

Webinar Panelist Short Bios

Webinar title: “Empowering the Early Childhood Workforce with the Environment Rating Scales Using LearnERS”

Webinar Date: March 15, 2023

Tarah Kadzielawski

Tarah Kadzielawski has worked in the field of education for over 20 years. She has been a teacher, a center director, and a state QRIS assessor. Now she oversees the professional development initiatives for Branagh Group with a focus on using the Environment Rating Scales for continuous quality improvement. When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her 10-year-old son, connecting with friends and family, trying new recipes, listening to podcasts, and planning her next big adventure—this summer is a first-time trip to South Korea.

Kimberly Owens

For over 20 years, Kim has been a leader in the field of early childhood education in New Jersey. Kim joined the Rutgers University, School of Social Work, Institute for Families (IFF) in January of 2022. As the Manager of Early Childhood Initiatives at IFF, she has the honor of working alongside a professional, committed, and passionate team to support professional development activities for the early childhood workforce in New Jersey. In her previous role, Kim worked at the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS) as the Incentive Coordinator for Grow NJ Kids (NJ’s QRIS). At DHS, Kim managed the scholarship program, professional development implementation, and other projects related to coaching and quality improvement. Prior to joining DHS, Kim worked at Rutgers University in Camden at the Institute for Effective Education and was a Part-Time Lecturer for Childhood Studies and the Teacher Preparation Program. Kim attended Rutgers University as an undergraduate and holds a Master of Science in Early Childhood Education.

Dilcia Perdomo

Dilcia Perdomo, Bilingual BrightStars Navigator, has been in the field for fourteen years. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Arts from the University of Rhode Island. She volunteers her time in the community to benefit a variety of organizations. Before coming to RIAEYC/Bright Stars, Dilcia was employed as a Bilingual Family Child Care Case Manager Child & Adult Care Food Program for Children’s Friend and Service. Dilcia is author-reliable on the ECERS-3 tools. She has a passion for helping programs work towards improving their overall quality while supporting and advocating for all children and families.

Susie Norys

Susie Norys has over 20 years of early childhood experience working with infants through preschool. She currently works for Arkansas State University Childhood Services on the

Technical Assistance and Environment Rating Scale team. In this position, she provides professional development, technical assistance to Arkansas' early childhood workforce and conducts ERS assessments. When not working, Susie enjoys spending time with family and travel.