

2025 CQI Conference: *Driving Continuous Quality Improvement into the Future*
Schedule of Events
All Times in CDT

	DAY 1: Tuesday October 28, 2025			
8:00-9:00	Registration and Breakfast			
9:00-9:30	Welcome from CQI Community and UIUC School of Social Work CQI Time Travelers: Kicking off the Journey			
9:30-11:00 Featured Speaker	Staying Aligned: The Key to Success in High-Stakes Situations Cathy Ach Strategy and Change Consultant			
11:00-11:15	Break			
11:15-12:30 Breakout Session	Quality by Design: A Structured Approach to Building an Effective CQI System Yolanda Green-Rogers Dr. Claire Kimberly Chapin Hall, Chicago, IL	Road Testing the Future: Small Tests, Big Impact Caitlin (Cait) Proctor-Frazier Kinnect, Cleveland, OH	Leveraging Lean/Six Sigma For Rapid Solution Finding Paul Miller Saint Francis Ministries, Haysville, KS	Back to Quality: Leading Change with Quality Champions Brandon Bartels Carla “CJ” Chandler Ragan Thrasher University of Illinois Chicago Division of Specialized Care for Children, Chicago, IL
12:30-1:30	Lunch and Networking			
1:30-2:15	Fireside Chat: The Past, Present, and Future of CQI in Human Services Dr. Fontena Zirps			
2:15-2:30	Break			
2:30-4:00 Breakout Session	Mastering the Tools and Techniques of CQI and PDSA Kurt Heisler Margaret Smith ChildMetrix & Kurt Heisler Consulting, LLC, Burke, VA and Chapin Hall, Chicago, IL	Building Inclusive Systems: Applying Universal Design to Continuous Quality Improvement Tina Lowry Envision Unlimited, Chicago IL	Using Python to Gain Insights from Your Client Data Christophe Valcourt EZRA Multi-Service Center Chicago, IL	Extreme Makeover: Data Edition Barbara McCoy Laurice Sutter Arrow Child and Family Ministries Spring, TX
4:00-4:15	Break			
4:15-5:15 Breakout Session	"What You Measure, You Can Change": Reimagining Data for Everyday Analysts Jessica Erwin Tendo, Chicago, IL	Bucket Toss & Mad Libs: Gamifying Program Input in CQI Processes Dave Koch Marissa Martinez BUILD, Inc., Chicago, IL Covenant House Illinois, Chicago, IL	Power BI for Absolute Beginners Allen Yang Northwestern University, Chicago, IL	Quality Connections, Quality Results Stephanie Blakley St. Patrick Center, St. Louis, MO
5:15-6:30	10 Year Celebration and Trivia			

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	DAY 2: Wednesday, October 29, 2025			
8:00-9:00	Registration and Breakfast			
9:00-9:15	Welcome and Announcements			
9:15-10:45 Featured Speaker	(Re)Imagining Our Work with Data to be More Equitable, Transformative, and Full of Soul Min Ma Founder and Principal of Data+Soul Research			
10:45-11:00	Break			
11:00-12:30	Promoting Wellbeing by Utilizing the "Joy in Work" Curriculum Jacqueline Farber Janiene Garcia Chrissi Guarnieri Abby Snow University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development, Champaign, IL	The Outcome Puzzle: Powered by Client Voice (Not Plutonium) Amanda Smith-Chonko April Wall-Parker Kimberly Lohrfink Pressley Ridge, Pittsburgh, PA	How Many Kids Are We Talking About? A Journey of a Thousand Data Mistakes and lessons Allen Yang Northwestern University, Chicago, IL	Leveraging Program Quality Improvement (PQI) Dashboards for Data-Driven Decision Making in Organizations Gary (GJ) Farina Elliot King Oriana House, Inc., Akron, OH
12:30-1:30	Lunch and Networking Roundtables Time Machine Talks: Reflections from the Past, Insights for the Future Mentorship Roundables: Building Bridges. One Conversation at a Time			
1:30-2:45 Breakout Session	A Journey to Change: Building a CQI Culture Margaret (Maggie) Mosca Mendy Dale Chaddock, Quincy, IL	Progress Over Perfection: A People-First Approach to Measuring Quality Vania VanDusen Autumn McCants Starfish Family Services, Inkster, MI	Using CQI in Program Development, Implementation, Evaluation and Adaptation Heather Risser Northwestern University, Chicago, IL	Becoming a Data Detective: How to Recognize Forms of Bias in Data Storytelling David Cuervo John Montgomery Zachary Gonzales Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Austin, TX
2:45-3:00	Break			
3:00-4:15 Featured Workshop	Unlocking Your CQI Superpowers: A Time Traveler's Guide to Quality Improvement Melissa Curtis Lawrence Hall., Chicago, IL			
4:15-4:45	Closing and Raffle			