

**“Becoming Ever Better: Supporting Mastery and Confirming Quality”
The Baby TALK Quality Confirmation Process**

Since its inception in 1986, Baby TALK has been providing professional development opportunities and technical assistance to programs implementing the Baby TALK model in an effort to “become ever better.” In 2012, we began thinking in more detail about what true model fidelity looks like, which resulted in the development of the Baby TALK Model Fidelity Self-Assessment Tool, created in collaboration with Baby TALK professionals across our network and Dr. Aimee Hilado. This then led into a statewide roll-out through Learning Groups in Illinois for selected professionals in the Baby TALK network. This process vetted the draft of the Model Fidelity Self-Assessment Tool and assured Baby TALK and our professionals that we had co-developed a valuable process for understanding programs’ strengths and potential areas for growth based on core model components. Continuing and expanding on this effort, Baby TALK began the process of further defining and refining what it means to have true quality programming necessary for effective early childhood home visiting services. This effort kicked off with statewide focus groups of Baby TALK professionals to define and refine quality standards and the process for confirming these standards in a systematic way based on our model and what the field of research tells us. This work continues and will culminate in the roll-out of the first draft and planned piloting of the Baby TALK Quality Confirmation Process at our Annual Baby TALK Professional Association Learning & Networking Conference in November 2015. Stay tuned for more...