



## What Do Young Children Need to Thrive?

### Joint Fellows Convening

#### Child Welfare · Early Childhood · Youth Homelessness

Embassy Suites, Seattle Downtown Pioneer Square  
King St. Ballrooms | Seattle, Wash. | June 27-29, 2022

#### Meeting Overview:

Children’s earliest experiences are the building blocks for adolescence and adulthood, and many state policymakers are considering policy options to help young children and their families thrive. Since 2011, NCSL has supported state lawmakers by hosting this fellows program through which participants enhance their subject-matter knowledge in a cohort-based, peer-learning environment.

The program is designed to help you achieve the following goals:

- Strengthen your knowledge of early care and learning, family well-being and other birth-to-8 issues.
- Explore options to support young families and their children to achieve their full potential.
- Foster new relationships among fellows, faculty and NCSL staff.
- Develop an individual legislative action plan.
- Identify opportunities for NCSL to support your individual action plan.

For the first time, fellows will learn about and consider the relationships between youth and young adult homelessness, early childhood and child welfare through cross-over programming with Child Welfare Fellows and Youth Homelessness Fellows.

### Agenda

Monday, June 27   Room: King St. II (unless otherwise noted)	
3:30 p.m.	<b>Registration Opens</b> Pick up your name tag and meeting folder.
4-5 p.m.	<b>Program Introduction: Early Childhood Fellows Cohort #10</b> Meet Early Childhood Fellows, faculty and NCSL staff, and prepare for the experience of working together to achieve the goals of the program.  <i>Facilitators:</i> Alison May, NCSL; Melissa Mincic, NCSL; Jennifer Palmer, NCSL
5-5:45 p.m.	<b>Welcome &amp; Networking Reception</b> Gather for informal networking and mingle with fellows from all three cohorts, faculty, guests and NCSL staff.



	<i>Location: Perch Patio</i>
5:45-6 p.m.	<b>Transition to Dinner</b>
6-7:30 p.m.	<p><b>Dinner and Keynote Address</b> Enjoy dinner with Child Welfare Fellows, Early Childhood Fellows and Youth Homelessness Fellows. William Bell will set the stage for all three fellows programs by drawing on his more than 40 years of experience leading efforts to improve the well-being of our nation's children and families.</p> <p><i>Moderators:</i> Kate Blackman, NCSL and Wade Fickler, NCSL <i>Speaker:</i> William Bell, Ph.D., president and CEO, Casey Family Programs</p> <p><i>Location: King St. III &amp; IV</i></p>
<b>Tuesday, June 28   Room: King St. II (unless otherwise noted)</b>	
8-9 a.m.	<p><b>Breakfast and Networking</b> Breakfast is provided by the hotel and available in the restaurant on the second floor.</p>
9-10:30 a.m.	<p><b>Joint Opening Plenary: Brain Science and the Importance of Building a Strong Foundation</b> This plenary session will provide an overview of brain development, examining neuroscience research and considering the impact of experiences and the neurobiology of trauma.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Kate Blackman, NCSL <i>Speaker:</i> <b>Melanie Berry</b>, Psy.D., senior specialist, Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University; <b>Greta Massetti</b>, Ph.D., branch chief, Field Epidemiology and Prevention Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</p> <p><i>Location: King St. III</i></p>
10:30-10:45 a.m.	<p><b>Break and Room Change</b> Move into assigned cohort rooms.</p>
10:45-11:30 a.m.	<p><b>How Are We Doing: Are the Kids Alright? Are the Parents Alright?</b> The Rapid Assessment of Pandemic Impact on Development-Early Childhood project, or</p>



	<p>RAPID-EC, is an ongoing national survey of the well-being of households with children ages birth to 5 during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this session, you'll hear about the latest RAPID-EC research on how parents' and children's economic states and well-being have changed throughout the pandemic.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Melissa Mincic, NCSL <i>Speaker:</i> Philip Fisher, Ph.D., professor, Stanford Graduate School of Education</p>
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	<p><b>What Does the Evidence Tell us About the Critical Prenatal-to-3 Period?</b></p> <p>The annual Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap is designed to provide state policymakers with guidance on the most effective investments to ensure children can thrive. Explore the 11 effective evidenced-based solutions to improve the environments in which children live.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Alison May, NCSL <i>Speaker:</i> Cynthia Osborne, Ph.D., executive director, Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center</p>
12:30-1:45 p.m.	<p><b>Lunch, Networking and Wellness Walk</b></p> <p>Lunch will be provided by NCSL. Fellows and faculty are invited to engage in conversation and join the wellness walk.</p>
1:45-3 p.m.	<p><b>Prenatal-to-3 Policy Speed Round</b></p> <p>Go deeper into policies and strategies within the Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap. Gain foundational knowledge and understand the legislative landscape related to economic security and stability, maternal mortality and morbidity, and paid family and medical leave. After hearing from experts participate in small group conversations as you move from topic to topic.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Jennifer Palmer, NCSL <i>Speakers:</i> <b>Krista Thomas</b>, Ph.D., senior policy fellow, Chapin Hall; <b>Alison May</b>, NCSL; <b>Khanh Nguyen</b>, NCSL; <b>Cynthia Osborne</b>, Ph.D., executive director, Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center</p>
3-3:15 p.m.	<p><b>Break</b></p>
3:15-4:15 p.m.	<p><b>Relationships Between Maternal, Child and Family Health</b></p>



	<p>Learn about evidence-based programs and best practices that have proven successful in supporting young children and their families in Washington state. Pediatrician Dr. Mary Ann Woodruff will provide clinical implications of the work of the Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Sarah Rafton will discuss how legislators, advocates and state agencies have worked together to promote positive change for children and families in Washington state.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Melissa Mincic, NCSL <i>Speakers:</i> <b>Mary Ann Woodruff</b>, MD, FAAP, Pediatrics Northwest and co-chair of the Early Childhood Committee of the Washington Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; <b>Sarah Rafton</b>, executive director, American Academy of Pediatrics, Washington chapter</p>
4:15-5 p.m.	<p><b>Facilitated Reflection and Conversation</b></p> <p>Debrief the day of learning as you reflect independently and in small groups about topics and lessons learned so far as an NCSL Early Childhood Fellow.</p> <p><i>Facilitators:</i> Alison May, NCSL; Melissa Mincic, NCSL; Jennifer Palmer, NCSL</p>
6 p.m.	<p><b>Dinner on Your Own</b></p> <p>Venture out on your own or with others to enjoy Seattle’s food scene.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, June 29   Room: King St. II (unless otherwise noted)</b></p>	
8-9 a.m.	<p><b>Breakfast and Networking</b></p> <p>Breakfast is provided by the hotel and available in the restaurant on the second floor.</p>
9-10:30 a.m.	<p><b>A Tale of Two States: Expanding Quality and Access to Child Care</b></p> <p>The pandemic has sent child care into crisis throughout the country. Policy experts from Louisiana and Washington share the progress, challenges and lessons learned as their states have worked to expand child care access and elevate quality over the years.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Jennifer Palmer, NCSL <i>Speakers:</i> <b>Libbie Sonnier</b>, Ph.D., executive director, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children; <b>Allison Krutsinger</b>, director of government affairs and community engagement, Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families</p>



10:30-10:45 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:45-11:45 a.m.	<p><b>Policymakers’ Roles in Early Childhood Mental Health</b></p> <p>Infant and early childhood mental health consultation (IECMHC) is a promising practice that has been gaining legislative traction in recent years. Learn about recent IECMHC policy trends and hear more about the work itself and legislators’ roles in supporting IECMHC from a consultant perspective.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Melissa Mincic, NCSL</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <b>Nicola Edge</b>, Ph.D., professor and associate director, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine; <b>Fajar Farimin</b>, infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant Lead for King and Pierce Counties in Wash., Child Care Resources</p>
11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	<p><b>Wrap-Up: Moving Forward as a NCSL Early Childhood Fellow</b></p> <p>Reflect on the past few days of learning and determine some firm next steps to put your new knowledge to use. Please also share your feedback on ways that we can improve our programming.</p> <p><i>Facilitators:</i> Alison May, NCSL; Melissa Mincic, NCSL; Jennifer Palmer, NCSL</p>
12:30-1:30 p.m.	<p><b>Networking &amp; Learning Lunch</b> <i>(with Child Welfare Fellows)</i></p> <p>Opportunity to have lunch with child welfare and early childhood experts.</p>

*This meeting is made possible through a grant from the Alliance for Early Success.*