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: 2022-2023

Listing of the 2024-2023 SRCD Policy fellows

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.

2024

Federal Policy Fellows
Jessie Bridgewater, Ph.D.
*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health

Carly Champagne, Ph.D.
Office of Child Care (OCC) in the Administration for Children and Families

Brett Greenfield, Ph.D.
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)

Paige Greenwood, Ph.D.
Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families

Diane Gumina, Ph.D.
Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch (PPB) at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Toria Herd, Ph.D.
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

Shirley Huang, Ph.D.
*Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health

Jazlyn Nketia, Ph.D.
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

Kylee Probert, Ph.D.
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

Kizzann Ashana "Shana" Ratcliff, Ph.D.
Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families

Tanya Tavassolie, Ph.D.
Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families

Tamarie Willis, Ph.D.
Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

**Kylie Garber, Ph.D.**
Congressional Branch fellow
State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Lara Markovitz, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Support (OCS) in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Sara Nozadi, Ph.D.
  State of New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD)
- Isabella Sciuto Ozenbaugh, Ph.D.
  Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) in the state of Oregon
- Faith VanMeter, Ph.D.
  Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Safety and Permanence Division, Promotion and Prevention Unit

Federal Policy Fellows

- Marissa Abbott, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary, Planning and Evaluation
- Carly Champagne, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care (OCC) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Diane Gumina, Ph.D.
  Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch (PPB) at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- Shirley Huang, Ph.D.
  *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health
- Kelsey McKee, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Kylee Probert, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration for Children and
Families

- **Kizzann Ashana "Shana" Ratcliff, Ph.D.**
  Office of Head Start in the Administration for Children and Families

- **Virginia Salo, Ph.D.**
  *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health

- **Neda Senehi, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

- **Tanya Tavassolie, Ph.D.**
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families

- **Tamarie Willis, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

- **Kylie Garber, Ph.D.**
  Office of Senator Tim Kaine

**State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows**

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

- **Lara Markovitz, Ph.D.**
  Office of Child Support (OCS) in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

- **Lillie Moffett, Ph.D.**
  California Department of Education, Opportunities for All Branch

- **Faith VanMeter, Ph.D.**
  Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Safety and Permanence Division, Promotion and Prevention Unit

**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

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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
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.**
  Senate Finance Committee, Office of Ranking Member Ron Wyden

• **Rachel McKinnon, Ph.D.**
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families

• **Francesca Longo, Ph.D.**
  Office of Child Care, 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

• **Kelly Jedd McKenzie, Ph.D.**
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

• **Sarah Blankenship, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

• **Erin Cannon, Ph.D.**
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

**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
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)

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
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

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

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

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
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

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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.
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

Ann Rivera, Ph.D.
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

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
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 Kenney Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health

- **Michele M. Mazzocco, Ph.D.**
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
2007

Federal Policy Fellows

- **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

- **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