

Bio-Sketch

Charles Smith, Ph.D.
Managing Consultant, QTurn LLC

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Personal Statement

Charles has 20 years of experience supporting organizations to design, implement, and validate quality improvement systems (QIS) in the education and human services fields. Flipping the script on higher-stakes models that limit potential creates opportunities for social sector organizations to build capacities that support front-line managers and staff to experience ownership of the quality improvement agenda. QTurn's purpose is to support social sector organizations as they build these QIS capacities and increase social value.

Employment

Managing Consultant and Owner. QTurn LLC. 2018-present.

Chief Knowledge Officer, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality at the Forum for Youth Investment, 2017-2018. Lead *Performance Information and Data Products* unit to deliver of high-volume, low-cost data products. Principal for validation of measures and interventions. Manage curation dissemination of nomenclature (words, theory, evidence, citation) and images. Design and manage information and data security systems.

Executive Director and Founder, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality at the Forum for Youth Investment, 2011-2016. Bottom line accountability for independent business unit at the Forum for Youth Investment with 127 active contracts, 25 FTEs and \$4.0M in revenue in 2016. Responsible for strategy, annual plans and goals, budget oversight, staffing, and a portfolio of consulting projects.

Senior Vice President for Research, Forum for Youth Investment, 2011-2016. Led validation studies for performance measures and continuous improvement interventions. Designed and implemented organizational systems to maximize client capacity for data collection and data management, ultimately, resulting in successful delivery of over 5,000 client performance reports in 2016.

Director, Youth Development Division, High/Scope Educational Research Foundation, Ypsilanti, MI, 2003-2007.

Principal researcher for the *Youth Program Quality Assessment Validation Study* and *Youth Program Quality Intervention Impact Study*. Managed three cycles of High/Scope Institute for Ideas camp for at-promise youth.

Selected Projects/Publications

Standards for SEL Practice. 2014-2018, \$861,372. Sequence of design, implementation, and impact studies for intervention to improve the quality of instruction and student SEL skills.

Publication: *Preparing Youth to Thrive... Social and Emotional Learning* - <https://www.selpractices.org/>

Summer in Seven Urban Districts. 2013-2017, \$797,989. Sequence of design, implementation, and impact studies for an intervention to improve quality of summer instruction and student academic skill growth.

Publication: *Design Study for the Summer Learning... Results* – <http://www.cypq.org/SummerLearningPQI>

Evaluation and Technical Assistance to State Education Agencies for 21st Century Afterschool Systems.

2013-2018, \$7,824,903. Supporting QIS in the states of MI, OK, AR, WA, VT, RI, OR, WA, MO, MD, KY, AZ.

Publication: *Building citywide systems for quality*. <http://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/Pages/>

Education

Ph.D. (2003), Political Science - Adult learning systems, youth civic participation & urban planning. Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. Thesis title: *X-Generation or x-institutions: Experiences, performance, motivation, and the potential for effective civic education in schools*.

M.A. (1996) Political Science - Adult basic, post-secondary, and employment training policy. Wayne State University.

B.A., (1994) History - Comparative welfare state history. Wayne State University.

Please review my full CV at: www.qturngroup.com