



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:

Colleen Hicks

Office of Special Projects

Division of Family Development

Department of Human Services



Presenter:

Kimberly Owens, M.S.

Manager, Early Childhood Initiatives

Institute for Families, School of Social Work

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey



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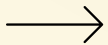
kmb@ssw.rutgers.edu



SESSION GOALS

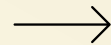
01

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



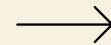
02

How to embed training on ERS into a State system



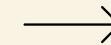
03

Strategies for ERS reliability in a State system



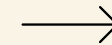
04

How to support coaches



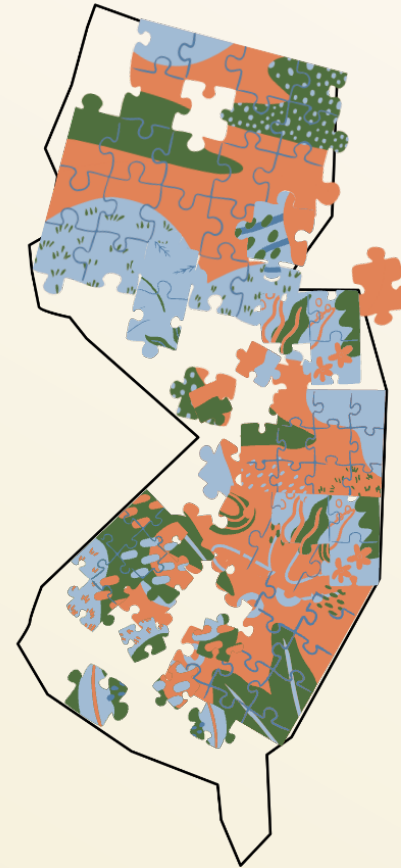
05

Innovative ways to use ERS for virtual coaching and reflection



Overview of New Jersey and the Environmental Rating Scales (ERS)

<https://youtu.be/E8H3NAp2yUU>





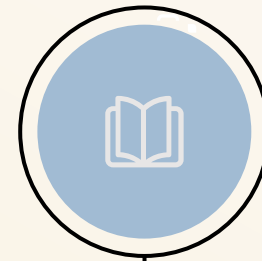
Collaborative
Model with
State Partners



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

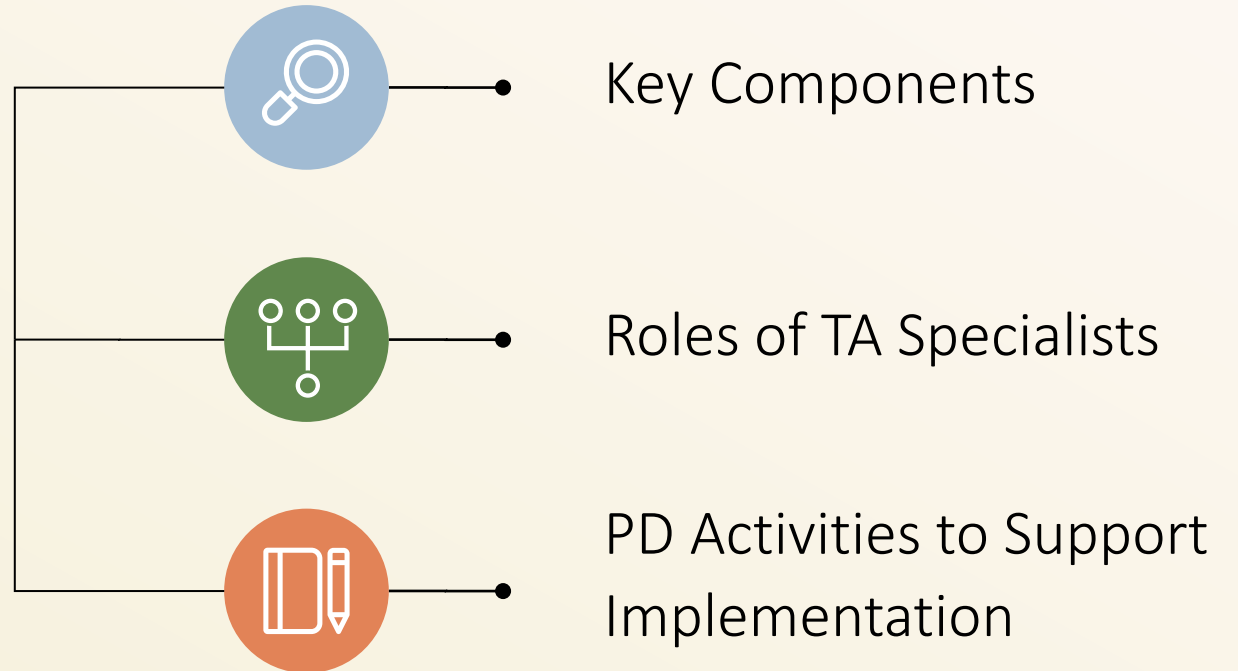
Rowan University

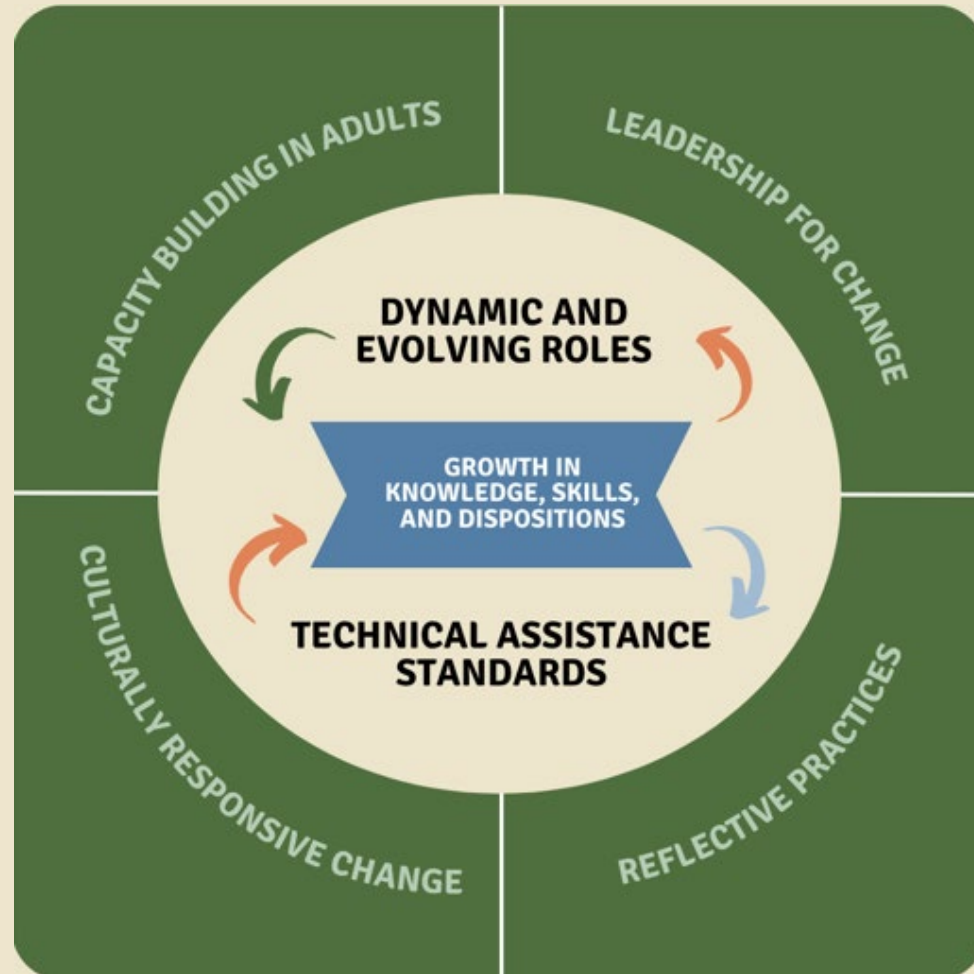


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Foundational Supports for TA Specialists: Overview





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







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

Central and Northeast Region, NJ 08901

Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey and Child Wellness Institute (ChildWIN®)



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Pre-Pandemic ERS Technical Assistance

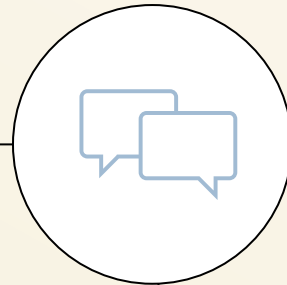
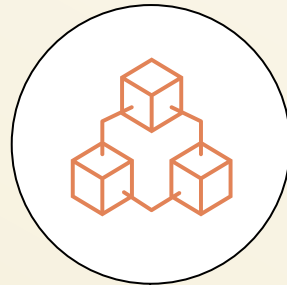
- ✓ Peer Learning Communities
- ✓ On – site coaching
- ✓ Networking meetings



During the Pandemic ERS Technical Assistance

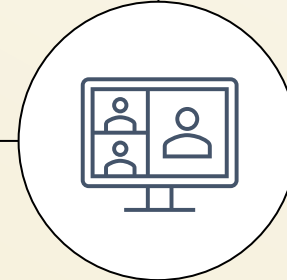
Virtual – cross county and cross regions

Peer Learning Communities



ERS Conversations
(ITERS-3, FCCERS-3, ECERS-3)

Coffee Chats



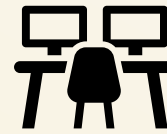
Director Meetings



During the Pandemic ERS Technical Assistance



Virtual Meetings



Office Hours



Virtual Offices

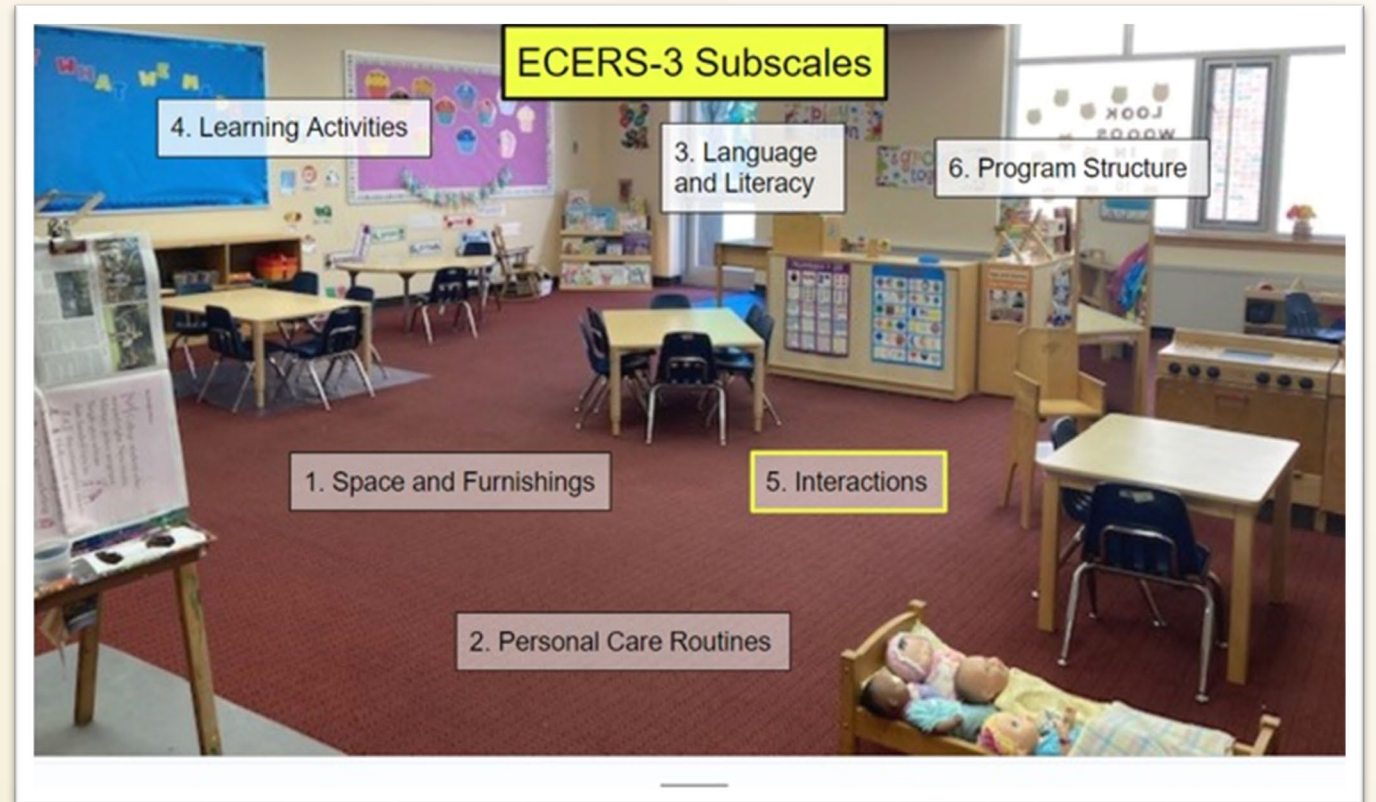


Virtual Office



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!

