

Promoting Equity through State and Community Early Childhood Initiatives

Plenary Session, Thursday April 18, 9 – 10 am

Grand Hyatt Washington DC

Panelists and Facilitator

- Ngozi Lawal, Center for the Study of Social Policy
- Diana Rivera, Vital Village Network, Boston Medical Center
- Katherine Stohr, Pritzker Family Foundation
- Kathryn Tout, Child Trends (facilitator)

Session Description

Building on the momentum generated at the 2018 CCEEPRC Annual Meeting, this session addresses the critical topic of equity by showcasing innovative multi-sector early childhood initiatives in communities across the country and three national networks that are supporting them. First, the Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing (NOW) focuses on building community capacity and developing data systems that can highlight inequities and promote cross-system alignment, and, through Project HOPE (Harnessing Opportunity for Positive Equitable Early Childhood Development), supports building connections across community and state efforts. Second, the Early Childhood Learning and Innovation Network for Communities (EC-LINC) brings together communities that are committed to building integrated early childhood systems, testing innovations and implementing effective approaches. The presentation will highlight different community strategies being tested to promote equity. Third, the National Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers brings together national partners supporting initiatives in 29 communities and 15 states to improve outcomes for infants, toddlers and their families. This presentation will highlight examples from specific communities to address disparities in the areas of health, family support and early care and education. The facilitator will help identify the common threads across the three networks and the unique approaches each is taking to address equity. Time will be available for questions and discussion with the presenters.

Resources

- **Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing (NOW) Innovation Forum:** <https://www.networksofopportunity.org/>
- **Vital Village Signs:** <https://www.vitalvillage.org/data-dashboard>
- **Ripples of Transformation: Families Leading Change in Early Childhood Systems** - toolkit designed to inspire, challenge, and support early childhood leaders to embrace a vision of families as agents of change in their children's lives, communities, and early childhood systems. <https://cssp.org/our-work/projects/shared-results-outcomes-metrics/>
- **Manifesto for Race Equity & Parent Leadership in Early Childhood Systems** – a document developed by 40 parent leaders and agency staff from nine EC-LINC communities to help early childhood system leaders learn how to work with parents in ways that promote equitable outcomes and maximize opportunities for all children. <https://cssp.org/resource/manifesto-for-race-equity-parent-leadership-in-early-childhood-systems/>
- **The National Collaborative for Infants and Toddlers:** <https://www.thencit.org/>