SRCD Policy Fellowship Experience

Federal and state fellows are asked to write one-page reflections on their fellowship experiences. At the end of the fellowship year, fellows also develop a Professional Portfolio accompanied by a brief abstract to showcase a selected number of contributions the fellow made at the placement during the fellowship year.

Listing of Current SRCD Policy Fellows: 2021-2022

Federal Policy Fellow Spotlights and State Policy Fellow Portfolio Abstracts

Federal and State fellows are asked to write one-page reflections on their fellowship experiences. In addition, at the end of the fellowship year fellows are asked to develop a Professional Portfolio with brief abstracts of each entry to showcase a selected number of contributions the fellow made at the placement during the fellowship year. Prior to the 2020-2021 fellowship year, Federal fellows wrote one-page reflections while State fellows developed Professional Portfolios.

2022

Federal Policy Fellows

* Marissa Abbott, Ph.D.
Office of the Assistant Secretary, Planning and Evaluation

• Lorena Aceves, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families

• Jackie Gross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Frances Martínez Pedraza, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families

• Kelsey McKee, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start

• Parisa Parsafar, Ph.D.
  Child Development and Behavior Branch, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health

• Virginia Salo, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health

• Neda Senehi, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Tanya Tavassolie, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Maggie Hassan

• Dianna Tran, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

**State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows**

• Clarissa Corkins, M.S.
  Oklahoma State Department of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction

• Eleanor Fisk
  Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

**State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows**

• Alex Busuito, Ph.D.
  Center for Perinatal and Early Childhood Health, Rhode Island Department of Health

• Cassandra Simons Gerson, Ph.D.
Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood
• Lillie Moffett, Ph.D.
California Department of Education, Opportunities for All Branch

2021

Federal Policy Fellows

• Lorena Aceves, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families
• Krystal Bichay-Awadalla, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Christian Clesi, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Bob Casey
• Jackie Gross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Ellen Litkowski, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Parisa Parsafar, Ph.D.
  Child Development and Behavior Branch, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
• Frances Martínez Pedraza, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families
• Alayna Schreier, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
• Dianna Tran, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families
State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Jenn Finders, Ph.D.
  Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Andrew (Drew) McGee
  Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood
- Wendy Wei, Ed.M.
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care

2020

Federal Policy Fellows

- Krystal Bichay-Awadalla, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Ellen Litkowski, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Parisa Parsafar, Ph.D.
  Office of the Senator Christopher Coons
- Emily Ross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Alayna Schreier, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Christina Padilla, Ph.D., M.P.P.
  District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Learning
- Sarah Prendergast, Ph.D.
  Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Kylie Bezdek
  North Carolina North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education
- Claudia Kruzik
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
- Ann Partee, Ed.M.
  Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Office of Early Childhood
- Callie Silver, M.A.
  Illinois Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD)

2019

Federal Policy Fellows

- Emily Ross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Paula Daneri, Ph.D.
  House Committee on Education and Labor
- Amanda K. Gatewood, M.P.H., Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Marisa Morin, Ph.D.
State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Rachel Katz, Ph.D.
  Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Early Intervention
- Alicia Miao, Ph.D.
  Early Learning Division, Oregon Department of Education

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Nneka Ibekwe, M.S.W., Ed.M.
  Office of Early Learning, Delaware Department of Education
- Caroline Martin
  Vermont Agency of Education
- Meghan McDoniel, Ed.M.
  Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning
- Elizabeth Tremaine, M.S.
  Early Learning Division, Oregon Department of Education
2018

Federal Policy Fellows

• Rachel D. McKinnon, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Bob Casey
• Alaina Flannigan, Ph.D.
  Joint Economic Committee, Office of Ranking Member Senator Martin Heinrich
• Erin Cannon, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Anne Day Leong, Ph.D., M.S.W.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development,
  National Institutes of Health
• Sarah Blankenship, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Kelly Jedd McKenzie, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and
  Human Services
• Francesca Longo, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
• Yunsoo Park, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
• Jenessa Malin, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Jameela Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

• Aimée Drouin Duncan, Ph.D.
  Office of The State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Early Learning (DEL),
  District of Columbia
• Kate Giapponi Schneider, Ph.D.
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

• Robert Carr, M.A.
  North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE)
• Julie Casper, M.S.Ed.
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)
• Melanie Fish
  Washington State Department of Early Learning (DEL)/Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)
• Mayra Parada
  Office of Early Childhood and Humanities, Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)

2017

Federal Policy Fellows

• Yunsoo Park, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
• Jenessa Malin, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Angelique Day, Ph.D., M.S.W.
  Office of Congressman Danny Davis
• Emily M. Douglas, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Ron Wyden
• Elizabeth Day, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
• Jameela Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
• Marina M. Mendoza, Ph.D.
2016

Federal Policy Fellows

• Amy Leffler, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice

• Tracy Clopêt, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families

• Marina Mendoza, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice

• Elizabeth Shuey, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Sangeeta Parikshak, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families

• Kirby Chow, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

2015

Federal Policy Fellows

• Lynlee Tanner Stapleton, Ph.D.
  U.S. Agency for International Development
• Cristina Novoa, Ph.D., M.P.P.
  Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

• Kirby Chow, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

• Amy Griffin, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Al Franken

• Sangeeta Parikshak, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families

• Beth Meloy, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families

• Michelle Boyd, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

• Nina Philipsen Hetzner, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2014

Federal Policy Fellows

• Lynlee Tanner Stapleton, Ph.D.
  U.S. Global Development Lab, U.S. Agency for International Development

• Kathleen McCoy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Julie A. Leis, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Christine Fortunato, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Sangeeta Parikshak, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Sheldon Whitehouse
2013

Federal Policy Fellows

• Amanda Clincy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Kathleen McCoy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Michelle J. Boyd, Ph.D.
  House Ways and Means Committee
• Lindsey Hutchison, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
• Beth Meloy, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Al Franken
• Christine Fortunato, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Amanda Clincy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Akilah Swinton, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
• Kelly R. Fisher, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
2012

Federal Policy Fellows

• Charlayne Hayling-Williams, Ph.D.
  Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration

• Akilah Swinton, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Pamala Trivedi, Ph.D., NCSP
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

• Rebecca Taylor, Ph.D.
  Office of Representative Betty McCollum

• Kelly Fisher, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Tisha Wiley, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health

2011

Federal Policy Fellows

• Joseph L. Mahoney, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman

• Elizabeth O’Hare, Ph.D.
  Office of Representative Rush Holt

• Charlayne Hayling, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman

• Michelle Sternthal, Ph.D.
Office of Policy, Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development

- **Tisha Wiley, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health

- **Melinda Leidy, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

- **Sarah Oberlander, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

- **Sarah D. Lynne-Landsman, Ph.D.**
  National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health

2010

**Federal Policy Fellows**

- **Melinda Leidy, Ph.D.**
  Office of Senator Christopher Dodd

- **Binta Beard, Ph.D.**
  Office of Representative Edward Markey

- **Elisa Klein, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health

- **Molly Irwin, Ph.D., M.P.H.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

- **Sarah Oberlander, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

- **Sacha Klein, M.S.W., Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) and the Children’s Bureau’s Office of Child Abuse and Neglect, Administration for Children and Families

- **Nancy Geyelin Margie, Ph.D.**
Federal Policy Fellows

- **Diana Tyson, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- **Ann C. Rivera, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- **Nancy Geyelin Margie, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- **Samantha Harvell, Ph.D.**
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
- **Taryn Morrissey, Ph.D.**
  Office of Senator M. Kennedy
- **Glenetta Hudson Harris, Ph.D.**
  Office of Head Start and Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- **Diana Tyson, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- **Jennifer Brown Urban, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health
- **Layla Esposito, Ph.D.**
  *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
2008

Federal Policy Fellows

- **Kathleen Dwyer, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- **Sara Vecchiotti, Ph.D.**
  Perspective from a former Fellow with a placement in Congress
- **Ann Marie White, Ed.D.**
  Perspective from a former Fellow with placements in Congress and in the Executive Branch
- **Glenetta Hudson Harris, Ph.D.**
  Office of Head Start and Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- **Layla Esposito, Ph.D.**
  *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- **Michele M. Mazzocco, Ph.D.**
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
- **Kathleen Dwyer, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- **Glenetta Hudson Harris, Ph.D.**
  Office of Head Start and Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2007

Federal Policy Fellows
• Dara Blachman, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health

• Nicole Gardner Neblett, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

• Behnosh Najaf, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• Jill Antonishak, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Tom Harkin

• Taniesha A. Woods, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Christopher Dodd

• Nicole Gardner Neblett, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

• Dara Blachman, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health

• Carmela Lomonaco, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kenney Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development,
  National Institutes of Health

• Erika Feinauer, Ph.D., Ed.D.
  Development and Learning Sciences, National Science Foundation

• Lauren R. Baskir, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health

• Behnosh Najafi, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families