Multi-Layer Collaborative Model Approach to the ERS in New Jersey Pre & Post Pandemic

Funded by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development

Tuesday, April 25, 2023 from 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Panel
Colleen Hicks, DHS
Kim Owens, Rutgers University
Jen Cortes, Rowan University
Paula Hartley, Rutgers Southern Region CCRR
Kristen Farhat, Prevent Child Abuse – New Jersey
ERS Overview and ERS Training

Presenter:
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Presenter:
Kimberly Owens, M.S.
Manager, Early Childhood Initiatives
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SESSION GOALS

01
Insight into the collaborative model with a variety of agencies including not-for-profits and University partners

02
How to embed training on ERS into a State system

03
Strategies for ERS reliability in a State system

04
How to support coaches

05
Innovative ways to use ERS for virtual coaching and reflection
Overview of New Jersey and the Environmental Rating Scales (ERS)

https://youtu.be/E8H3NAp2yUU
Collaborative Model with State Partners
ERS in New Jersey Pre Pandemic
Emerging Opportunity
NJ’s Road to Quality
ERS Training in New Jersey

- ERS Overviews
- ERS Reliability
- ERS Accountability
- ERS In-Depth Courses (in person and virtual)
- LearnERS
Foundational Support

Presenter:
Jen Cortes, M.S.
Assistant Director
Early Childhood Leadership Institute Center for Access, Success, and Equity
College of Education
Rowan University

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Foundational Supports for TA Specialists: Overview

- Key Components
- Roles of TA Specialists
- PD Activities to Support Implementation
CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR THE PROFESSIONAL GROWTH OF EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND DISPOSITIONS (PERKINS & ISIK-ERCAN, 2017)
Reframing TA through:

- Relationships
- Responsiveness
- Risk-Taking
Reflective ITERS-3

Presenter:
Paula Hartley
Infant/Toddler Specialist NJ
Rutgers Southern Regional
Child Care Resource & Referral Agency

Paula.Hartley@rutgers.edu
In the Beginning...

Looking for ‘new way’ to provide TA

Jen C. ‘Small Group Coaching Sessions’

Touching base with Amanda McGrane
Reflective Practice
The Struggle is Real
Thoughts

What are possible benefits to using the ITERS tool reflectively and how do you see yourself possibly using this tool?
Room Arrangement

- Describe your room’s arrangement.
- Different experiences (quiet/active play)
- Tell me how you supervise children in your current room arrangement.
- How does room arrangement play a role in routine care? (placement of cubbies, running water, nap provisions, feeding area)
- How does the room feel (calm, crowded, spacious, chaotic)
- What does accessibility look like for everyone? (disabilities)
- Tell me about the traffic patterns in the room.
  - Easy to move around
  - No interference with play
- Describe the difference between a play area and an interest area.
Technical Assistance Centers

Presenter:
Kristen Farhat, MA
Sr. Technical Assistance Specialist-District/Head Start
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Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey and Child Wellness Institute (ChildWIN®)

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Pre-Pandemic ERS
Technical Assistance

- Peer Learning Communities
- On-site coaching
- Networking meetings
During the Pandemic ERS Technical Assistance

Virtual – cross county and cross regions

- Peer Learning Communities
- Coffee Chats
- ERS Conversations (ITERS-3, FCCERS-3, ECERS-3)
- Director Meetings
During the Pandemic ERS Technical Assistance

- Virtual Meetings
- Office Hours
- Virtual Offices
Virtual Office
Early Childhood Escape Rooms©

An Interactive Game to Help Educators Build their Confidence in Using the ERS
Reflection and Action Plans

Reflect on the information discussed today to brainstorm for your Action Plan.

01 What strengths did you see?
02 What surprised you?
03 Were there any health/safety concerns?
04 Where can you improve immediately?
05 Where can you work to improve gradually?
Reflection and Action Plans

Choose 3 items to improve on based on your reflection above. Rank them according to your priority. Use these items to complete the attached action plan.

1. __________________________

2. __________________________

3. __________________________

Do you have any questions for your TAS?
Feedback from Virtual Game

What resonates with you as the most beneficial?

👍 I like it because is simple and very informative.

⭐ All of it! Great refresher (esp after COVID).

❓ Being able to ask clarifying questions when some of the items are confusing.

🛡️ Safety of the children and school.

❤️ Learning and practicing to have a positive environment in the class with my team, children and parents too.
Feedback from Peer Learning Community (PLC)

What changes did you make as a result of this PLC?

- Always check the classroom and playgrounds for safety.
- Wash hands before and after play dough.
- The PLC is helping me to tweak areas that I was not aware of or unsure.
- Adding new vocabulary to interactions.
- Increasing the number of books in my Literacy Center.
Hybrid model

In-person support with a combination of virtual support

Post Pandemic ERS Technical Assistance
Questions?
Thank You!