SRCD Policy Fellowship Experience

Federal and state fellows are asked to write one-page reflections on their fellowship experiences. At the end of the fellowship year, fellows also develop a Professional Portfolio accompanied by a brief abstract to showcase a selected number of contributions the fellow made at the placement during the fellowship year.

LISTING OF CURRENT SRCD POLICY FELLOWS: 2025-2026

LISTING OF PAST SRCD POLICY FELLOWS: 2024-2025

Federal Policy Fellow Spotlights and State Policy Fellow Portfolio Abstracts

Federal and State fellows are asked to write one-page reflections on their fellowship experiences. In addition, at the end of the fellowship year fellows are asked to develop a Professional Portfolio with brief abstracts of each entry to showcase a selected number of contributions the fellow made at the placement during the fellowship year. *Prior to the 2020-2021 fellowship year, Federal fellows wrote one-page reflections while State fellows developed Professional Portfolios.*

2023 - 2024

Federal Policy Fellows

- Jessie Bridgewater, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health
- Carly Champagne, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care (OCC) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Brett Greenfield, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)
- Paige Greenwood, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Diane Gumina, Ph.D.
  Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch (PPB) at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- Toria Herd, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families
- Shirley Huang, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health
- Jazlyn Nketia, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families
- Kylee Probert, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families
- Kizzann Ashana "Shana" Ratcliff, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Tanya Tavassolie, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Tamarie Willis, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

- Kylie Garber, Ph.D.
  Congressional Branch fellow

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Lara Markovitz, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Support (OCS) in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Sara Nozadi, Ph.D.
  State of New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD)
- Isabella Sciuto Ozenbaugh, Ph.D.
  Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) in the state of Oregon
- Faith VanMeter, Ph.D.
  Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Safety and Permanence Division, Promotion and Prevention Unit

2022 - 2023

Federal Policy Fellows

- Marissa Abbott, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary, Planning and Evaluation
- Carly Champagne, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care (OCC) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Diane Gumina, Ph.D.
  Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch (PPB) at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- Shirley Huang, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health

- Kelsey McKee, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Kylee Probert, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Kizzann Ashana "Shana" Ratcliff, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start in the Administration for Children and Families
- Virginia Salo, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the National Institutes of Health
- Neda Senehi, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families
- Tanya Tavassolie, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start (OHS) in the Administration for Children and Families
- Tamarie Willis, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families
- Kylie Garber, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Tim Kaine

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Alex Busuito, Ph.D.
  Center for Perinatal and Early Childhood Health, Rhode Island Department of Health
- Lara Markovitz, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Support (OCS) in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Lillie Moffett, Ph.D.
  California Department of Education, Opportunities for All Branch
- Faith VanMeter, Ph.D.
  Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Safety and Permanence Division, Promotion and Prevention Unit

2021 - 2022

Federal Policy Fellows

- Marissa Abbott, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary, Planning and Evaluation
- Lorena Aceves, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families
- Jackie Gross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Frances Martínez Pedraza, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families
- Kelsey McKee, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start
- Parisa Parsafar, Ph.D.
  Child Development and Behavior Branch, *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Virginia Salo, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Neda Senehi, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Tanya Tavassolie, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Maggie Hassan
- Dianna Tran, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Clarissa Corkins, M.S.
  Oklahoma State Department of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- Eleanor Fisk
  Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Alex Busuito, Ph.D.
  Center for Perinatal and Early Childhood Health, Rhode Island Department of Health
- Cassandra Simons Gerson, Ph.D.
  Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood
- Lillie Moffett, Ph.D.
  California Department of Education, Opportunities for All Branch

2020 - 2021

Federal Policy Fellows

- Lorena Aceves, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families
- Krystal Bichay-Awadalla, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Christian Clesi, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Bob Casey
- Jackie Gross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Ellen Litkowski, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Parisa Parsafar, Ph.D.
  Child Development and Behavior Branch, *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of

Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health

- Frances Martínez Pedraza, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families
- Alayna Schreier, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Dianna Tran, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), Administration for Children and Families

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Jenn Finders, Ph.D.
  Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Andrew (Drew) McGee
  Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood
- Wendy Wei, Ed.M.
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care

2019 - 2020

Federal Policy Fellows

- Krystal Bichay-Awadalla, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Ellen Litkowski, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

- Parisa Parsafar, Ph.D.
  Office of the Senator Christopher Coons
- Emily Ross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Alayna Schreier, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Christina Padilla, Ph.D., M.P.P.
  District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Learning
- Sarah Prendergast, Ph.D.
  Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Kylie Bezdek
  North Carolina North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education
- Claudia Kruzik
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
- Ann Partee, Ed.M.
  Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Office of Early Childhood
- Callie Silver, M.A.
  Illinois Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD)

2018 - 2019

Federal Policy Fellows

- Emily Ross, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Paula Daneri, Ph.D.
  House Committee on Education and Labor
- Amanda K. Gatewood, M.P.H., Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Marisa Morin, Ph.D.
  Senate Finance Committee, Office of Ranking Member Ron Wyden
- Rachel McKinnon, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families
- Francesca Longo, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families
- Anne Day Leong, Ph.D., M.S.W.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Kelly Jedd McKenzie, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Sarah Blankenship, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Erin Cannon, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

State Policy Post-doctoral Fellows

- Rachel Katz, Ph.D.
  Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Early Intervention
- Alicia Miao, Ph.D.
  Early Learning Division, Oregon Department of Education

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Nneka Ibekwe, M.S.W., Ed.M.
  Office of Early Learning, Delaware Department of Education

- Caroline Martin
  Vermont Agency of Education
- Meghan McDoniel, Ed.M.
  Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning
- Elizabeth Tremaine, M.S.
  Early Learning Division, Oregon Department of Education

2017 - 2018

Federal Policy Fellows

- Rachel D. McKinnon, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Bob Casey
- Alaina Flannigan, Ph.D.
  Joint Economic Committee, Office of Ranking Member Senator Martin Heinrich
- Erin Cannon, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Anne Day Leong, Ph.D., M.S.W.
  Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Sarah Blankenship, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Kelly Jedd McKenzie, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Francesca Longo, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- Yunsoo Park, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice

- Jenessa Malin, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Jameela Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice

State Policy Post-doctoralFellows

- Aimée Drouin Duncan, Ph.D.
  Office of The State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Early Learning (DEL), District of Columbia
- Kate Giapponi Schneider, Ph.D.
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)

State Policy Pre-doctoral Fellows

- Robert Carr, M.A.
  North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE)
- Julie Casper, M.S.Ed.
  Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)
- Melanie Fish
  Washington State Department of Early Learning (DEL)/Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)
- Mayra Parada
  Office of Early Childhood and Humanities, Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)

2016 - 2017

Federal Policy Fellows

- Yunsoo Park, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice

- Jenessa Malin, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Angelique Day, Ph.D., M.S.W.
  Office of Congressman Danny Davis
- Emily M. Douglas, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Ron Wyden
- Elizabeth Day, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- Jameela Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
- Marina M. Mendoza, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
- Elizabeth Shuey, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2015 - 2016

Federal Policy Fellows

- Amy Leffler, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
- Tracy Clopêt, Ph.D.
  Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families
- Marina Mendoza, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice
- Elizabeth Shuey, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Sangeeta Parikshak, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families

- Kirby Chow, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

2014 - 2015

Federal Policy Fellows

- Lynlee Tanner Stapleton, Ph.D.
  U.S. Agency for International Development
- Cristina Novoa, Ph.D., M.P.P.
  Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- Kirby Chow, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Amy Griffin, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Al Franken
- Sangeeta Parikshak, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families
- Beth Meloy, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families
- Michelle Boyd, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Nina Philipsen Hetzner, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2013 - 2014

Federal Policy Fellows

- Lynlee Tanner Stapleton, Ph.D.
  U.S. Global Development Lab, U.S. Agency for International Development
- Kathleen McCoy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Julie A. Leis, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Christine Fortunato, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Sangeeta Parikshak, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Sheldon Whitehouse
- Nina Philipsen Hetzner, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Beth Meloy, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start, Administration for Children and Families

2012 - 2013

Federal Policy Fellows

- Amanda Clincy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Kathleen McCoy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Michelle J. Boyd, Ph.D.
  House Ways and Means Committee
- Lindsey Hutchison, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and

Human Services

- Beth Meloy, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Al Franken
- Christine Fortunato, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Amanda Clincy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Akilah Swinton, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Kelly R. Fisher, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2011 - 2012

Federal Policy Fellows

- Charlayne Hayling-Williams, Ph.D.
  Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration
- Akilah Swinton, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Pamala Trivedi, Ph.D., NCSP
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Rebecca Taylor, Ph.D.
  Office of Representative Betty McCollum
- Kelly Fisher, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Tisha Wiley, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health

2010 - 2011

Federal Policy Fellows

- Joseph L. Mahoney, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
- Elizabeth O'Hare, Ph.D.
  Office of Representative Rush Holt
- Charlayne Hayling, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
- Michelle Sternthal, Ph.D.
  Office of Policy, Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Tisha Wiley, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health
- Melinda Leidy, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Sarah Oberlander, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Sarah D. Lynne-Landsman, Ph.D.
  National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health

2009 - 2010

Federal Policy Fellows

- Melinda Leidy, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Christopher Dodd
- Binta Beard, Ph.D.
  Office of Representative Edward Markey
- Elisa Klein, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health
- Molly Irwin, Ph.D., M.P.H.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Sarah Oberlander, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Sacha Klein, M.S.W., Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) and the Children's Bureau's Office of Child Abuse and Neglect, Administration for Children and Families
- Nancy Geyelin Margie, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Ann Rivera, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2008 - 2009

Federal Policy Fellows

- Diana Tyson, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Ann C. Rivera, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Nancy Geyelin Margie, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

- Samantha Harvell, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
- Taryn Morrissey, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator M. Kennedy
- Glenetta Hudson Harris, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start and Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Diana Tyson, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Jennifer Brown Urban, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health
- Layla Esposito, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kenney Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health

2007 - 2008

Federal Policy Fellows

- Kathleen Dwyer, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Sara Vecchiotti, Ph.D.
  Perspective from a former Fellow with a placement in Congress
- Ann Marie White, Ed.D.
  Perspective from a former Fellow with placements in Congress and in the Executive Branch
- Glenetta Hudson Harris, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start and Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

- Layla Esposito, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kenney Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Michele M. Mazzocco, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Jeff Bingaman
- Kathleen Dwyer, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Glenetta Hudson Harris, Ph.D.
  Office of Head Start and Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families

2006 - 2007

Federal Policy Fellows

- Dara Blachman, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health
- Nicole Gardner Neblett, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services
- Behnosh Najaf, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families
- Jill Antonishak, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Tom Harkin
- Taniesha A. Woods, Ph.D.
  Office of Senator Christopher Dodd
- Nicole Gardner Neblett, Ph.D.
  Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Department of Health and Human Services

- Dara Blachman, Ph.D.
  Office of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, National Institutes of Health
- Carmela Lomonaco, Ph.D.
  Eunice Kenney Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health
- Erika Feinauer, Ph.D., Ed.D.
  Development and Learning Sciences, National Science Foundation
- Lauren R. Baskir, Ph.D.
  National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health
- Behnosh Najafi, Ph.D.
  Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families