



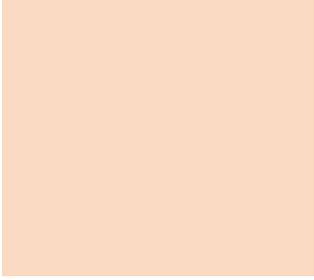
Alliance CORE Usage and Benefits Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Prepared by the Quality Consulting
and Research Group for Early Learning Ventures



For access to full report, please contact ELV elvclientsupport@earlylearningventures.org



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Early Learning Ventures (ELV) is a Colorado-based not-for-profit organization dedicated to expanding access to high-quality, affordable child care for young children. A primary focus of ELV has been the development of a cloud-based child care management system called Alliance CORE. **The goal of Alliance CORE is to streamline the administrative processes of child care programs.** The system was built from the ground-up, taking into account child care licensing requirements and feedback from early childhood programs to ensure the system was relevant and useful for programs.

After several years of supporting programs in using Alliance CORE, ELV partnered with Quality Consulting and Research Group (QCRG) to gain a better understanding of administrators' usage and perceived benefits of Alliance CORE. Together, ELV and QCRG developed the Alliance CORE Usage Survey. Administrators from 36 ELV Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) programs completed the survey. The evaluation aims and key results are outlined below.

Aim 1: To understand programs' knowledge and general use of Alliance CORE over time

All programs reported feeling at least somewhat knowledgeable in how to use Alliance CORE, and 63.9% of programs reported feeling very or extremely knowledgeable. Additionally, the majority of the programs (91.7%) reported an increase in their use of Alliance CORE.

Aim 2: To understand the extent to which programs perceive Alliance CORE to be beneficial

All participating programs (100%) reported that using Alliance CORE saved their programs time, energy, and effort to some extent. The three most highly reported benefits were:

1. having a centralized system for entering and tracking data that saves time,
 2. the ability to maintain updated contact information about families, and
 3. an easier and quicker process for submitting reimbursement requests to state systems that are based on child attendance data.
- 

Aim 3: To understand programs' frequency of use, method of updating, and usefulness of Alliance CORE features

Alliance CORE features that track and monitor information about children were among the most frequently used and most useful features. These features allow program staff to efficiently update important information about children that is used to meet licensing regulations, accurately capture and monitor children's attendance, and seamlessly submit reimbursement requests to state systems.

Aim 4: To examine the association between frequency of use, usefulness, and perceived benefits of Alliance CORE

Programs who used Alliance CORE features more often also rated the features as more useful and reported experiencing more benefits from using Alliance CORE. This association suggests that programs experience the benefits of Alliance CORE when they use the system more often.

Aim 5: To examine the association between Alliance CORE usage and perceived benefits with improved teacher-child interaction quality

The majority of programs demonstrated improvements in teacher-child interaction quality over time. Most notably, significant improvements in teacher-child interaction quality were predicted by Alliance CORE frequency of use and reported usefulness. In other words, in programs that used Alliance CORE more frequently, for example, teacher-child interaction quality significantly increased.

Using Alliance CORE to streamline programs' administrative processes has brought numerous benefits to ELV EHS-CCP programs. Administrators reported that they use Alliance CORE frequently and that it has been highly useful. Alliance CORE has enabled programs to efficiently capture and monitor important program data that supports their quality improvement efforts. Taken together, these findings suggest that use of Alliance CORE may enable administrators to focus more time and effort on improving program quality and supporting teachers in improving the quality of the interactions that children experience. In turn, children may benefit in their social emotional development, behavior regulation, cognitive development, and language skills. The results from this evaluation provide evidence for the effectiveness of ELV supports (i.e., Alliance CORE) in enabling programs to better serve children and their families.