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Dear Colleagues,

The US Department of Education recently announced the launch of the Comprehensive Center Network (CC Network) website. The CC Network website brings together a compilation of more than 700 resources developed by the 23 comprehensive centers ---- and descriptions of hundreds of projects currently underway in states across the country—into a single searchable site. The CC Network website makes regional comprehensive and content center resources more accessible and searching by state or topic easier. The CC Network site also helps ED-funded centers to collaborate and network, bolstering their ability to meet the needs of their clients. Visit the site today at www.CompCenterNetwork.org, and check out the CC Network’s collection on Access to ESSA Resources. The BSCP Center was pleased to be part of the development process.

Creating the Comprehensive Center Network was a collaborative process.

During the development phase of the CC Network the 23 comprehensive centers were involved in the process by providing and reviewing their Center resources and projects to be posted on the site as we wanted to ensure the content was current and accurate. Centers also attended a series of Round Table discussions held periodically during the development of the site offering their suggestions and ideas for inclusion during the site development. As the Department of Education, the BSCP Center, and Westat Web Development Team worked on the design and content of the site, the responsiveness and feedback from Comprehensive Centers was invaluable. I am most appreciative to the Centers for their assistance in making the CC Network a reality.

What are Comprehensive Centers saying about the CC Network?

- The newly-launched Comprehensive Center Network portal is a terrific resource, compiling as it does the collective knowledge and effort of regional and content centers across the US. The site also neatly demonstrates how the Comprehensive Centers work together as a system to adapt new research, tools, and processes so they address the specific needs of state education agencies. Although much of the work Comprehensive Centers facilitate is invisible to the public eye, this new portal illuminates the staggering array of services we together offer to educators.

  *Caitlin Howley, Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center, Director*
As a web developer I reviewed the new CC Network site with a different lens. The site has a clean interface, it is responsive and 508 compliant. The UI is precise, and the facet search makes is easy to drill down to the desired content. Great job coalescing 23 centers under one site canopy! The comp center network site captures the centers’ vast amount of resources, work updates and collaborations. Magdalena Acuña, American Institutes for Research, Web Development Specialist

By hosting a vetted collection of evidence-based resources across topical/content areas in an easy navigable site, the Comprehensive Center Network portal (CCN Portal) provides a means for state department of education staff, policymakers and other stakeholders to leverage the knowledge and expertise of regional and national service providers. Additionally, by highlighting projects across the CC network, the portal can assist states in identifying potential opportunities for peer collaborations as they implement similar initiatives and programs. Ira Pollack, North West Comprehensive Center - Knowledge Manager,

Yes, finally it is time to go live with the CC Network. This exciting venture has been requested by the Center’s Directors for several years. I am pleased that the CC Network is now a reality, a joint website that represents all 23 Comprehensive Centers. Thanks to the Department of Education for their foresight and support in funding this collaborative tool. If you have questions or comments I would be delighted to hear from you.

Sincerely,

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The Building State Capacity and Productivity Center (BSCP Center) focuses work on helping state education agencies (SEAs) throughout the country, as they adapt to constrained fiscal resources and increased demands for greater productivity. As State Departments of Education are facing a daunting challenge of improving student performance with diminishing financial resources, the BSCP Center provides technical assistance to SEAs that builds their capacity to support local educational agencies (LEAs or districts) and schools, and to the other 22 regional comprehensive centers and national content centers that serve them, by providing high quality information, tools, and implementation support. The partners in the BSCP Center are Westat, the Academic Development Institute, and the Edunomics Lab (Georgetown University).