

# 2020 VOICE for Children



Dr Richard Fiene, a research psychologist, has spent his professional career in improving the quality of child care in various states, nationally, and internationally. He has done extensive research and publishing on the key components in improving child care quality through an early childhood program quality indicator model of training, technical assistance, quality rating & improvement systems, professional development, mentoring, licensing, risk assessment, differential program monitoring, key indicators, and accreditation.

Dr Fiene is a retired professor of human development & psychology (Penn State University) where he was department head and founding director of the Capital Area Early Childhood Research and Training Institute. He is presently President & Senior Research Psychologist for the Research Institute for Key Indicators.

Dr Fiene is regarded as a leading international researcher/scholar on human services licensing measurement and differential monitoring systems. His regulatory compliance law of diminishing returns has altered human services regulatory science and licensing measurement dramatically in thinking about how best to monitor and assess licensing rules and regulations through targeted and abbreviated inspections.

His research has led to the following developments: identification of herding behavior of two year olds, national early care and education quality indicators, mathematical model for determining adult child ratio compliance, solution to the trilemma (quality, affordability, and accessibility) in child care delivery services, *Stepping Stones to Caring for Our Children*, online coaching as a targeted and individualized learning platform, validation framework for early childhood licensing systems and quality rating & improvement systems, an *Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement & Indicator Model*, *Caring for Our Children Basics*, and has led to the development of statistical techniques for dealing with highly skewed, non-parametric data distributions in human services licensing systems.

