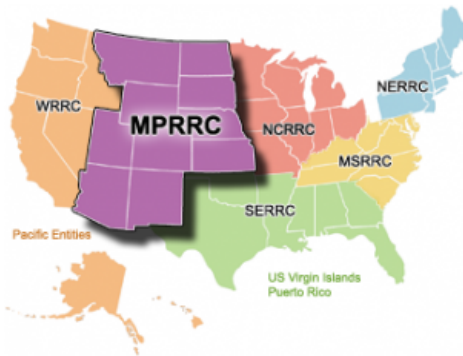


# MPRRC Facilitates Arizona Meeting | CPD

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On March 31 and April 1, Part B and Part C teams from the ten states in the Mountain Plains Region and the Bureau of Indian Education (Part B only) met together in Phoenix, AZ to learn about and plan for the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) that each state is required to submit in February 2015.

The meeting was sponsored and facilitated by the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC), a project of the Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) at Utah State University's Center for Persons with Disabilities. The meeting included participation by technical assistance providers from other TA Centers including the Region 5 Parent Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERCC), Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA), Western Regional Resource Center (WRRC), North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC), SRI International, and TAESE. The US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) was represented by Deputy Director Ruth Ryder, RRC Project Officer Perry Williams, and Research to Practice Specialist Jennifer Coffey.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide a forum for state teams to gather new ideas and insights specific to submission of a new State Performance Plan (SPP), with specific focus on Phase 1 of the SSIP. The desired outcome was for each state team to leave with an action plan for compiling information and developing Phase 1

of the SSIP for submission on February 1, 2015. The agenda focused on the specific components of SSIP development: Data Analysis, Infrastructure Analysis, Theory of Action, Coherent Improvement Strategies, and Meaningful Engagement of Families and Stakeholders throughout the process.

"This meeting was very important for state teams to be able to meet together and focus on the important work of improving results for infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities," said Steve Smith, associate director of TAESE. "As a result of this meeting, states should be in a better position to select a state-identified measurable result based on data and infrastructure analysis and broad stakeholder input, connect it to the wider work of improving outcomes for all children in their states, develop a coherent set of improvement strategies to achieve the desired results, and tell their unique story in their states. It was evident throughout the meeting that states have been engaged in and serious about improving results, and the SSIP will be a vehicle for focusing the work and sharing the positive outcomes with the public."

The sessions were designed to provide necessary information about each topic, present a variety of tools that states can use at each stage of the process, and time for state teams to work together to use the tools and plan next steps.

At the conclusion of the meeting, six Part B state teams spent an additional day and a half conducting a data drill-down meeting to further explore their state level data in order to select their state identified measurable result for students with disabilities.