

**The annual MN Division for Early Childhood Practitioners Conference
was held at Minneapolis Airport Marriott
March 10th (evening) and 11th (day)**

The theme:



Thursday, MARCH 10 AGENDA

Registration 5:30 -6:45

Come early for EAT AND TWEET learn to use Twitter; we're better together! 5:30 - 6:30

Hors D'Oeuvres Buffet- 6:15

Welcome Judy Beaton, President of Minnesota Division of Early Childhood 6:45

Family Panel Discussion Lessons on Leading an Inclusive Life 7:00 – 9:00 (Break 8:00)

A diverse group of families from various parts of the state, with children ranging in age from kdg to young adulthood, who have special needs representing Autism, Down Syndrome, and multiple impairment will be sharing stories and insights from their journey through early childhood, K 12 education, and beyond.

Each family has worked to insure their child has been fully included as active members of their families, schools, and communities. Come and hear their ideas on

how early childhood professionals can help lay this foundation (building confidence and competence) and reflect of the impact positive collaboration can have in areas that span far beyond the educational system. A question/answer session will be incorporated, giving you an opportunity to ask specific questions you may have.

Moderated by Judy Swett

Panel Members:

- Paul and Perla Morley from St.Louise Park
- Denise Hennen from Shakopee
- Rachel Nelson and Wil Totten from St.Paul
- Mary Barinka from Albert Lea

FRIDAY, MARCH 11 AGENDA

Registration 7:30 -8:15

Continental Breakfast 7:30-9:30

Opening Collaboration Session: Keep Calm We're Better Together! 8:30 - 10:15

Facilitated by Donna Miller and Kellie Krick Oborn

- Circle of Voices
- Chalk Talk
- Circular Response

Break 10:15 -10:30

Morning Break Out Sessions 10:30 - 12:00

1A) Leveraging Technology to Support Inclusion. Technology can play an important role in supporting children with disabilities. Research shows that assistive technology is under utilized with children birth 5. Research also shows that it can be highly impactful in a short amount of time.

Participants in this session will 1) learn about an array of technology to support little learners, 2) learn about best practice in documenting technology in the IFSP and IEP and 3) learn about valuable resources developed through the Technology to Improve Kids' Educational Success (TIKES) Project a federally funded project focusing on helping children ages birth to 5 using assistive technology.

Presented by: Bridget Gilormini

1B) Using Reflection to Promote a Positive Problem Solving B-3 Team. Members of the Richfield early intervention team will share their journey working with the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (ECTA) to enhance their practice. Their presentation will cover:

- Promoting positive effects from coaching each other in our team and families, while keeping a positive climate within the team
- Cultivating buyin and value to coaching within our team and coaching families while using the DEC Recommended Practices (RP)
- Using a reflective process within your own and your team's practice
- Tools, resource sharing, and problem solving strategies to stay on track while working towards a sustainable long term change within your own and the team's practice

Presented by: Rebecca Sutera and Jessica Hoffman

1C) Increasing Child Engagement within the Classroom. Children learn best when they are engaged. While we know that engagement is critical for learning, some students continue to struggle to be engaged within their environment in a way that supports learning. Join members of the Marshall ECSE team as they share their journey embedding the DEC Recommended Practices into their classrooms in order to increase the engagement of all children.

Presented by: Erica Flatin, Emily Hoffmann, and Kim Juhl

1D) Using Available Resources. This interactive session lead my MDE team members will engage participants with existing tools and resources to enhance familiarity and understanding of the tools and how to use them to answer questions and identify solutions to challenges. Working in small groups, participants will build strong responses to familiar situations in Part C and Preschool Special Education.

Presented by: Jenny Moses, Sue Thomas, Lisa Backer

1E) Successes and Challenges of using Primary Service Provider Model in Special Education for ages 0-5: An Overview and Panel Discussion. Members of St Paul Public Schools ECSE team will share information from their experience implementing a Primary Service Provider Model in both home based and inclusive 3-5 settings. Learning targets for the session include:

- Participants will be able to identify the Primary Service Provider (PSP) mode.
- Participants will identify how PSP model can be implemented in home and inclusive settings from age 0-5.
- Participants will identify why the PSP model is beneficial for children and caregivers.
- Participants will identify successes and challenges of implementing the PSP model.

Presented by: Sonja Griebel (SLP), Jen Ishaug (ECSE B3 Teacher), Kellie McCourtney (PT), Patty Lafromboise (ECSE 3-5 Teacher)

Award Luncheon and Drawing 12:15 – 1:30

- Award Presentation for DEC Practitioner and Leader of the Year
- State of ECSE Address with Lisa Backer, Supervisor of the MDE ECSE Leadership Team

Afternoon Break Out Session 1:30-3:00

2A) Helping Families Promote Qualities of Resilience in Their Children.

This session will discuss four key factors that make children resilient to adversity and explain how early interventionists can promote resilience for the clients or students in their practice. Along with factors of resilience, this session will explore the basic tenants of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, the Adverse Childhood Experiences study how adversity affects the developing brain, factors of resilience, and strategies to integrate the factors of resilience into an Early Interventionists work with families and children.

Presented by: Corri Stuyvenberg, MA, PT

2B) Speech Language Services in Inclusive Early Childhood Settings: Why, What and How?

The American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) defines inclusive practices as a type of intervention in which the unique needs of children with communication disorders are met in the least restrictive environment. This session will focus on models of inclusive practices including integrated and embedded strategies to aid practitioners and teachers in helping children develop speech and language skills in their natural environment. Participants will learn the why and how of how to provide inclusive speech and language services.

Presenters: Sonja Griebel (SLP) and Darla Beaver (SLP)

2C) Understanding the Family Perspective to Support Service

Provision: Children with complex needs require families to have interactions with multiple medical, educational and family support service providers over a short period of time. This interactive session will begin by helping practitioners increase their understanding from the family perspective of a young child's diagnosis of hearing loss and early contacts with service providers, and then move to explore tools to support families in understanding intervention options.

Presenter: Kathy Anderson, M.Ed., LSLC Cert AVT

2D) Video modeling to promote use of new skills within inclusive environments:

Recent advancements in technology have made video modeling a more accessible strategy given its ease of implementation across settings. Supported by a growing body of research, video modeling allows young children to learn new skills by doing something they love...watching movies! In this session, the use of video modeling to facilitate skill development in young children with special needs across various early childhood settings will be discussed. Participants are encouraged to bring an electronic device that has both video recording and editing capabilities (e.g., an iPad with the iMovie app) in order to fully participate in the hands on activity. Walk away with

a video modeling video that is ready to be shown to your students! Learning Outcomes for this session include:

- Participants will learn how to differentiate and appropriately choose between three different types of video modeling videos.
 - Participants will learn how to create and use video modeling videos (basic, point of view, and self) to facilitate the development of a skill target skill.
 - Participants will learn how to troubleshoot when anticipated results are not achieved.
- Presented by: Brenna Rudolph

2E) Minneapolis ECSE/ECFE Alphabet Soup Collaborative. Inclusion is an important topic in education. For educators who are seeking knowledge about inclusive practices in early childhood, especially those who are teaching with other professionals in the same environment, this session will provide an in depth look at one inclusion classroom model. Learning Outcomes/Targets:

- Participants can describe an inclusive environment that best meets all children's needs.
 - Participants can give examples of collaborative teaching.
 - Participants can describe the ways coteaching can be used in an inclusive setting.
- Presented by: Andrea Page (ECSE Teacher) & Anne Rohe (ECFE Teacher)

Presenter Bios

Kathy Anderson. M.Ed., LSLS Cert AVT. Kathy has served young Minnesota children with hearing loss and their families for 35 years as a Teacher Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Speech Language Pathologist and Listening and Spoken Language Specialist–Certified Auditory Verbal Therapist (LSLS Cert AVT). In addition to providing early intervention services, Kathy currently works as the Statewide Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Specialist under the MN Low Incidence Projects, which provides regional and statewide staff development opportunities for educational service providers. Kathy leads and supports the work of 18 Regional EHDI Teams across the state and participates in interagency EHDI efforts through collaboration with leadership from the MN Departments of Education and Health. She serves on the advisory boards of MN Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee, the MN Collaborative Plan for Improvement Children who are Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing, MN Hands and Voices, and the MN Deaf Mentor/Family Mentor Program.

Darla Beaver, M.S CCC-SLP. Darla is a Speech Language Pathologist and Education Manager for Invest Early Project, a partnership of health and human service agencies serving low to moderate income families in Itasca County. Darla has 19 years experience working with children with communication disorders and other disabilities and currently supervises education programming in 31 infant, toddler and preschool classrooms across the county. Through professional development and coaching, Darla supports at risk children by improving the language experience in the

classroom and helping teachers design and implement oral language interventions during daily routines and activities.

Erica Flatin. Erica is an Early Childhood Special Education teacher for Marshall Public Schools. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary/Early Childhood Education and a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Special Education. She teaches in two different preschool inclusion settings with 3-5 year olds throughout the district; one uses the coteaching model and the others use the consultative model. She has been teaching for 5 years.

Bridget Gilormini, Director of the Simon Technology Center at PACER. Bridget has been with PACER for the past 8 ½ years She has been the director of the TIKES Project for the past 3 years. Bridget has 10 years of experience as practicing SLP in the public schools as well as 15 years of experience in assistive technology for all ages. Her professional interests include: literacy, augmentative alternative communication (AAC), early childhood, mobile technology.

Sonja Griebel, MA, CCCSLP. Sonja is a bilingual Speech Language Pathologist on the St. Paul Public Schools ECSE Inclusion team, working mostly with the 3-5 population in home and community settings. She is a coauthor of the "Talk With Me" manual and has been a member of the FGRBI cadre since it began in 2010.

Emily Hoffmann . Emily is an Early Childhood Special Education teacher for Marshall Public School District in Marshall, MN. Emily works with children birth to age three and their families in home settings. She also teaches four and five year olds in an inclusive preschool. She loves helping children and families reach their fullest potentials. Emily has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Special Education and a Master's Degree in Specialist of Disabilities. This is her fifth year of teaching.

Jessica Hoffman, M.A. CCCSLP. Jessica is a speech language pathologist in Early Childhood Special Education. She earned her Bachelor of Applied Science in Secondary Education Communicative Disorders from the University of Wisconsin River Falls and Master of Arts in Communication Disorders from the University of Minnesota Duluth with a strong emphasis on Autism Spectrum Disorders and childhood language development. During the first nine years of Jessica's career, she worked in an Early Childhood Program (3-5 years old) in Plano, Texas for the Plano Independent School District. While in Texas, Jessica had many opportunities to coteach with special education teachers and general education teachers across settings from the most restrictive to the least restrictive environment, as well as leading speech and language only classes. Another amazing opportunity was becoming "Hanen" certified, implementing modified 12 week courses for families from the "It Takes Two to

Talk” program for three years. Families participated in coaching sessions and analyzed short videos while focusing on strategies to foster more interactions through play and daily routines with their child. In August 2014, Jessica has hired by Richfield Public Schools. She was lucky enough to be hired by a team that was embarking on the Department of Early Childhood Recommended Practices Home Visiting Innovation. The first year she was a practitioner on the team. During her second year, she has taken the role of the second internal coach on the team and serves on the DEC Leadership team for Richfield. This is Richfield's second year of work towards full implementation by 2019.

Jen Ishaug. Jen is a Early Childhood Special Education Teacher in St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS). She has been teaching for 6 years in the birth to three program and has participated in professional development through SPPS since 2013.

Kim Juhl. Kim has a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) from the University of Northern Iowa and started her career teaching a special education preschool program at Kelly Elementary in Wichita, Kansas. She then moved to Minnesota and was hired with the Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Schools where she taught ECSE for 5 years and developed a preschool program for children with severe multiple impairments. Kim also taught community preschool in both Lakeville and Kasson, Minnesota. Kim and her family moved to Southern Minnesota where she taught for 6 years with the Southern Minnesota Special Education Consortium (SMEC) with the Southland Public school system in Adams, Minnesota. During this time, Kim was part of the Special Education leadership team and was the Preschool Screening Coordinator for the consortium. Kim has worked for the South West West Central Service Cooperative for the past two years; first as the ECSE Professional Development Facilitator (PDF) and then as ECSE Coordinator for districts within Regions 6 & 8. As part of her position as PDF and ECSE coordinator; she facilitates the Marshall ECSE team in implementation of the Reaching Potentials through Recommended Practices (RP2) innovation through the Centers of Excellence.

Patty Lafromboise. Early Childhood Special Education teacher, on the St. Paul Public Schools ECSE Inclusion team, working with 3-5 year olds in the community: homes, child care, Head Starts. She has worked on a team to write the social-emotional lessons for "Discovering Our World" curriculum for the St. Paul Public Schools Prekindergarten and has served as an internal coach for TACSEI for the past two years.

Kellie McCourtney Mailatyar . Kellie is a physical therapist in St. Paul Public Schools birth to three program. She has been working in birth to three since 2013 and has also worked in outpatient and inpatient settings as a physical therapist since 2008.

Andie Page, ECSE Teacher. This is Andie's 9th year with Minneapolis Public Schools. She served on the birth to three evaluation team for her first 5 years. This is her 4th year as an ECSE classroom teacher. Andie loves learning about and being with young children; kids have always been her greatest teachers. Andie is a University of Minnesota alumnus and has a Masters Degree in teaching (ECSE/ECE). Andie's undergraduate background is in Music Therapy and she also holds a certificate in Autism Studies. Last year, Andie attended a 230 hour yoga study program and loves to bring yoga, breathing and movement to the classroom in a hope that it will bring the children's awareness to their bodies, their breath, and the peace and calm that resides within them. At ECSE, Andie serves on the Instructional Leadership Team and is Staff Development Chair for her program.

Anne Rohe, ECFE Teacher. Anne has been teaching for over 25 years. She has taught children and families from birth to 5th grade. Anne has served children in many districts, including Eastern Carver County for 14 years, and Minneapolis for the past 3 years. Anne has a passion for Social/Emotional Literacy and working with children who have experienced trauma. Anne is a Standards Of Effective Instruction certified educator who coaches other teachers and serves on the Positive Engagement team for Early Childhood in her district. She has collaborated with other educators in her district to present on Emotional Literacy. Anne is a mother of three who lives in Chanhassan and enjoys time with her family.

Brenna Rudolph, M.A .Brenna worked as an ECSE teacher and autism specialist for the Minnetonka Public School District for almost 10 years. It was during that time that she gained her experience using video modeling and coauthored a book on the use of video modeling for young children with autism spectrum disorders. Currently, she is working on completing her doctorate in special education at the University of Minnesota. In addition to her coursework, she serves as the university supervisor for the ECSE licensure candidates during their student teaching experiences. Brenna is the owner of 3B's Therapy, which provides in-home and community-based support to children with special needs and their families. Current professional interests include the use of technology to support the development of young children with special needs, pre-licensure training, and professional development of licensed teachers.

Corri Stuyvenberg, MA, PT .Corri has been practicing pediatric physical therapy for 20 years, with most of those years in Early Intervention programs in either rural Wisconsin, suburban Twin Cities area, and most recently in North and North-East Minneapolis. In addition, Corri has worked as a physical therapist at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Physical Therapy at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, a Master of Arts in Developmental Disabilities from St. Mary's University of Minnesota, and is scheduled to complete a Certificate in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health from the University of Minnesota in April of 2016. Corri is applying to the Transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy in Pediatrics at

Rocky Mountain University, which will begin in August of 2016.

Rebecca Sutera, M.Ed. Rebecca is an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher working in the Early Intervention program with Richfield Public Schools. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Child Psychology and her Master of Education from the University of Minnesota. Rebecca works on an amazing team, providing home visits to families with a wide range of language, socioeconomic, and cultural diversity. She has been in the field for 8 years. Rebecca, and her team, is embarking on the DEC Recommended Practices Home Visiting Innovation. She has taken the role of internal coach and serves on the DEC Leadership team for Richfield. This is Richfield's second year of work towards full implementation by 2019.

Team MDE. The presenters represent MDE's ECSE team. Jenny has many years of direct service experience as an ECSE teacher and leader with St. Paul Public Schools. Sue brings her background as an educator and attorney and 13 years as an MDE complaint investigator to her work on the ECSE team. Lisa has worked as a teacher and ECSE coordinator and has been with MDE for the past 16 years .