



Speaker Bios

EPR Webinar 5: Recovery, Response, and Rebuilding

Abby Cohen



Ms. Cohen has a law degree and more than 30 years' experience working in the child care and early childhood field. She has applied her expertise in the course of providing training and technical assistance, facilitation, consultation, public speaking, policy analysis, legal research, and legislative and regulatory drafting on a wide range of child care issues. During her career she has assisted government at the Federal, State and local level, as well as foundations, community-based organizations, and a wide array of child-serving agencies. The substance of her work has ranged broadly, with particular emphasis on overarching early childhood systems building, child care regulation, emergency preparedness and response for child care, child care quality improvement, subsidy policy, inclusion of children with disabilities, zoning and planning, and the interface of child care and health care issues. To support progress in these content areas, she has facilitated numerous state/territorial level cross-sector, system-building efforts.

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Beverly Wellons



Beverly Wellons is the Regional Program Manager in the ACF Office of Child Care, Region III, Philadelphia where she oversees and assists the efforts of the District of Columbia and States that administer the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). She provides leadership, direction and technical guidance on all aspects of the CCDF program at the regional level and promotes efficient and effective management and administration and ensures program compliance with federal laws, regulations and applicable guidelines.

She brings a diversity of experiences to the position based upon her

for previous roles in the field of early care and education including CCDF Administrator, CCR&R Director, Head Start Director, Family Child Care Home Evaluator and summer camp administrator.

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Sarita Fritzler



Sarita Fritzler joined Save the Children USA in Washington DC in January 2012 and currently works as Program Manager for US Emergencies, providing leadership and program management in both international and US humanitarian crises. Internationally, she has responded to the Syrian Crisis in Iraq and supported the Typhoon Haiyan response at the headquarters emergency operations center, as well as to the Typhoon Bopha responses in the Philippines.

Sarita has led teams in response to recent US Border Crisis, Mississippi Tornadoes, Colorado Floods of 2013, and responded to Oklahoma Tornadoes in 2013 and Hurricane Sandy in 2012. In addition Sarita serves in a leadership role on the Save the Children Domestic Emergencies Global Network advising Save the Children Members in their domestic emergencies and providing assistance in the areas of program management and child protection. In 2013, Sarita provided technical leadership to Save the Children Canada in their first domestic response to the Alberta floods in Calgary..

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Molly Evancho

Molly Evancho is a Program Specialist in FEMA's Public Assistance Division, Policy and Regulations Branch responsible for contributing to the development of new policy and revisions to existing policy. She has been working in various capacities in support of the Public Assistance program since 1995.

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Angela Lohman

Angela Lohman is a Program Specialist in the Individuals and Households Branch and has worked at FEMA for four years. She was an integral member of the Child Care Policy Work Group which formed to further develop FEMA child care assistance as authorized by the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (P.L. 113-2). Prior to her time at FEMA, she graduated from the Syracuse University College of Law with a Juris Doctor and certificates in Global Law and Policy and National Security and Counterterrorism.

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Dianna Constant



A long-time resident of Thibodaux, Louisiana, Dianna has been part of the Agenda for Children team since 1990. Dianna has over forty years' experience in early childhood education. She spent twenty years directing and operating her own child care center and has more than two decades of experience as a trainer and technical assistance advisor for early childhood programs. Dianna holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology/Youth and Family Services from Nichols State University and is a Level II Pathways certified trainer. Dianna serves on the board of United Way of St. Charles and volunteers with the Bayou Land Families Helping Families.

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Rita Perrilloux



Rita Perrilloux is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She completed schooling in Southern California and began to work in the Data Processing Department at General Telephone Company in Marina Del Rey. She moved to Louisiana after meeting her husband of 32 years Dr. Steven Perrilloux at a Christian Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They returned to his home town of Reserve, Louisiana with three children in 1987 and began to pastor Riverlands Christian Center Church, where Rita served as church administrator. Ten years later with the birth of their fourth child, Rita founded Little Leaders Learning Center Preschool. She worked in every position in the preschool and since 2003 has served as Co-Director. Little Leaders Learning Center Preschool is a Louisiana Quality Start Four Star Preschool located in Reserve, Louisiana. Little Leaders currently partners with the NSECD Program, providing a quality Pre-K4 classroom to

services the children who meet the state NSECD guidelines. The preschool also partners with South Central Technical College for three months annually, allowing their nursing students to do their Pediatric observations while shadowing our five lead teachers and observing children with normal growth development. Little Leaders Learning Center Preschool also partners with the St John School Board as a network partner in the St John Cohort 2 Pilot program for the implementation of ACT3. The preschool presently has 8 employees, five classrooms, and provides services to children ages 6-weeks through 12 years (with am/pm and summer programs). The preschool's license capacity is 72 children.

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