

Considerations for Selecting Childcare Providers

One important discussion you will want to have with your stakeholder and Pyramid work groups is how you will select your 9-15 childcare providers. In some areas, only the minimum number apply which makes selection easy, however as Rooted has grown more child care providers are excited and want to participate!

Key Points to Remember:

- Rooted requires that there is a combination of both home and center-based child care providers.
- In a center, each teacher/classroom that participates is counted separately.
- Many communities have discovered that only using lead teachers (not assistant) is preferable due to the assistant's not being able to implement change without the support of the lead teacher. Instead they let the center decide if they would like the assistant to be included in coaching sessions/time or not, but they are not technically counted in the data gathered for the initiative.
- Rooted in Relationships does NOT require every provider/classroom in a center to implement Pyramid. Communities decide collectively to choose how many providers/classrooms to support based on what makes the most sense in their community.
- Most communities have found it helpful to include coaching time for directors. This ranges from .5 hours per month to counting them as one of their 9-15 providers and being coached a full 2.5 hours per month. This is up to the community. It is important to note that because a director typically does not have their own classroom we are unable to collect data about progress being made.

Some communities have used a scoring matrix (Ask Rooted in Relationships staff if you would like to review)

Some discussion questions to consider as a collaborative group when selecting criteria for participation	Considerations for directors in selecting providers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you want to prioritize Step Up to Quality providers? • Will you accept unlicensed as well as licensed providers? • How many providers would you like to select (between 9 and 15)? • Will you allow assistant teachers to apply? • Will you consider directors to be one of your 9-15, and provide full coaching? • Would you like to focus on your whole county, or focus more intently on a certain community(ies)? 	<p>Can the Provider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build positive relationships with children, families, peers and the coach? • Learn to implement Pyramid Model strategies? • Accept feedback? • Collaborate as a team? • Set goals to implement changes in practices? • Be approachable and trustworthy? • Attend all trainings? • Attend provider collaboration meetings? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the provider likely to stay with your center for three years?