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# Reflections on the Infant and Early Childhood Policy Webinar Series: *Opportunity to Share Reflective Dialogue*

June 3, 2021  
Session 5 of 5

# Introductions: IECMH Team



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Lindsay Usry  
Director of IECMH Strategy  
Maryland



Dr. Lee Johnson III  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Washington D.C.



Julie Cohen  
Associate Director of the  
Policy Center, Arizona



Paola Andujar  
Program Associate  
Maryland



Therese Ahlers  
Senior Technical Assistance  
Specialist, Wisconsin



Meghan Schmelzer  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Michigan



# Today's Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions of Facilitators
- Brief Overview of 4 Previous webinars
- Small Group Reflections
- Large Group Debrief
- Next Steps: Ready for Action?
- Resources
- Evaluation and Closing



# Introductions: Small Group Facilitators



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## ZTT Staff

**Amanda Perez**- Advocacy Team

**Jamie Colvard** – State Policy Team

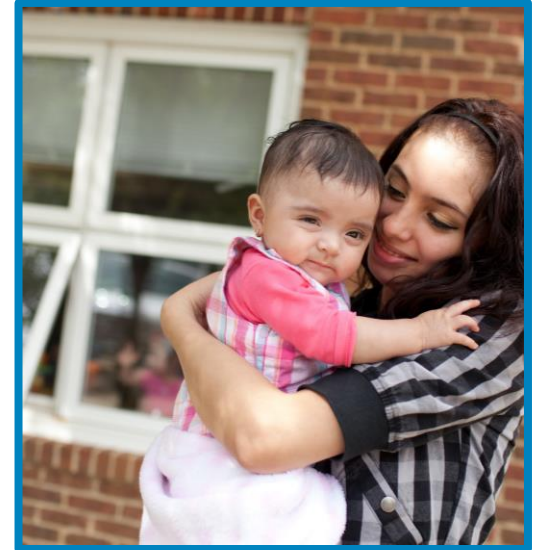
**Katrina Colburn**- State Policy Team

**Cathy Bodkin** - State Policy Team

**Julia Yeary**- Military Families Projects

**Summer Jones** – Military Families Projects

**Mike Sherman** - National Infant-Toddler Court Program



## External Partners

**Sheila Smith** – National Center for Children in Poverty

**Dan Ferguson** – National Center for Children in Poverty

**Dallas Rabig** – Alabama

**Nikki Edge**- Arkansas

**Sami Bradley** – Nebraska

**Sara van Driel** – North Carolina



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Let's Take a Poll :  
Q1: What is your Primary  
Professional Role?

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Let's Take a Poll :  
Q2: Have you attended previous  
sessions in this webinar series?

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# Session #1: December 3

## Advancing Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Policy 101



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- What is IECMH?
- Why is IECMH important?
- How is IECMH developed
- Prevalence and the importance of addressing problems early
- The cost of early adversity and the benefits of IECMH investment
- What can policymakers do to advance IECMH?
  - Centering racial equity in policy and systems building
  - Themes of IECMH policymaking
- ZTT's Federal Perinatal and IECMH Policy Agenda for the coming year
- Ready for action?

# Session #2: February 4

## State Stories of IECMH Policy Innovations: Awareness, Leadership and Workforce Development



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- National Center for Children in Poverty's PRISM
- Define IECMH Policy
- Specific strategies to advance IECMH Policy
  - Awareness
  - Leadership
  - Workforce Development
- Panel Discussion
  - \*North Carolina
  - \*Colorado
  - \*Alabama



**Sheila Smith**

Co-Director  
National Center for Children in Poverty  
Bank Street Graduate School of Education



**Dan Ferguson**

Research Associate  
National Center for Children in Poverty  
Bank Street Graduate School of Education



**Sara van Driel, PhD**  
Implementation Consultant, Triple P America  
North Carolina



**Shannon Bekman, PhD, IECMH-E®**  
Director, Right Start for Colorado  
Mental Health Center of Denver



**Dallas Rabig, LPC, NCC, IMH-E® - Clinical Mentor**  
State Coordinator, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health  
Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education



**Jane Duer M. ED, IMH-E® - Policy Mentor**  
Director, Infant and Early Childhood Special Programs,  
Alabama Department of Mental Health



# Session #3: March 25

## State Stories of IECMH Policy Innovation: Promotion, Prevention and Financing



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- National Center for Children in Poverty's PRiSM
- Overview of IECMH Policy
- Specific strategies to advance IECMH Policy
  - Investing in Promotion and Prevention
  - Financing Across the Continuum
- Panel Discussion
  - \*Nebraska
  - \*Arkansas



**Sheila Smith**

Co-Director  
National Center for Children in Poverty  
Bank Street Graduate School of Education



**Dan Ferguson**

Research Associate  
National Center for Children in Poverty  
Bank Street Graduate School of Education



**Sami Bradley, MaEd, LIMHP**

Assistant Vice President,  
Early Childhood Mental Health  
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation  
Rooted in Relationships



**Nicola A. Edge, PhD**

Professor and Associate Director,  
Research and Evaluation Division  
Department of Family and Preventive Medicine  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

# Session #4: May 3 Advocating for IECMH



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- Defining IECMH Advocacy and Policy
- Panel Discussion
  - New Jersey
  - Georgia
- *Think Babies* Advocacy Efforts
- Resources
- Making a Plan for Your Advocacy



Amanda Perez  
Senior Advocacy Manager  
Virginia



Jennifer Jennings-Shaffer  
Senior Campaign Manager  
Washington



Danielle Feinberg  
Parent  
New Jersey



Patricia Canning  
Project Manager, ACNJ  
New Jersey



Gloria Smith Cisse  
Clinician  
Georgia



Callan Wells  
Advocate, GEEARS  
Georgia

# Continuum of IECMH Supports & Services



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Promotion



Prevention

Developmentally  
Appropriate  
Assessment and  
Diagnosis



Treatment

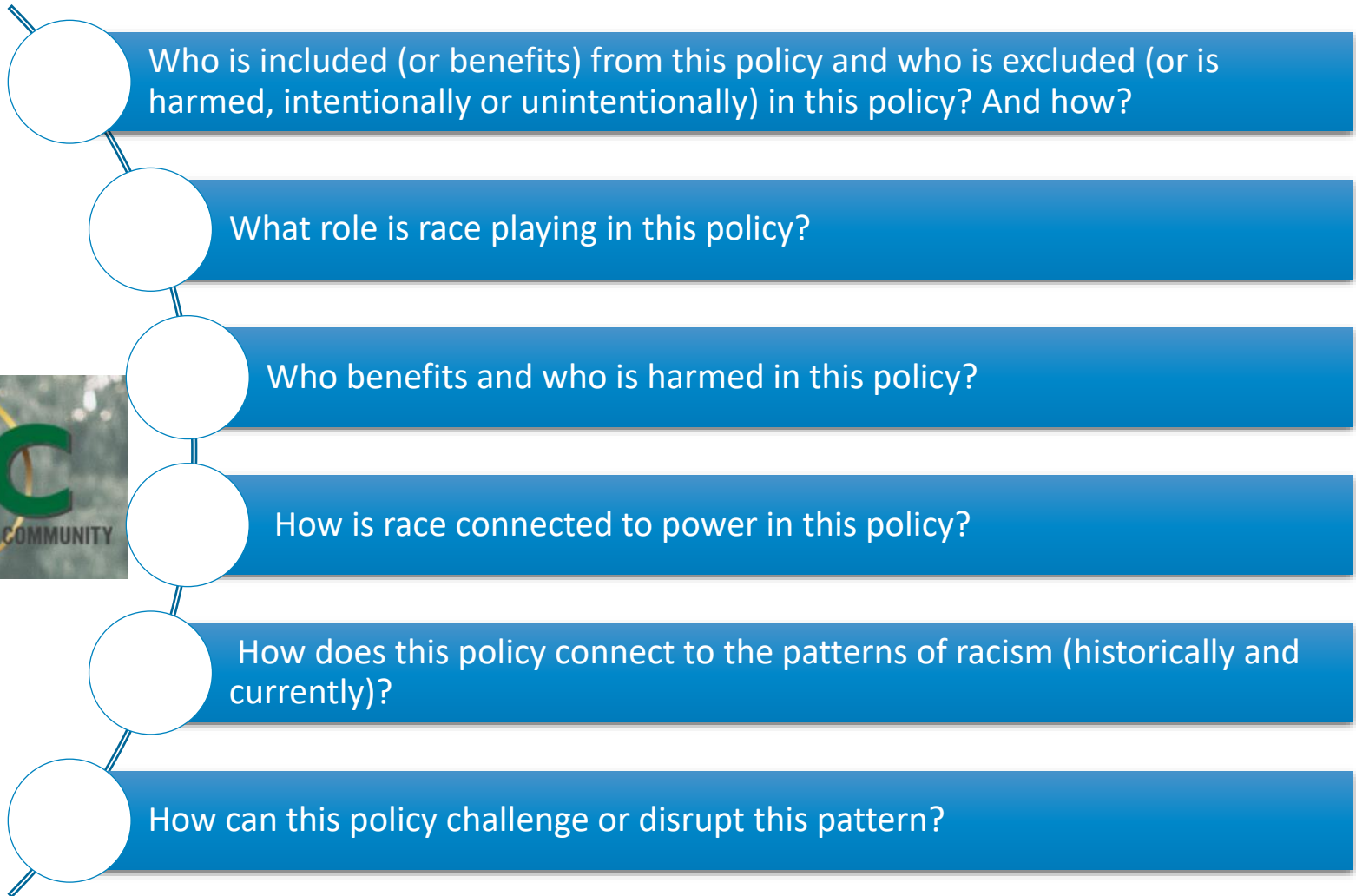


**Increasing intensity and specialization of services and supports**

# Centering Racial Equity: Questions to consider in every recommendation, policy, or practice



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# Small Group Discussion

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# Next Steps: Ready for Action?

- Determine who in your state has an interest in IECMH.
  - Association for Infant Mental Health?
  - State director/coordinator of IECMH? For perinatal mental health?
  - Advocacy organizations?
  - University-based centers or training programs?
  - State government council, advisory group, working group?
- Build relationships with leaders in Medicaid, Mental/Behavioral Health, Title V, and other invested divisions.
- Ask questions about what exists for young children in your state.
- Ask how resources are used to support infants and toddlers with mental health needs. Learn more about your federal funding streams, including:
  - Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG)
  - Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG)
  - Title V
  - American Rescue Plan



# Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

## The foundation of all future development



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*Everyone who touches the life of a child can promote social and emotional well-being*

Social and emotional development, or **infant and early childhood mental health**, is the developing capacity of a child from birth to 5 years old to...



Form close and secure **adult and peer relationships...**



Experience, manage and express a **full range of emotions...**



**Explore the environment** and learn...

...all in the context of family, community, and culture.



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# Do Policies in Your State Effectively Support IECMH?



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*Expanding IECMH Supports and Services: A Planning Tool for States and Communities* can help you:

- Inform and organize cross-system planning efforts
- Inventory existing resources, policies and programs
- Identify gaps and missing linkages
- Align policy with best practice

Explores 6 areas:

- Effective messaging that builds public will
- Comprehensive system-wide planning and infrastructure
- Strong workforce capacity and professional development
- Embedding IECMH across child-serving systems
- Access to a robust continuum of supports and services
- Properly financed system







# Resources Webinar 1

- [How to Talk About IECMH Infographic](#)
- [State of Babies Yearbook](#)
- [Diversity-Informed Tenets for Work with Infants, Children, and Families](#)
- [EPIC – Empowered Parents in Community](#)
- [GARE: The Local and Regional Government Alliance on Race and Equity](#)
- [The Racial Equity Institute](#)
- [We Are: Working to Extend Anti-Racist Education](#)
- [Exploring State Strategies for Financing Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment](#)
- [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Policy Series](#)
- [Expanding Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Supports and Services: A Planning Tool for States and Communities](#)
- [Planting Seeds in Fertile Ground: Actions Every Policymaker Should Take to Advance Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health](#)
- [Building Back Better: ZTT's Transition Plan](#)
- [Join Think Babies!](#)



# Resources Webinar 2

- **Awareness**

- ZTT: [Strolling Thunder](#)
- NCCP: [Alabama - Help Me Grow PRiSM profile](#)
- NCCP: [North Carolina - Triple P PRiSM Profile](#)
- [VROOM: Free, easy-to-use learning tips for children 5 and under](#)

- **Leadership**

- NCCP: Arkansas: [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Standards Workgroup](#)
- NCCP: Minnesota: [Minnesota Interagency Developmental Screening Task Force](#)

# Resources Webinar 2

## Workforce Development



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- ZTT: [IECMH Clinical Workforce Solution Pathways](#)
- ZTT: [Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Competencies: A Briefing Paper](#)
- [ZTT: Infants, Toddlers, and Early Childhood Mental Health Competencies: A Comparison of Systems](#)
- ZTT [Professional Development: DC:0-5, The Growing Brain, Critical Competencies for Infant-Toddler Educators](#)
- NCCP: Massachusetts: [PIWI training for EI providers](#)
- NCCP: Oregon: [PCIT Training Center](#)
- NCCP: Wisconsin: [Pyramid Model](#)
- ***The Alliance for the Association of Infant Mental Health and Michigan Association of Infant Mental Health (AAIMH):*** [AAIMH: Infant Mental Health Journal](#)
- AAIMH: [Best Practice Guidelines for Reflective Supervision/Consultation](#)
- AAIMH: [RC/S via Distance Technology Guidelines](#)
- AAIMH: [IECMH Workforce Development as Part of a Solution to the Opioid and Substance Use Disorder Crisis](#)
- AAIMH: [Forming an Association for Infant Mental Health: A Getting Started “Idea Booklet”](#)
- AAIMH: [What Makes an Association for Infant Mental Health Strong?](#)
- AAIMH: [Endorsement is Good for Babies](#)
- AAIMH: [Endorsement Capacity Assessments](#)
- AAIMH: [General information on Endorsement](#)
- ***The National Center of Excellence for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (CoE)***
- CoE: [Foundational Knowledge for Mental Health Consultants](#)
- CoE: [Workforce Building Resources](#)
- CoE: [Equity in IECMHC webinar resources](#)
- [Illinois Association of IMH: IECMH Credential \(I/ECMH-C\) and Reflective Practice Groups](#)
- [Alabama’s Infant Mental Health Association: First 5 Alabama](#)
- [The Intersection of Leadership and Vulnerability: Making the Case for Reflective Supervision/Consultation for Policy and Systems Leaders](#)



# Additional ZTT Resources

- [Exploring State Strategies for Financing Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment](#)
- [ZERO TO THREE Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Policy Vignettes](#)
- [Nurturing Change: State Strategies for Improving Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health](#)
- [Planting Seeds in Fertile Ground: Steps Every Policymaker Should Take to Advance Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health](#)
- [DC:0–5™ Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood](#)
- [Parenting Resources](#)
- [ZTT's Federal Rulemaking Infographic](#)



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**Many THANKS!!!**



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**Therese Ahlers** – Senior Technical Assistance Specialist  
[tahlers@zerotothree.org](mailto:tahlers@zerotothree.org)

**Paola Andujar** – Program Associate  
[pandujar@zerotothree.org](mailto:pandujar@zerotothree.org)

**Julie Cohen** – Associate Director of the Policy Center  
[jcohen@zerotothree.org](mailto:jcohen@zerotothree.org)

**Dr. Lee Johnson III** – Senior Policy Analyst, IECMH  
[ljohnson@zerotothree.org](mailto:ljohnson@zerotothree.org)

**Meghan Schmelzer** - Senior Policy Analyst, IECMH  
[mschmelzer@zerotothree.org](mailto:mschmelzer@zerotothree.org)

**Lindsay Usry** - Director of IECMH Strategy  
[lusry@zerotothree.org](mailto:lusry@zerotothree.org)

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ZERO TO THREE's Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Policy Team