

EVERY CHILD READY CHICAGO STRENGTHENING INCLUSION SYMPOSIUM

EVENT PROGRAM



MALCOLM X COLLEGE
DECEMBER 7TH, 2024
10AM - 2PM

SCHEDULE

9:00- 10:00 AM

REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

10:00 - 10:50 AM

**WELCOME & KEYNOTE
1104 AUDITORIUM**

11:00 - 11:45 AM

&

11:50 AM - 12:35 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

HALL A: FAMILY SESSION

HALL B: FAMILY AND/OR ECE PROFESSIONALS

HALL C: ECE PROFESSIONALS

12:35- 1:15 PM

LUNCH & RESOURCE FAIR

1:15- 2:00 PM

**FULL GROUP SESSION: EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES:
RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY PRIORITIES
1104 AUDITORIUM**

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

EARLY INTERVENTION TO EARLY CHILDHOOD: UNDERSTANDING WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT

LOCATION: HALL A

AUDIENCE: FAMILIES

Transitioning from Early Intervention to Early Childhood can be overwhelming for families. Using the "When I'm 3" Transition Guide, we will explore the importance of a parent's voice and what rights parents have during the process. Parents will learn how to prepare for the Transition Planning meeting, Evaluations and the IEP meeting, as well as create a timeline that fits their needs. Participants will leave with tangible resources to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

"SHE CAN'T COME HERE ANYMORE" PRESCHOOLERS AND EXPULSION: EXPERIENCES AND RESOURCES (GATEWAYS CREDIT OFFERED)

LOCATION: HALL B

AUDIENCE: FAMILIES AND/OR ECE PROFESSIONALS

This session will focus on how suspension and expulsion in early childhood disproportionately affects students with disabilities. Participants will explore resources and supports for families, programs and teachers when a child is at risk for expulsion. Birth to Five Illinois will share related family experiences from their Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment.

PART 1: LEGAL FOUNDATIONS AND BENEFITS OF INCLUSIVE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PART 2: BEST PRACTICES FOR INCLUSION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

(GATEWAYS & CEU CREDIT OFFERED IF BOTH SESSIONS ATTENDED)

LOCATION: HALL C

AUDIENCE: ECE PROFESSIONALS

Part 1: Participants will review and discuss the importance of inclusion in child belonging, emphasizing how early, inclusive education fosters social, emotional and cognitive development for all children. Attendees will learn about the importance of inclusion and the positive impact of inclusive practices on overall development and long-term academic and social success.

Part 2: Participants will explore strategies to build and sustain an inclusive preschool environment through ongoing reflection, collaboration, and learning. Participants will gain practical insights into creating high-quality preschool experiences that benefit all children, especially those with disabilities.

SPEAKERS



**Candace M. Moore, Director of Early Learning in Education, Youth & Human Services Department
Office of the Mayor**



Jaclyn Vasquez, Owner/Consultant, JV Consultancy, LLC



**Leslie McKinily, Chief Early Childhood Education Officer,
Office of Early Childhood Education
Chicago Public Schools**



Dr. Carrie Comer-Yates, Senior Manager of Early Childhood Instructional Quality, Office for Students with Disabilities, Chicago Public Schools



Tareema Jean Baptiste, Early Childhood Special Education PD Specialist, Office for Students with Disabilities, Chicago Public Schools



Georgann Coleman, Director of Assessment and Assignment, Office for Students with Disabilities, Chicago Public Schools

SPEAKERS



Edna Navarro Vidaurre, Regional Council Manager, Region City of Chicago, Birth to Five Illinois: Region 1-A

Sarai Coba Rodriguez, Assistant Professor, Human Development & Learning Program, Department of Educational Psychology, University of Illinois Chicago



Dr. Alissa Rausch, PELE Center Director, Assistant Research Faculty, Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver

Marcia Stoll, Assistant Director of Research, Illinois Action for Children



Kayla Goldfarb, Policy Manager, Illinois Policy, Start Early

RESOURCE & ACTIVITY FAIR



ChiME (Chicago Center for Music Education) is a nonprofit community music organization that provides access to evidence-based music therapy and engagement-based music programs that develop critical skills and foster self and social growth.



Chinese American Service League (CASL) is a comprehensive social service agency providing 30 plus direct service programs to community members of all ages, from early Head Start home visiting, child development center, after school, housing counseling, employment assistance, social benefits, legal services, to senior services.



The Office of Multilingual - Multicultural Education (OMME) exists to guide CPS in providing a high-quality education for all language learners that is attentive to a culturally and linguistically diverse community of students, families, and educators.

The Office for Students with Disabilities works to support networks, schools, and families with all issues related to special education including instruction, interventions, and legal and compliance support.



Discovery Toys is the premiere learning toy company dedicated to helping early childhood development through Play. A trusted brand for over 45 years, we specialize in premium quality, kid-powered learning products for children ranging from newborns to school-aged children.



Equip for Equality is an independent non-profit organization that advances the human and civil rights of individuals with disabilities and administers Illinois' Protection & Advocacy System. EFE provides free legal assistance throughout Illinois, including through its Special Education Clinic, which assists parents in navigating Early Intervention and the special education process for their children.

RESOURCE & ACTIVITY FAIR



Illinois Early Childhood Outdoors connects the Illinois early childhood community to each other with resources to support outdoor and nature-based learning experiences that prioritize the full scope of children's development.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program for young children, birth to age 5. Each month an age-appropriate book is mailed directly to the enrolled child's home at no cost to the parent.



IDHS Bureau of Early Intervention-Child & Family Connections provides assessments for babies birth to the third birthday who have delays or concerns with the child's development.



NEIGHBORHOOD Parents Network

Neighborhood Parents Network connects a diverse community of families by providing support and resources designed to solve the challenges of parenting in Chicago.



Raising Illinois

Raising Illinois is a public-private partnership of diverse individuals and organizations across Illinois committed to supporting our youngest generation by ensuring families can access high-quality health care, engage in quality learning experiences and establish economic security.



STAR NET's mission is to promote evidence-based inclusive practices for young children with disabilities, professional development to support educators and families, and meaningful child outcomes through innovative and engaging learning experiences.



Start Early conducts rigorous research and evaluation to elevate the expertise of early childhood professionals and support better learning environments for all young children and their families.

THANK YOU

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE EVERY CHILD READY CHICAGO ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE PLANNING OF THIS EVENT



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THIS EVENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM CROWN FAMILY PHILANTHROPIES