



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Every day, we are honored to take action that inspires the world to discover, love and nurture the greatness in all children.

Seeds to Success: Washington's Quality Rating & Improvement System

Juliet Torres, Department of Early Learning
Natalie Vega O'Neil, Thrive by Five Washington

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What is a quality rating & improvement system?

- ❑ Help improve licensed child care – in a home or center
– so that children get the best care possible and are better prepared for school
- ❑ Use some kind of rating system
- ❑ Can be voluntary or required
- ❑ Provide incentives and support to providers
- ❑ National “snapshot”
 - 🔺 49 states in the country are implementing, developing or discussing a quality rating and improvement system

Seeds to Success: Washington's QRIS

- ❑ “Consumer report” information for families
- ❑ Financial support, training and coaching for voluntary participants
- ❑ Four quality standard categories
 - ▢ Curriculum & learning environment
 - ▢ Professional development & training
 - ▢ Family relationships & community partnerships
 - ▢ Management practices

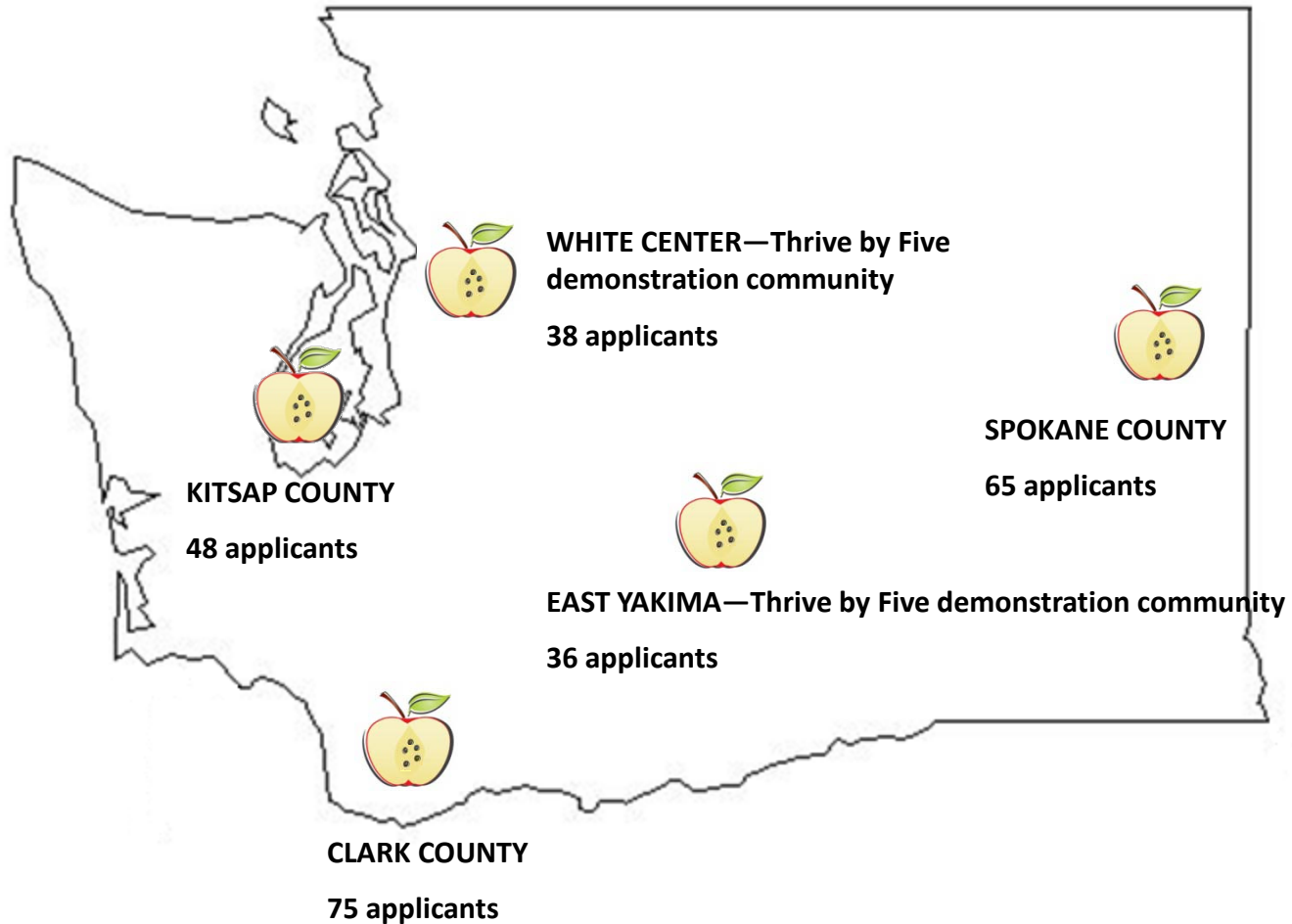


Successes so far

- ❑ Design phase (July 2007 to June 2008)
 - ▢ Got people involved—More than 3,000 Washingtonians involved in design phase
 - ▢ Based decisions on research and data
 - ▢ Built one statewide model that is clear for parents, providers
- ❑ Field test phase (July 2008 to June 2009--suspended December 1, 2008)
 - ▢ Learned about provider interest in participating
 - ▢ Learned about communication needs around QRIS



Seeds to Success field test applicants



Why has Seeds to Success been suspended?

- ❑ DEL had to find more than \$4 million in savings for current state fiscal year
- ❑ Decision criteria:
 - ▢ Programs not fully implemented
 - ▢ Contracts with money unspent
 - ▢ Preserve programs that provide direct services to children and families





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