

VERMONT EARLY CHILDHOOD GRAND ROUNDS

THE STATE OF PRESCHOOL - VERMONT

Panelist Bios



Dr. W. Steven (Steve) Barnett

Senior Co-Director, Founder, National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)

<https://nieer.org/profiles/w-steven-barnett>

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Dr. Barnett is a Board of Governors Professor and the founder and Senior Co-Director of the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University. Dr. Barnett's work primarily focuses on public policies regarding early childhood education, child care, and child development. His research includes studies of the economics of early care and education including costs and benefits, the long-term effects of preschool programs on children's learning and development, and the distribution of educational opportunities including participation in out-of-home early care and education as well as home learning activities. Dr. Barnett earned his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Michigan. He has authored or co-authored more than 300 publications.



Dr. GG Weisenfeld

Associate Director of Technical Assistance, National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)

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Dr. Weisenfeld is a Senior ECE Policy Specialist at the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University, Graduate School of Education. Her current work includes conducting national scans of pre-K policies at the state and city level, researching state efforts that support the implementation of high-quality preschools, understanding how preschool operates in mixed-delivery systems, including family child care, contributing to the research and production of NIEER's annual State of Preschool Yearbook, and offering technical assistance for state and city leaders on designing and enhancing pre-K efforts.



Dr. Lori Connors-Tadros

Senior Research Fellow, National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)

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Dr. Connors-Tadros is a recognized national leader in early care and education policy and research and provides technical assistance to states to use research to craft and implement effective policies. Lori has deep expertise in comprehensive state early childhood systems, finance and governance for effective policy implementation, leadership and agency capacity to implement policy and improve access, and research and policy to improve outcomes for young children. She has provided technical assistance to Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five grantees and other state and local leaders and advocates on financing and sustainability planning, policy to improve quality of ECE workforce competencies, policy, and compensation.

Early Childhood Grand Rounds provide a forum to elevate and disseminate high-quality data or data-related topics that affect Vermont's early childhood sector, as well as national best practices. This seminar series is hosted by Vermont's Early Childhood Data and Policy Center, which is operated by Vermont's Early Childhood State Advisory Council, [Building Bright Futures](#).

June 18, 2024 | 10:00-11:30AM

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