



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Office of Child Care

Infant/Toddler Child Care Community of Practice Gathering

The Royal Sonesta Washington DC Dupont Circle | December 4–6, 2024

Building and Communicating Your Vision for Infants, Toddlers, and the Adults in Their Lives

Agenda

Day 1: December 4—Connection

12:00 noon–1:00 p.m.	Registration and Opening Activities All participants will receive an individualized, relationship-based welcome from the facilitators, get oriented, and begin connecting with peers and facilitators.	<i>Phillips Ballroom</i>
1:00–1:15 p.m.	Welcome and Discussion of Meeting Agenda	
1:15–1:30 p.m.	Who You Are and How You Are Is as Important as What You Do This opening plenary session will set the stage for this 3-day gathering. Participants will consider their personal and professional roles in supporting infants and toddlers, promoting early relational health, and using reflective practices.	
1:30–2:45 p.m.	Envisioning Your Infant/Toddler Ecosystem Infants and toddlers need child care systems and programs that support their unique developmental needs. This session will offer a Child Care and Development Fund program overview and opportunities for participants to identify and celebrate successes, connect with peers, and learn ways to strengthen systems and programs for young children.	
2:45–3:00 p.m.	Break	
3:00–4:00 p.m.	Recruiting, Retaining, and Growing the Infant/Toddler Early Care Workforce A well-supported and compensated workforce is essential for quality infant/toddler care. States and territories can support the workforce by developing aligned, cross-sector professional development systems that strengthen and sustain workforce capacity. This interactive session will focus on using quality investments to increase the capacity and quality of the infant/toddler workforce.	
4:00–4:20 p.m.	Partnering With CCTAN To Strengthen Infant/Toddler Care This brief panel will feature a variety of Child Care Technical Assistance Network (CCTAN) Partners and will explore the kinds of technical assistance services and support available to states, territories, and Tribes.	

4:20–4:40 p.m.	Whole-Group Reflection and Action Activity During this guided integration of the day’s topics, participants will envision the future of partnerships and collaborations for improving infant/toddler care. They will begin identifying potential systems-strengthening opportunities to consider after the gathering.
4:40–4:45 p.m.	Closing
4:45 p.m.	<i>Adjourn for the Day</i>

Day 2: December 5—Reciprocity

9:00–9:30 a.m.	Welcome, Check-In, and Reflections	<i>Phillips Ballroom</i>
9:30–10:30 a.m.	The Future of the Infant/Toddler Child Care World Café: Access to Quality Care Through the World Café, participants will build connections with one another, identify strengths and opportunities in their infant/toddler landscape, and increase their shared knowledge and expertise.	
10:30–11:30 a.m.	Conversation Pods and Consultation Participants will discuss and make connections with peers and CCTAN Partner personnel on specific infant/toddler topics. After an opening activity, participants are welcome to move among rooms and tables at their own pace and to choose the discussions that interest them most.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Supply-Building ➤ Inclusion ➤ Mental Health ➤ Strategic Messaging, Research, and Communications 	<i>Phillips Ballroom</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Professional Development System Elements ➤ State-Funded Infant/Toddler Specialist Networks ➤ Workforce Wellness 	<i>Freer</i>
11:30 a.m.–12:00 noon	Perspectives on Systems of Care This interactive and reflective session will invite participants to consider multiple perspectives on child care systems—including children, families, and workforce perspectives—as they continue to refine their action plans for potential implementation after the gathering.	<i>Phillips Ballroom</i>
12:00 noon–1:30 p.m.	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
1:30–2:30 p.m.	Topic Session Creative Problem-Solving Through Human-Centered Design Human-centered design is a problem-solving approach that helps with understanding and honoring the experiences of people served while working toward solutions. Participants should come with a problem in mind that they’ve been struggling to solve. Participants will work with facilitators and peers to explore ways that engage people with lived experience, increasing their understanding of problems, design solutions, and implementation.	

2:30–3:30 p.m.	Infants and Toddlers Have Unique Needs Infants and toddlers have unique developmental needs, and systematic changes meant to impact them must take this into account. This session will integrate data at multiple levels so that participants can practice applying research and evidence to system design and evaluation with an infant/toddler lens.
3:30–3:45 p.m.	<i>Break</i>
3:45–4:20 p.m.	Whole-Group Reflection and Action Activity Participants will summarize and integrate topical content and relational connections made throughout the 2 days in preparation for planning and finalizing action steps on Friday morning. The reflective and interactive process will include writing and drawing, sharing and celebrating, and documenting offers and needs.
4:20–4:30 p.m.	Closing
4:30 p.m.	<i>Adjourn for the Day</i>

Day 3: December 6—Action

9:00–9:30 a.m.	Welcome, Check-In, and Reflections	<i>Phillips Ballroom</i>
9:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.	Action Planning Work Sessions Facilitated by the Infant/Toddler Specialist Network and CCTAN Partners CCTAN Partners will provide a whole-group presentation on change patterns to set the stage for facilitated action planning. Participants will then choose one of three action planning sessions based on their emerging next steps. The whole group will reconvene to articulate action plans with one another for accountability.	
9:30–9:45 a.m.	Mapping Actions Across Change Patterns Systems are always changing, and there are recognizable patterns in this ongoing change. Participants will learn about three of these patterns, which they can use to finalize their action plans.	<i>Phillips Ballroom</i>
9:45–10:45 a.m.	Group 1—Vision to Action: Crafting Your Next Steps CCTAN Partners will lead this interactive session to help participants with partially formed ideas or goals solidify their next steps and create detailed implementation plans.	
9:45–10:45 a.m.	Group 2—Leadership: Elevating Your Impact This interactive session is for participants who have identified personal goals related to leadership for infant/toddler care initiatives. Participants will receive focused coaching to develop personal commitment and to enhance their leadership approaches.	<i>Freer</i>
9:45–10:45 a.m.	Group 3—Exploring and Defining Opportunities To Strengthen Infant/Toddler Child Care This interactive session is for participants and teams who are still exploring and defining their infant/toddler goals. They will receive support in generating plans and in determining the best next steps.	<i>Kreeger</i>
10:45–11:00 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	

