Colleagues:

Believe it or not, we are almost four-fifths of the way through our QTIP grant, and with our successes, we are sure there will be more to follow after the federal grant. Since the beginning we’ve documented:

- Over 730 QI meetings and 1100 PDSA cycles;
- Over 600 technical assistance and academic detailing visits that have occurred; in addition, staff have provided special assistance with behavioral health and PCMH along with monthly QI sharing call;
- 18 core CHIPRA measures that have been reviewed with you and offered for QI work – only 6 more core measures left to go!
- Academic detailing visits around ADHD management and asthma have been completed, along with first round visits on anti-psychotics;
- Practice-by-practice work focused on issues around behavioral health and patient centered medical home and provided 150 Part IV credits with the American Board of Pediatrics;
- Activity with your staff around electronic health record connectedness;
- Celebrations of your successes and efforts, both within and outside the QTIP program;
- Practices and their staff working together with others to enhance services
- Continued success in improving attitudes toward behavioral health, an increase in the rate of developmental and mental health screening, focused activities on obesity, getting children needed dental services, improving outcomes in asthma, making access to the pediatric medical home better, struggles with ED visitation rates, improved compliance with follow-up recommendations for ADHD, along with focusing on the needs of adolescents and more children receiving for well child visits;
- Numerous queries from other states for our assistance/insight to help with their learning collaborative efforts;
- Three QTIP practices achieved new NCQA PCMH recognition in 2013 and we anticipate several more finishing their certification in 2014;
- New opportunities for practice financial growth through reimbursements for developmental screening, psychosocial screening, dental varnish applications, financial stipends for QI work and linking to PCMH incentives.

In short, we’ve all been busy. You have worked very hard and we appreciate all of your efforts.

This Learning Collaborative focuses on infectious disease and some must-pass elements of the PCMH process and we will also review some of the issues we have talked about in the past. We plan to build on the CATCH meeting emphasis this year on team-based
care. We have started by looking at the CHIPRA core indicators and NCQA PCMH standards, then brought in experts to help expound upon our knowledge.

These are our thoughts as to how we can help you in the work that you do. We appreciate your feedback as to additional ideas of ways we can all move forward. In April and May, we’ll be making a new round of technical assistance visits. I hope you will let us know if there is some particular issue that you would like for us to address. Once again, we encourage you to participate as a peer reviewer on site visits; peer reviewers have found the gained information to be very insightful and helpful.

Thank you for working with us on this project. By working together, we can make it easier for all South Carolina pediatricians dealing with meaningful use, primary care medical home, pay for performance plans, maintenance of certification, mental health, and...perhaps make children’s lives a little brighter.

Together we can make a better future for children and pediatricians.

Francis and Lynn