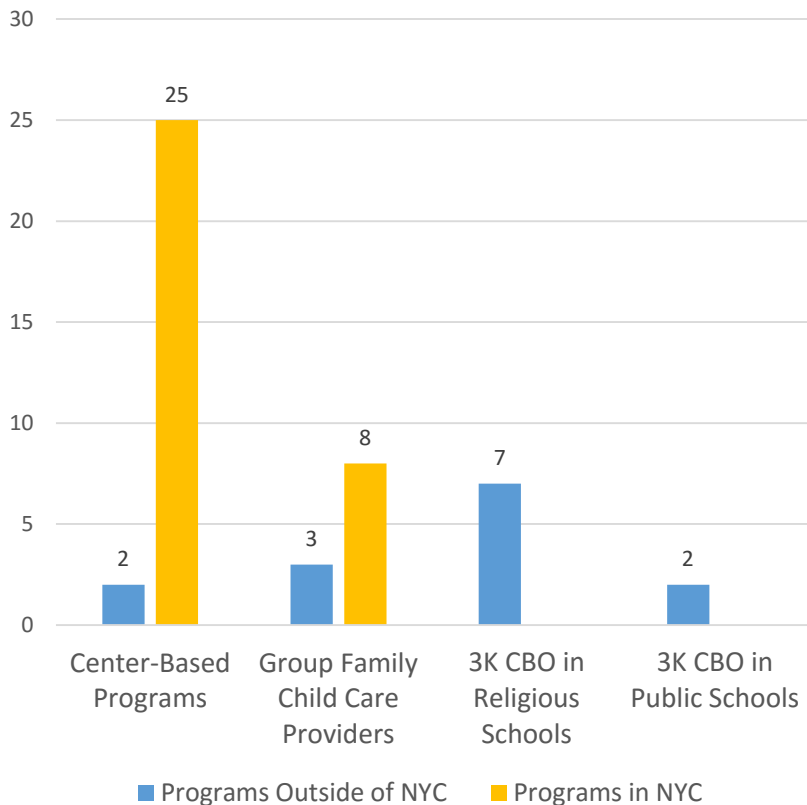
## QUALITYstarsNY Participation by Regions and Program Modalities

(n=727 as of 3/15/2018)

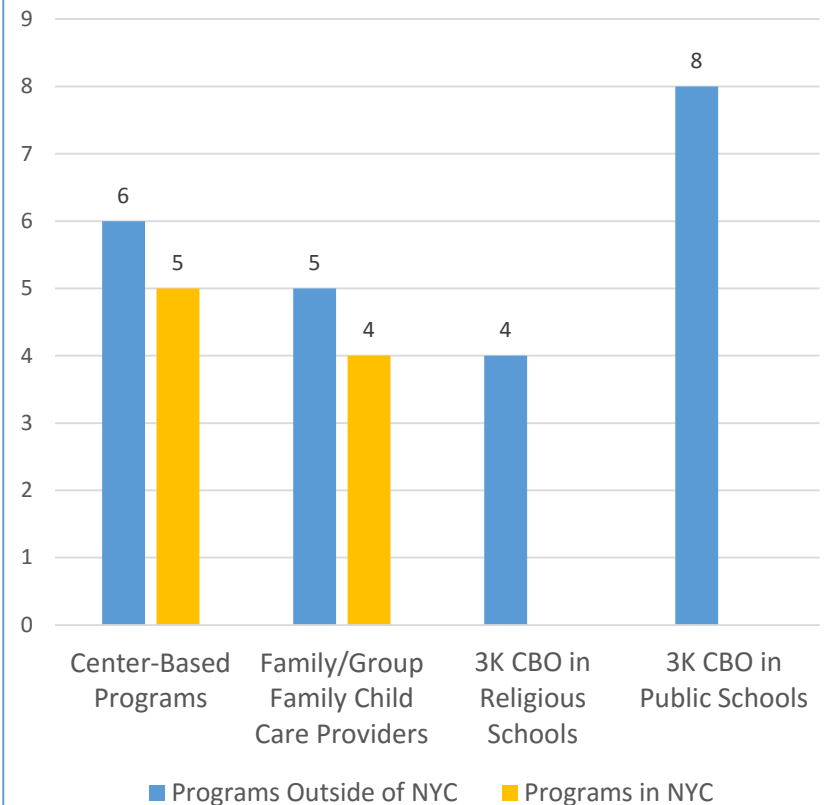


# Who We Serve

**Start with Stars Cohort 1  
Participation  
by Program Modalities**  
(n=47 as of 12/31/2017)



**Start with Stars Cohort 2  
Participation  
by Program Modalities**  
(n=36 as of 3/15/2018)



# Raising Stars Across NYS

We continue to effectively improve quality

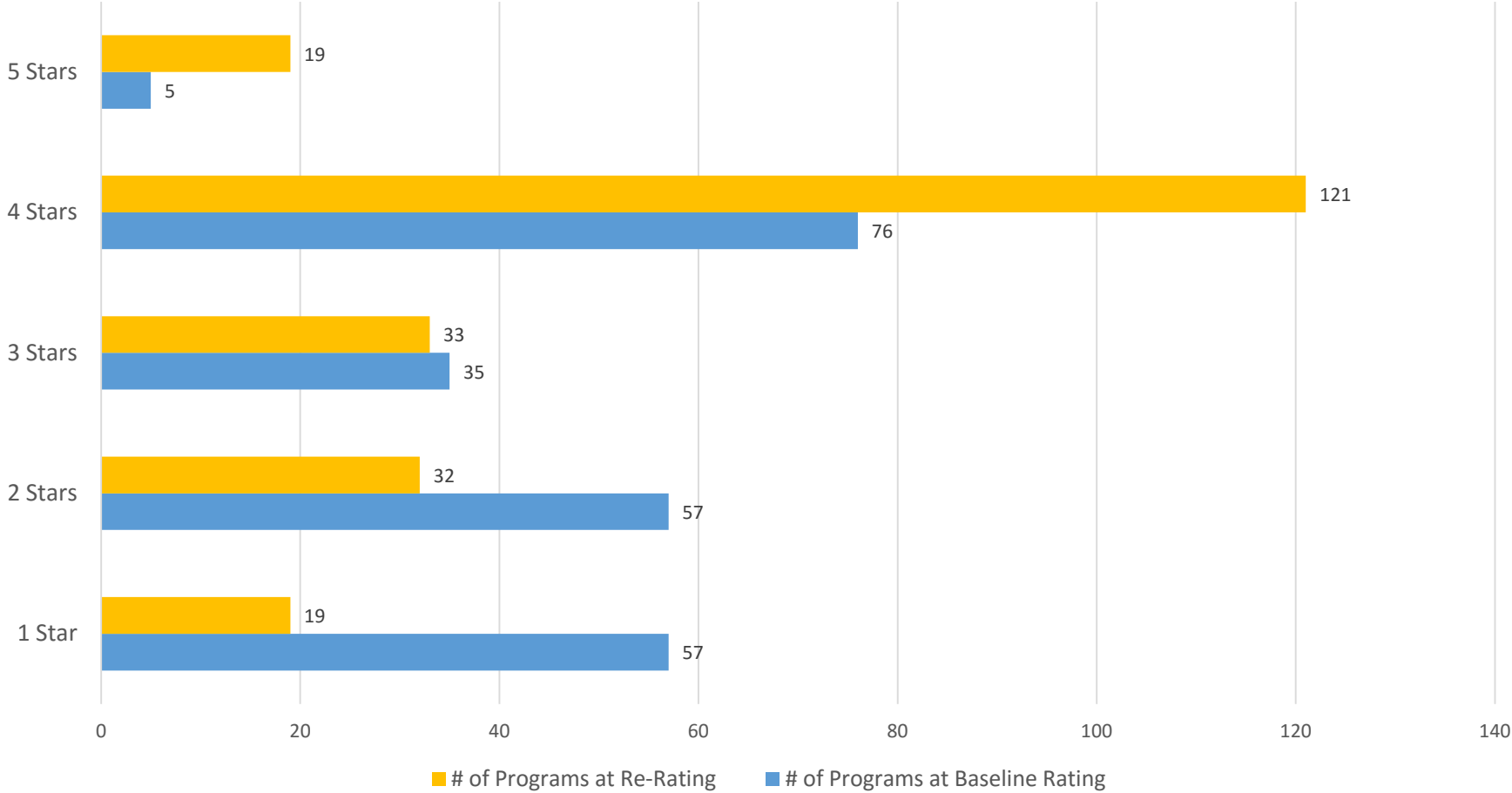
- 70% of programs initially rated as 1- or 2-stars increased by at least 1 star level at re-rating
- 80% of programs initially rated as 3-stars increased to 4- or 5-stars at re-rating
- 66% of family child care providers increased their star levels



# QUALITYstarsNY Impacts

### Distribution of Star Ratings During Re-Rating

(n=230\* as of 3/15/2018)





# Start with Stars Impacts

- Quality improvement initiative targeting early childhood programs experiencing regulatory or foundational challenges
- Intensive supports provided for brand new programs, such as 3K sites
- Programs receive ERS assessments and complete PAS or BAS items
- Participants joined a community of practice focusing on leadership development



# Insight... into QUALITYstarsNY

- Comprehensive data system enables programs to access to data from their Standards Inventory, ERS assessments, quality improvement plans and coaching events
- Continued development is planned to incorporate Start with Stars and to further expand reporting capabilities
- Coordinating with The Aspire Registry to align QUALITYstarsNY coaching model with the state's coaching initiatives



# Quality Improvement is the Thing that Matters

QUALITYstarsNY provides funds for programs to use for

- Tuition, including for teachers pursuing part-time coursework who are not eligible for the Excelsior scholarships
- Consultation on best business protocols and developmentally appropriate practices
- Equipment, furnishings and materials



# Quality Improvement is Grounded in Standards

- Quality improvement plans are aligned with QUALITYstarsNY's research-based standards describing best practices that effectively promote children's optimal development
- The four standard categories are
  - Learning Environment
  - Family Engagement
  - Qualifications and Experience
  - Management and Leadership
- As programs engage in quality improvement, their star ratings increase.



# Partnerships for Quality Improvement



- New York Association for the Education of the Young Child (NYAEYC) – Interest Driven Learning (IDL) training series
- Early Care and Learning Council (ECLC) – Tom Copeland’s Program Management and Business Practices training series
- Child Care State Capacity Building Center – Strengthening Infant-Toddler Child Care System Policies and Practices

# Exploring the SEQUAL Tool



- Selected by the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (CSCCE) at UC Berkeley to participate in a national study
- SEQUAL (Supportive Environmental Quality Underlying Adult Learning) measures the quality of the work environment for teaching staff and program leaders
- Preliminary results demonstrate validation of QUALITYstarsNY standards and the rating process



# Advocating for Children and Families

- \$8 Million FY19 Budget Ask as per the Board of Regents Blue Ribbon Committee
  - One-house bill for Senate asks for \$1.5 million increase
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