



**EARLY EDUCATOR  
INVESTMENT COLLABORATIVE**

*Professional Educators. Professional Compensation. Prepared Children.*

# ENHANCING ECE SYSTEMS CAPACITY: THE LEADING ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

*April 4, 2023*

## *Early Educator Investment Collaborative*

- Driven by a big vision—a country where there is no opportunity gap among children, and where every child makes lasting gains in cognitive, social, and emotional development through their early care and education experiences.
- To achieve our vision, we must invest in the essential agents of human development—early educators.
- Three main investment areas: workforce compensation, educator preparation, and competency attainment and demonstration.

**We are a national funder collaborative that has come together to achieve a big vision. Our Contributing Funders that serve on the Steering Committee are:**

Buffett Early  
Childhood Fund  
investing in the early years

the David &  
Lucile Packard  
FOUNDATION

ballmer  
GROUP

FOUNDATION  
FOR CHILD  
DEVELOPMENT

bezosfamilyfoundation

STRANAHAN  
FOUNDATION

HEISING-SIMONS  
FOUNDATION

Our Partner Funders that support the work of the fund are:

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation

We are fiscally sponsored by TSNE MissionWorks, an organization that provides grants and financial management, consulting, and training services to strengthen nonprofits.

TSNE  MissionWorks

## *Transforming Early Educator Lead Teacher Preparation Program Grant*

- Multi-year grants to institutions of higher education and state and tribal systems partners.
- Eight partnerships across 6 states and 3 tribal communities.
- Innovative approaches to supporting diverse ECE students to and through Bachelor's degrees and creating systems change.



COLLEGE OF  
MENOMINEE NATION



UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA  
LINCOLN



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®  
MĀNOA



University of Colorado **Denver**  
**CU IN THE CITY**

## *AGENDA*

- Overview of Objectives
- Housekeeping + Accessibility
- Opening Remarks
- Panel Discussion
- Live Q&A
- Closing Remarks

## *OBJECTIVES*

- Hear how institutions of higher education can lead systems reform to strengthen the early childhood workforce
- Learn how private philanthropy can serve as catalysts to increase capacity in both community-based organizations and public agencies in service of early childhood workforce reform

## *HOUSEKEEPING & ACCESSIBILITY*

- Please use the Q&A function to add any questions you have for our panelists
- We encourage you to use the chat to make connections to what you are hearing and to share aligned resources you might have
- You may enable closed captioning by clicking that option in your menu bar
- Please settle in however you listen best

# OPENING REMARKS





*“Optimism is the first step in making a reality. If you’re not optimistic, you’ve given up.”*

Gloria Steinem



# Making Change Happen

- OPTIMISM
- ACTION
- CHANGE
- IMPACT
- DISSEMINATION
- REPLICATION

C H A N G E

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# PANEL DISCUSSION



**Samantha Dolan**

*Associate Director of Early  
Childhood Initiatives  
North Seattle College*



**Amy Burland**

*Director of Early Childhood  
Partnership Projects  
Salish Kootenai College*



**Diana Schaack**

*Assistant Professor  
University of Colorado,  
Denver*



**Angela Abrams**

*Director of Workforce Growth,  
Quality, and Recognition  
Washington State Department of  
Children, Youth and Families*



**Carrie Spotted Bear**

*Early Childhood Tribal  
Policy Coordinator  
Zero to Five Montana*



**Chris Rasmussen**

*Senior Director of Academic  
Pathways & Innovation  
Colorado Department of Higher  
Education*



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[EarlyEdCollaborative.org](http://EarlyEdCollaborative.org)