


2025 MENU OF SERVICES


For CCRC Members

This guide is intended to provide trainings and meeting descriptions that are scheduled and facilitated by ECLC staff on a yearly basis.

Keep In Touch With Us

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Early Care &
Learning Council

United to Promote Quality

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ABOUT EARLY CARE & LEARNING COUNCIL

As the membership agency for the Child Care Resource Centers (CCRCs), Early Care & Learning Council (ECLC) envisions a high-performing network that champions accessible, affordable, high-quality child care; provides exceptional supports and resources to child care providers, and advances racial equity through policy and practice.

OUR MISSION

ECLC is the coordinating agency for the New York State CCRC network. We elevate the voices of the CCRCs, and advocate for a quality, affordable, equitable early care and education system. ECLC offers training and professional development to CCRCs and delivers innovative curricula that supports the building of sustainable child care systems throughout the state.

OUR VISION

As the membership agency for the CCRCs, ECLC envisions a high-performing network that champions accessible, affordable, high-quality child care; provides exceptional supports and resources to child care providers and advances racial equity through policy and practice.

Welcome from the Executive Director Meredith Chimento



It is my pleasure to serve as the Executive Director of Early Care & Learning Council. ECLC strives each day to provide exceptional member services to the network of CCRCs. ECLC works closely with the network, OCFS, the Council of Children & Families (CCF), and other state partners to ensure that we are positioned to offer innovative, relevant, and quality programming. This guide presents to you the myriad of trainings, programming, and opportunities offered to the network along with a snapshot of program offerings.

[A monthly list of the dates provided in this guide can be accessed here.](#)



ANNUAL EVENTS

Annual Meeting

ECLC's Annual Meeting & Luncheon recognizes the network's yearly accomplishments and highlights leaders within the field. Leaders are recognized within the areas of Media; Government; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging; and Business. These leaders are nominated across the state by their local CCRCs and are honored with an "Excellence in Leadership Award". Date: June 11, 2025 at Loft 433 in Troy, NY.

Leadership Summit

As part of ECLC's continual improvement and commitment to growth and sustainability, the Leadership Summit is an invigorating, educational three-day event and celebration of the work the CCRCs do each day to improve outcomes for New York's youngest children ages birth through 12 years old. The Summit provides attendees with critical, cutting-edge information and tools necessary to meet the challenges and opportunities in today's ever-changing early care and education environment. A majority of the attendees are Executive Directors and Staff Members from ECLC's network of 35 CCRCs in the seven Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) regions of New York State, representing all 62 counties.



ABOUT PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The Programs & Services Department is comprised of various teams to support our membership network. These teams consist of Child Care Supply, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (DEIB), Professional Development, and Infant & Toddler/Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation. Together they assist new CCRC Executive Directors, provide membership resources, and share crucial updates with the entire CCRC community. This department has established several workgroups to engage with CCRC members effectively. Additionally, they work alongside Executives from each CCRC to keep them informed about ECLC practices and offerings while creating opportunities for members to share their updates. This department is also committed to upholding the quality standard of our network by guiding CCRCs through the standards process and emphasizing the essential factors to maintain good standing.

Membership-based events and meetings are included in the next few pages, along with additional opportunities and offerings provided by other departments and teams.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES DEPARTMENT MEMBERS



Abbe Hahn
Associate Executive Director



Tracy Vergason
Sr. Director of Programs & Services



Mariah King
Member Services Coordinator

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Board Meetings

The ECLC Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of every other month from 12:00 PM- 1:00 PM. Board members are invited to attend the ECLC Annual Meeting in June. Board members are expected to serve on a minimum of one committee. Committees meet as needed. Dates: 3/5 (virtual), 6/11 (in-person), 8/6 (virtual), 10/8 (in-person) & 12/10 (virtual).

Membership Meetings

Membership meetings are held twice a quarter on the second Wednesday of the month. Two of these meetings are held in-person at ECLC. Meetings are planned by a membership committee of the Board to represent the needs and interests of the CCRC membership.

Dates: 1/8, 3/20, 5/14, 8/13 & 11/12

Executive Director Group

This group is available to the Executive Director/CCRC Directors at each member agency. The group meets monthly to share ideas, receive updates from OCFS and other partner agencies, and engage in conversation to move the work of the CCRCs forward.

Dates: 1/27, 2/24, 3/24, 4/28, 5/19, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25, 9/22, 10/27, 11/24 & 12/22



ABOUT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Professional Development (PD) team offers a variety of training programs designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of early childhood educators. These trainings help caregivers understand child development, curriculum planning, effective teaching methods, and classroom management. By equipping educators with up-to-date knowledge and practical tools, ECLC ensures that children receive the highest quality early care. Alongside providing training for child care providers, the PD Team collaborates with CCRC staff responsible for training early educators, ensuring they have the necessary resources for success.

Management Training

Supported by NYS OCFS, ECLC's Management Training workshops provide training and technical assistance designed to help Center Directors master an array of skills needed to operate their centers efficiently. These programs are offered to all Center Directors and CCRC staff members at no cost. Please view the booklet here for more information:

[2025 Management Training Booklet](#)

[2025 Schedule By Region](#)

Trainers Connection Forum

Credentialed, verified, content specialists and all other CCRC employees who implement trainings are invited to attend this forum. Trainers address challenges and share resources related to training and technical assistance to ECE providers. In addition, we offer peer support for obtaining the Training and Technical Assistance Professional (T-TAP) Credential. The meetings are hosted on Zoom and meet on a quarterly basis.

Dates: 3/18, 5/22, 9/25 & 12/16

PD TEAM



Brooke Ricci
Director of Professional Development



Kayla Teabout
Business & Curriculum
Development Coordinator

ABOUT CHILD CARE SUPPLY

The Child Care Supply Team develops the supply of child care in New York State by providing training and ongoing support on child care business management topics to CCRC Staff.

Child Care Business Specialist Meeting

This is a monthly meeting for Business Specialists from each CCRC. The meeting provides an opportunity for Business Specialists to check-in with each other and brainstorm ideas to better support child care providers. The purpose of these meetings is to share resources, collaborate, and equip each Business Specialist with the tools necessary to provide the best service to the child care providers in their area.

Dates: 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 7/7, 8/4, 9/1, 10/6, 11/3 & 12/1

Core Business Training Series

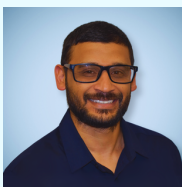
This is a six-part, eighteen-hour training series on the topic areas of Business and Financial Structure, Ongoing Financial Management, Staff Recruitment, Management and Retention, Marketing, Facilities and Liability, and Contracts and Policies. These trainings are offered primarily to the CCRCs to train family and group family providers.

Dates: Summer of 2025.

CHILD CARE SUPPLY TEAM



Andria Ryberg
Director of Child Care Supply



Budhan Ramcharan
Child Care Supply Coordinator



Jaleesa Horton
Child Care Supply Associate

ABOUT DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, & BELONGING (DEIB)

The DEIB Team is dedicated to building professional environment that emphasizes 'Belonging' to broaden ECLC's scope of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusionary practices. ECLC is self-aware and intentional about self-growth and understanding cultural differences that will allow us to provide equitable, inclusive, and unique services to our membership, colleagues, and all external stakeholders. This team also strives to influence behavioral change through impact reporting of its programs/trainings, this includes how the results of DEIB work are showing up in CCRC agencies, which will also affect hiring/policy/practice.

Additional information about DEIB can be found on our website: <https://earlycareandlearning.org/our-programs/diversity-equity-inclusion-belonging-deib/>

DEIB TEAM



Elijah Foulks
Director of DEIB



Niyah Booker
DEIB Associate

Culture Club (Formerly Multicultural Workgroup)

The Culture Club is available to all CCRC agency directors and staff. Members will meet bi-monthly to hold a community-oriented brave space focused on shifting monocultural mindsets to progressive intercultural adaptability for an improved understanding of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB).

Dates: 1/15, 3/19, 5/21, 6/18, 7/16, 9/17, 10/15 & 11/19

DEIB Leadership Initiative

This is an initiative dedicated to the development of an intercultural mindset along with bias reduction training. The audience is comprised of CCRC Directors, Executive Directors and/or Board Members, who have committed annually to participate in quarterly themed group meetings centering cultural humility, empathy, curiosity, and courage through leadership. Registration details and dates/times for all sessions (held twice per quarter) will be sent directly to CCRC Executive Directors. CCRC agency members holding supervisor or management roles are strongly encouraged to register with or in place of CCRC Executive Directors.

Learning Café Series

Learning Cafés are a series of educational forums that provide actionable steps for the audience to apply in their respective roles and responsibilities. The Learning Café is an intentional effort to introduce our network to expert speakers presenting on a wide range of topics designed to support participant interests. Learning Cafés are held on the second Thursday of each month from 12 - 1pm and are open to the public. Dates may be subject to change based on speaker availability. Learning Cafés are not held in the months of August and December. Dates: 1/9, 2/13, 3/13, 4/10, 5/8, 6/12, 7/10, 9/11, 10/9 & 11/13

LGBTQIA+ Affinity Group

This group is designed to explore the experiences of lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, intersex, asexual, pansexual, and two-spirited people (LGBTQIA+) working in early childhood care and education. Lyndon Cudlitz (Consulting, Education & Training) will be the lead consultant facilitating discussion on the joys, challenges, and nuances of the group's work, identities, and communities. Attendance is confidential, and we welcome those questioning or exploring their attractions and/or gender. We will hold four quarterly direct community support group sessions specifically for LGBTQIA+ members throughout the year, as well as two allyship sessions each quarter that are open to anyone committed to learning, supporting, and growing in their allyship along with members of our LGBTQIA+ community to fellowship together.

Community Dates: 1/9, 1/16, 2/13, 2/24, 4/10, 4/28, 5/8, 5/19, 7/10, 7/28, 8/14, 8/25, 10/9, 10/27, 11/13, 11/24

Allyship Dates: 3/13, 3/24, 6/12, 6/23, 9/11, 9/22, 12/11, 12/22

ABOUT INFANT & TODDLER AND INFANT EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION

The Infant & Toddler (IT) and Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Consultation Teams focus on providing specialized support and training for professionals working with children from birth to three years old and birth to five years old. These stages of development are critical, as they lay the foundation for lifelong learning, behavior, and health. The services offered by this team aim to enhance the tools for the CCRC network. These teams provide support to Infant & Toddler Specialists and Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants at CCRC agencies who work with providers to meet the unique needs of infants and toddlers, equipping them with the skills required to foster optimal development during these formative years.

Additional information can be found on our website:
<https://earlycareandlearning.org/our-programs/infant-and-toddler-network/>

IT AND IECMHC TEAM



Jillian Scanlon
Director of Infant & Early Childhood
Mental Health



Allison Graham
Infant & Early Childhood
Mental Health Associate



Rachel Roberts
Infant & Toddler Coordinator

INFANT & TODDLER

Data Quality Improvement (DQI)

Data Quality Improvement Meetings occur monthly, directly following the monthly I&T calls. This meeting time serves as an open space to go over concerns and updates to the MITCH database. Dates: 1/29, 2/5, 5/1, 7/10, 8/7, 10/9 & 11/6

DECA Training

The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Program for Infants and Toddlers (DECA I/T) is a strength-based assessment and planning system designed to promote resilience in our youngest children, 4 weeks up to 3 years old. The DECA I/T Program is implemented using a five-step approach, which includes: (1) collecting information on individual children, the home, and the group care environment, (2) administering the DECA I/T, a strength based assessment of social and emotional development, (3) summarizing assessment results, (4) developing and implementing plans for children who have concerns and for building quality environments, both in the home and group care settings, and (5) evaluating progress.

Infant & Toddler Lead Agency Calls

ECLC hosts quarterly calls to support the I&T Regional Lead Agencies across the state. These meetings provide updates, support and continued collaboration throughout the I&T Network. Dates: 2/19, 6/18, 8/20, 10/8 & 11/5

Infant & Toddler MITCH Office Hours

ECLC will hold open office hours to support the Infant & Toddler Data Collection project beginning in 2025. From January to March, these meetings will be held bi-weekly. From April to June, they will be held monthly. Dates: 1/14, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25

Infant & Toddler Specialist Data Captains Meetings

A small closed-group meeting bringing together one Infant and Toddler Specialist (I&TS) per region to assist in the development and piloting of I&TS data collection system with ECLC's IT Data collection/development team. Dates: 1/9, 2/6, 5/1, 7/10, 8/7, 10/8 & 11/6

Monthly Infant & Toddler Meeting Calls

The Infant & Toddler (I&T) Specialist Monthly Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month. The goal for these meetings is to provide a space for sharing regional and statewide updates, sharing resources and strategies on a variety of Infant/Toddler specific topics, and for ECLC to provide support to the IT network. These meetings also allow for external partners to provide information and updates on Infant/Toddler events and opportunities across the state. Dates: 1/9, 2/6, 5/1, 7/10, 8/7, 10/9 & 11/6.

Teaching Pyramid Infant–Toddler Observation Scale (TPITOS)

In partnership with NYAEYC, ECLC will be providing TPITOS training to the network of I&TS. TPITOS, Teaching Pyramid- Infant Toddler Observation Scale, is a tool that ensures I&T teachers are using the Pyramid Model practices with fidelity. Dates: TBD

IECMHC

Data Quality Improvement Meetings

IECMH Data Quality Improvement Meetings occur monthly, with IECMH Consultants and Supervisors. This meeting time serves as an open space to go over concerns and updates to the database.

Dates: 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18 & 12/16

IECMH Consultant Meetings

These calls are on the first Monday of each month from 2:00pm-3:30pm. IECMH Consultants are encouraged to attend to obtain updates from ECLC and each region, and to share resources and discuss challenges.

Dates: 1/6, 2/3, 7/7, 8/4, 10/6 & 11/3

IECMH Supervisors Meeting

These are monthly meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month from 2:00pm-3:30pm. All IECMH Supervisors are encouraged to attend to obtain updates from ECLC and each region and to share resources and discuss challenges.

Dates: 1/14, 2/11, 4/8, 7/8 & 8/12

Professional Development

IECMH Consultants and Supervisors will receive various professional development opportunities throughout the year. Some of these include:

- CHILD Assessment Training conducted by Yale
- Exploring our Histories and the Consultative Stance - Kadija Johnston
- Maternal mental health with Dr. Mickey Sperlich
- Training and Technical Assistance for Supervisors with Gil Foley through NYCCD - Educational Extension
- Training and Technical Assistance for Consultants with Gerry Costa through NYCCD - Educational Exploration (new consultants)

Reflective Supervision

To support supervisors in engaging in reflective practice with IECMH consultants, IECMH Program Director and Reflective Supervisor, Jillian Scanlon, provides individual support to supervisors as they uplift Reflective Supervision Groups in their regions. Jillian's work with supervisors is meant both to deepen their understanding of reflective practice through a parallel process and to provide supervisors with hours towards endorsement.

Trauma Advisory Group - Book Study

The Trauma Advisory Group is a space for CCRC Staff and our Early Education Partners to explore resources regarding Trauma Informed Practices. The group will be utilizing a book study format in 2025, reading "The Deepest Well: Healing the Long-Term Effects of Childhood Adversity" by Nadine Burke Harris. These meetings occur monthly on the last Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm-4:00pm.



IT/IECMHC JOINT MEETINGS

Fall/Spring Retreats

ECLC provides two annual in-person statewide I&T conferences, one in the spring and one in the fall. These events provide the IT Specialists and IECMH Consultants an opportunity to foster collaboration and networking, as well as to attend professional development and training sessions geared towards supporting their respective roles.

Spring Dates: 5/19-5/20; Fall Dates: TBD

Quarterly Joint I&T/IECMH Meeting

IECMH Consultants, I&T Specialists, and I&T/IECMH Supervisors gather to brainstorm collaboration between the specialists and the consultants.

This meeting occurs once per quarter.

Dates: 3/6, 4/3 (in-person at NYAECY Annual Conference), 6/5, 9/8 & 12/1

Zero to Three (ZTT) Training

Occurring on a quarterly basis, ECLC provides training through the National Zero to Three (ZTT) organization on topics relevant to both IT Specialists and IECMH Consultants. Topics have previously included: Psychology of Pregnancy, Foundations of Infant Mental Health Consultation, and much more.

Dates: TBD



ABOUT POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS

The Policy & Communications Teams provide a range of resources for the CCRC network. Working alongside other departments and teams, the Communications Team develops various materials to help the network effectively promote their services to their audiences. Additionally, they facilitate a support group where members can share communication challenges, advance best practices, and receive detailed solutions. The Policy Team collaborates with the Communications Team to promote advocacy opportunities and create resources aimed at garnering support from lawmakers.

Learn more about ECLC's advocacy and policy efforts on our website:
<https://earlycareandlearning.org/our-voice-advocacy/>

POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS TEAMS



Jessica Klos-Shapiro
Sr. Director of Policy & Community
Education



Jessie Havens
Director of Communications



Mackenzie Pope
Policy & Community Education
Associate

POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS

Advocacy Day

CCRCs, child care advocates, families and educators join to meet with lawmakers and let them know that New York's children and families deserve to be a top priority in the state budget. Advocacy Day takes place each year at the State Capitol in Albany NY and is a time where child care stories are shared and participants rally with others from around the state with similar concerns. Collectively, they join to discuss their vision for a better future for NY's children. In addition, the Communication Team is available to present Advocacy 101, 201 and 301 webinars upon request.

Advocacy Day: 1/28

Communications Specialized Group

The Communications Specialized Group meets once a quarter to discuss topics related to Marketing, Communication, Branding and more. The purpose of the group is to give CCRC members who perform any type of communications-related work an opportunity to collaborate and share with other CCRC members. Some meetings may include presentations related to specific topics of interest. Topics include: Building Your Branding, Tips for Social Media, Developing Promotional Material, and Overcoming Challenges Reaching Your Audiences.

Dates: 2/11, 5/13, 8/12, 12/9



ABOUT DATA & RESEARCH

The Data & Research Team supports the CCRCs by resolving data-related issues and providing valuable insights across the network. They ensure that research and data practices are aligned across the network and share best practices. By addressing concerns from data administrators, resource and referral specialists, and other key members, the Data & Research Team helps improve the Empire State Child Care MATCH system, streamline referrals, and ensure access to quality child care services. Their work fosters collaboration, improves system functionality, and supports the overall goal of efficient and informed service delivery.

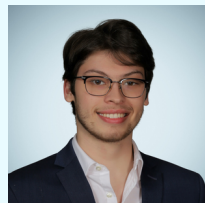
DATA & RESEARCH TEAM



Jennifer Bashant
SR. Director of Research and
Mental Health Services



Ryan Chappell
Research Analyst



Sam Brotmann
Data Analyst



Kyle Wiblishauser
Data Coordinator

DATA & RESEARCH

Data Round Tables

Annual meetings are held to talk about data topics that affect the whole network and data issues that are regionally specific. Topics could include updates or potential enhancements to the Empire State Child Care MATCH, data trends, or regional updates. This year six roundtables will take place — Regions 1 & 2, Region 3, Region 4, Region 5, Region 6 and Region 7.

Quarterly Data Advisory Committee Meeting

Quarterly meetings for the data advisory committee are held for a group of data admins from around the network that represent all seven regions and various sized CCRCs. Meetings are meant to discuss any issues, concerns, or updates with the Empire State Child Care MATCH database, as well as other data topics.

Dates: 1/28, 4/22, 7/22 & 10/28

Resource & Referral Specialist Meetings

Resource and Referral Specialists help parents locate and choose quality child care by providing referrals to local child care providers, information on state licensing requirements, availability of child care subsidies, and other information. Quarterly meetings are held to help resource & referral specialists with any questions or concerns that they have about referral trends, barriers to referrals, using the Empire State Child Care MATCH system, or any issues that they may be having in their region.

Dates: 3/26, 6/25, 9/24 & 12/17



ABOUT BUSINESS NAVIGATOR

By providing a clear framework of options and actionable steps for decision-making, the Business Navigator Child Care Toolkit meets business leaders where they are today and equips them with impactful child care solutions that drive both business and employee growth. Businesses of all sizes will find practical solutions within this guide that can be implemented right away, and live launches are being provided throughout the state of New York.

The free Business Navigator Child Care Toolkit was created by ECLC's Strategy & Vision Department in partnership with CCRCs across all 10 Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs) and funded by OCFS. It can help create family-friendly workplaces that support employees and strengthen businesses. This essential resource includes strategies for addressing child care needs, tools for implementation, information on tax credits, and connections to local experts and case studies. Learn more about the Business Navigator Toolkit [here](#).

BUSINESS NAVIGATOR TEAM



Jeannie Thomma
Associate Executive Director of
Strategy & Vision



Shameia House
Administrative Assistant



Saphyere Redding
Project Manager

ADDITIONAL SPECIALIZED GROUPS

CACFP Specialists

CACFP Specialists are CCRC staff members who assist in the promotion of the Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and connect child care programs with resources and opportunities. This group meets quarterly to discuss updates in CACFP, share best practices, and provide resources.

Dates: 1/15, 4/16, 7/16 & 10/15

Health Care Consultants

All CCRC employed Health Care Consultants (HCCs) meet quarterly. HCCs are encouraged to send agenda items and additional questions in advance to the meeting facilitator. OCFS intends to join a portion of each meeting, to answer questions and provide updates to the field.

Dates: 1/30, 4/10, 7/24 & 10/23

Legally Exempt Workgroup

Legally Exempt (LE) staff work with all providers to support their work caring for children. This workgroup will provide guidance on the development of a series of short trainings that will be developed to deepen LE provider understanding of ACEs, the Protective Factors Framework and trauma-responsive approaches. This group will meet quarterly.

Dates: 1/29, 5/7, 9/3 & 12/3

Standards of Excellence

This group is for those working on the Standards of Excellence (SOE) application or 18-month check-in process. In 2025, the group will meet five times for two hours to take a deep dive into embedding DEIB principles and strategies into the existing application standards. There is also an opportunity to collaborate and share resources, discuss challenges that have arisen and explore the Sharepoint submission site.

Dates: 3/19, 4/9, 6/26, 8/28 & 11/20

Access a full list of the Specialized Groups [here](#).

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

ECLC's Finance Department is responsible for managing all financial processes and decisions, as well as program benefits and human resources for ECLC staff.



Tammy Parsons
Director of Finance &
Administration



Arionda Kearse
Bookkeeper



Beth Diana
Contract Manager

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