

**Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children
Public Health Management Corporation
SharedSource
Philadelphia, PA**

Sponsoring Organizations:

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Service Delivery Area:

Pennsylvania

Type of Organization:

SharedSource is co-sponsored by two agencies, both of which are independent, non-profit agencies that serve the ECE community.

Summary of Approach:

SharedSource is a partnership of two organizations, *Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children (DVAEYC)* and the *Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC)*. DVAEYC's work is focused on Southeastern Pennsylvania, and includes supporting early childhood practitioners with professional development and technical assistance to improve the quality of programs; and advocacy aimed at

increasing public sector resources and improving the system of early care and education. *PHMC*, whose mission is to improve the health of the community through outreach, education, research, planning, technical assistance, and direct services, currently provides shared services to organizations and early childhood practitioners in Southeastern Pennsylvania. PHMC has affiliate agreements with 9 organizations, through which the agencies maintain their 501(c) 3 tax status and Board of Directors while simultaneously gaining access to PHMC resources that support and strengthen their infrastructure.

DVAEYC is a hub for web-based services that are currently available in the Philadelphia region but will be offered statewide in partnership with the Pennsylvania AEYC. These services include cost savings on food and supplies; staff handbooks, termination guides, job descriptions, and staff appraisals; parent handbooks, forms, and templates; and training resources for parents and staff.

PHMC is a hub for more in-depth shared services. At present the focus is on ChildWare, a comprehensive child care management tool to automate administrative and financial activities. In addition to officially launching ChildWare, PHMC plans to develop a third-party billing system for child care providers that serve subsidized children. PHMC hopes to further enhance services provided through ChildWare by integrating the software into the program quality monitoring process, thereby making site visits shorter and more efficient. Additionally, PHMC will explore the feasibility of establishing other supports, including Human Resource support such as a staffing service and a centralized fundraising service for providers. PHMC has a large staff of Nurses and Social Workers, many of whom are accustomed to working in multiple community-based locations, and long-term SharedSource plans include exploring opportunities for extending these supports to Alliance members and tapping external funding to subsidize the cost of this service.

Services Provided:

Web-based platform that includes:

Cost savings on food and supplies

Program Administration tools

Human Resource tools

Links to Parent Resources

Staff Training Resources

Links to State Regulations and Information

Classroom Resources

Curriculum Resources

Online Community for networking

In-depth services that include:

I/T support for billing, reporting and data collection (ChildWare)

Back-office support for billing, reporting and data collection

Human Resources

Comprehensive Services

Staff at Hub Agency:

DVAEYC

Executive Director, Sharon Easterling

Shared Services Project Director, Tyrone Scott

PHMC

Vice President for Management Services and Special Initiatives, Amy Friedlander

Senior Program Officer, Farrah Parkes

Program Officer, Christianne Balsamo

Typical Staff in Local Sites:

Participating centers vary in size from 6 children to 400 children. To date, SharedSource has not had an impact on the staffing patterns in Alliance members.

Date Program/Alliance Began:

The project launched in January, 2010.

Funding:

Start-up support was provided by the William Penn Foundation. On-going operating support anticipated via membership and licensing fees, which will be determined. At present, the services are being offered at no charge.

Participating Providers:

As of October, 2010 approximately 150 providers are participating in shared services on the web and 9 are participating in shared services in-depth. Most participants are center-based ;however, in October 2010 there were approximately 20 family child care providers participating.

Population Served:

Approximately 50% of the children served by participating centers are from low-income families.