



**Early Care & Learning Council
Specialized Groups**



Legally Exempt

Legally Exempt 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.

Contact- Brooke Ricci:
bricci@earlycareandlearning.org

Resource and Referral Specialists

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 assistance, and other information. This group meets quarterly to discuss updates in their region.

Contact- Mariah King:
mking@earlycareandlearning.org



Health Care Consultants

All CCRC-employed Health Care Consultants meet quarterly. HCC's are encouraged to send agenda items and additional questions in advance to the meeting facilitator. It is OCFS's intention to join a portion of each meeting, in order to answer questions and provide updates to the field.

Contact- Brooke Ricci:
bricci@earlycareandlearning.org



**Executive Director/
Leadership**

Executive Directors and other leaders are encouraged to attend these monthly meetings. These sessions provide a space for discussions and professional development aimed at supporting overall leadership.

Contact- Meredith Chimento:
mchimento@earlycareandlearning.org
or
Mariah King:
mking@earlycareandlearning.org

Trainer's Forum

Credentialed, verified, content specialists and all other CCRC employees who implement trainings are invited to attend. Trainers address challenges and share resources related to training and technical assistance to ECE providers. In addition, ECLC offers peer support for obtaining the T-TAP credential. The meetings are hosted on Zoom and meet on a quarterly basis.

Contact- Brooke Ricci:
bricci@earlycareandlearning.org

Culture Club

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

Contact- Elijah Foulks:
efoulks@earlycareandlearning.org

LGBTQIA+ Community

This group is designed to explore the experiences of lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, intersex, asexual, pansexual, and Two-Spirit people working in early childhood care and education. Lyndon Cudlitz is the lead consultant facilitating discussions 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. For specific sessions, the meeting will be open to non-LGBTQ people committed to growing their allyship.

Contact- Niyah Booker:
nbooker@earlycareandlearning.org

Communications 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 audience.

Contact- Jessie Havens:
jhavens@earlycareandlearning.org



SOE

This group is for those working on the Standards of Excellence (SOE) application or 18-month check-in process. Quarterly meetings provide an opportunity to collaborate and share resources, discuss challenges that have risen and explore the Sharepoint submission site.

Contact- Mariah King:
mking@earlycareandlearning.org



Data Advisory Committee

Data Advisory Committee is a group of CCRC Data Administrators representing a cross-section of CCRCs across the state: Urban, Rural, CAP Agencies, etc. The team meets quarterly over Zoom to discuss topics related to the MATCH database, enhancement requests, reporting, and other topics as determined by the group.

Contact- Jennifer Bashant:
jbashant@earlycareandlearning.org

Research Group

A group for CCRC staff tasked with data collection, program evaluation, community needs assessments, and other research needs. This group will focus on practical advice and resource development to support data collection, visualization, and synthesis at CCRCs.

Contact- Ryan Chappell:
rchappell@earlycareandlearning.org



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 on a quarterly basis to discuss updates in CACFP, share best practices, and provide resources.

Contact- Jessie Havens:
jhavens@earlycareandlearning.org

Learning Cafés

These 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 on behalf of the DEIB Department to introduce the CCRC 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 pm-1pm and are open to the public.

Contact- Elijah Foulks:
efoulks@earlycareandlearning.org

*Child Care Resource Centers (CCRCs) serve as the network of Child Care Resource & Referral agencies in New York State.