Effective Practice, Innovation, and Equity in Early Start

EARLY START PARTNERS SYMPOSIUM
June 7th & 9th, 2022
9:00a.m. – 4:30p.m.

The Early Start Partners Symposium (ESPS) has been developed to support early intervention service providers, service coordinators, and family support professionals across Early Start partner agencies to deliver high-quality Early Start services for infants and toddlers with or at risk for developmental delays and disabilities and their families. ESPS offers a comprehensive, real-time professional development and networking opportunity for the entire Early Start community. The Symposium agenda provides timely information about topics of critical interest to both seasoned and new Early Start personnel. Please join us!

Utilizing intensive, interactive, facilitated training and discussion processes, session content goes beyond foundational knowledge and strategies. Personnel from multiple disciplines, agencies and service systems who provide Early Start services have the opportunity to access evidence based practices, engage in cross-agency training, and participate in collegial discussions.

Event registration deadline: June 3, 2022 (or earlier, if capacity is reached)

Register here: https://esps2022.vfairs.com

Early Start Personnel Development is a collaborative effort of the California Department of Developmental Services and California Department of Education, administered through the California Early Intervention Technical Assistance Network (CEITAN) at WestEd.

Symposium Schedule At-a-Glance

Day One	**Tuesday June 7, 2022**
9:00 a.m.	Keynote Session: Advancing Cultural Humility through Effective Dialogue – David Campt and Allison Mahaley, The Dialogue Company
10:30 a.m.	Morning Concurrent Breakout Sessions (90 minutes)
12:00 p.m.	Break
1:30 p.m.	Afternoon Concurrent Breakout Sessions (90 minutes)
3:30 p.m.	Virtual Networking Session (optional)

Day Two	**Thursday June 9, 2022**
9:00 a.m.	Keynote Session: Part C Federal Policy Updates – Sharon Walsh, Walsh Taylor Incorporated
10:30 a.m.	Morning Concurrent Breakout Sessions (90 minutes)
12:00 p.m.	Break
1:30 p.m.	Afternoon Concurrent Breakout Sessions (90 minutes)
3:30 p.m.	Virtual Networking Session (optional)

DAY ONE – June 7, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. KEYNOTE SESSION

Welcome
Nancy Bargmann, Director, California Department of Developmental Services

Advancing Cultural Humility through Effective Dialogue
Presenters: David Campt and Allison Mahaley, The Dialogue Company

In this keynote, presenters from The Dialogue Company (TDC) will support early intervention professionals to advance equity in everyday opportunities. This session will focus on using Candor, Compassion, and Courage to engage others in conversations that build bridges to greater inclusion. TDC focuses on designing and facilitating meetings, workshops, and other encounters that allow for the expression of divergent perspectives for the greater good. The company deeply believes that increased inclusion based on values builds connections that pay off in better decision-making, increased employee engagement, and greater workplace satisfaction.

Breakout Sessions Day One

Morning: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

1.A. Reflective Session for Supervisors
Presenter: Dr. Cheryl Williams-Jackson

Supervisors must take care of themselves so they can take care of their staff. Participants will discuss specific challenges they face as supervisors right now, as well as self-care strategies to address those challenges.

1.B. Meeting the Needs of Children with Multiple Disabilities
Presenters: Julie Maier and Myrna Medina, California Deaf Blind Services

Many children who receive Early Start services have multiple conditions that contribute to their eligibility. Learn strategies for ensuring that Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) planning for infants and toddlers with multiple disabilities includes comprehensive assessment, service planning, and service provision that addresses ALL of the child's identified needs.

1.C. Darby's Legacy: Resources for Families of Children Who Are Medically Fragile
Presenters: Teresa Anderson and Linda Landry, California State Interagency Coordinating Council; Liz Spencer, Westside Family Resource Center; Cindy Rubin, parent

In 2019, Darby Rubin, an 18-month-old with the rare chromosomal condition, Trisomy 13, passed away. The systems meant to care for children like Darby and their families failed. But Darby's family

wanted their experience to be the catalyst for change. This session introduces a new resource for families and professionals developed by the California Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention (ICC) in collaboration with Darby's mother, Cindy Rubin: "Darby's Legacy: Best Practices When Serving Families with Infants and Toddlers Who Are Medically Fragile."

Afternoon: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

1.D. Supporting Families in Early Start Experiencing Homelessness
Presenters: Karmina Barrales and Leanne Wheeler, California Department of Education; Susie Terry, San Diego County Office of Education

What are the rights and protections of our students experiencing homelessness in early education programs and what can you do? This presentation will help programs understand the definition and laws centered around homelessness. It will also provide you with strategies and collaboration ideas that can be implemented in your community to serve homeless families in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

1.E. Promoting Continued Language Development
Presenters: Laura T. Petersen and Julie Rems-Smario, California Department of Education and CA Schools for the Deaf; Michele Bergeron, parent; John Pong, parent

This session will provide an overview of language acquisition in infants and toddlers who are hard-of-hearing or deaf. Participants will learn: what the research reveals regarding short-term and long-term impacts of language deprivation for children under three; why children who are deaf and hard-of-hearing are not experiencing improved language outcomes, despite increased early identification of children with hearing loss; and what Early Start professionals can do to support language acquisition during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

1.F. Part C State Policy Updates: What's New in California
Presenters: Maricris Acon and Townley Saye, DDS; Annie Baccay, CDE

Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and California Department of Education (CDE) leadership provide a broad overview of California Early Start's State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) activities as well as updates on statewide initiatives affecting services and supports for California's young children with disabilities, their families and the professionals who provide services for them.

DAY TWO – June 9, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. KEYNOTE SESSION

Part C Federal Policy Updates
Presenter: Sharon Walsh, Walsh Taylor Incorporated

Much has changed since the last time national policy consultant, Sharon Walsh (Walsh Taylor Incorporated), presented at the Early Start Partners Symposium. There is a new administration, new leadership at the Office of Special Education Programs, and new federal initiatives to address the impacts of the world-wide pandemic. Ms. Walsh provides an update on federal action impacting services for young children with disabilities and their families, including federal legislation, regulations and budget activities that impact education, social services, and health care.

Breakout Sessions Day Two

Morning: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

2.A. Effective Service Provision for Parents with Developmental Delays or Disabilities
Presenter: Crystal Smith, McClaney Family Resource Center

Learn how to support parents with developmental disabilities to participate in the planning and provision of services to promote the development of their children. Presenters will discuss strategies for collaborating within and across agencies that serve adults with developmental disabilities to create a system of care.

2.B. Coaching Strategies for Early Start Professionals
Presenters: Mary Rettinhouse, Alta California Regional Center; Danielle Wells, Valley Mountain Regional Center

In this session, participants will learn how coaching practices may be used effectively in early intervention. Presenters will describe different coaching models and recommend resources to understand and build coaching skills for Early Start professionals.

2.C. Partners for Transition
Presenters: Eileen Crumm, Family Resource Navigators; Rachel Hagans, Central Valley Regional Center; Scott Turner, East San Gabriel SELPA

This panel presentation will discuss strategies for effective interagency collaboration and cooperation to facilitate transition processes at the local level.

Afternoon: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

2.D. NICU Project: What We've Learned and What's Next
Presenters: Howard Doi, San Andreas Regional Center; Michelle Oliver, Santa Clara County Office of Education

In this session, participants will learn how coaching practices may be used effectively in early intervention. Hear from members of a Santa Clara-based team working to build connections between local NICUs and the Early Start system. Presenters will share lessons learned so far and what's coming up next for the project.

2.E. Statewide Outreach and Disparity Efforts
Presenters: Leinani Walter and Omari Smith, DDS; Karina Proffer, Kern Regional Center; Lilia Rangel-Reyes, Tri-Counties Regional Center; Angela McGuire, WestEd

This session will focus on statewide efforts to find under identified and underserved children and families, as well as improve service access and equity in Early Start. Learn more about the different resources and projects upcoming and underway.

2.F. The State of Transition in CA
Presenters: Maricris Acon, DDS; Heather Calomese, CDE; Terri Cook-Clark, San Diego Regional Center; Patricia Roth, Far Northern Regional Center; Jennifer Driver Teykaerts, WestEd

This session covers the most recent developments in Transition from Early Start: the availability of the new Early Start Online open access course on transition, an update on the SB 75 workgroup on transition, and the relationship of other initiatives to Early Start and IDEA Part B 619 services.

Contact Hours and Continuing Education Credits

California Board of Registered Nursing contact hours, California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists hours, and California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board contact hours are offered for Early Start Symposiums and require payment of fees and completion of evaluations or forms as determined by the specific granting agencies.

The provider, WestEd CPEI, is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 13323, for nine (9) contact hours at $15 per hour. The total fee is $135.

The provider, WestEd CPEI, is approved by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board to provide continuing education credit under provider number PDP312. The Early Start Partners Symposium meets the qualifications for nine (9) hours of continuing education credit at $15 per hour for speech-language pathologists or audiologists as required by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board. The total fee is $135.

WestEd CPEI is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and/or LEPs. WestEd CPEI maintains responsibility for this program and its content. The Early Start Partners Symposium meets the qualifications for nine (9) hours of continuing education credit at $15 per hour for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and/or LEPs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences. WestEd CPEI's CAMFT continuing education provider number is 135222. The total fee is $135.

Application for contact hours and continuing education credits is available in the Early Start Online learning management system, upon confirmation of completion of all requirements (participation and evaluation).