

Early Childhood Fellowship

2023-2024

Presenters and Presentations

September & October 2023 – Frames for Work in Early Childhood



Relationships Matter To Infants and the Adults Who Care For Them: Connecting Babies' Beginnings and the Provider's Way of Being

Kadija Johnston, LCSW
Independent Consultant &
Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University
Center for Child and Human Development



Sprouts Professional Development *Part 1: Recognizing Cues*

Gabriela Alejos, LCSW and Valerie Yarema, MSW
[SEEDS for Family School Readiness](#)
[UCLA Division of Population Behavioral Health](#)



Reflective Practice as an Essential Element in Infant and Early Childhood

Mary Claire Heffron, PhD
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland
Zero to Three Academy of Fellows



Professional Wellbeing Workshop:

Creative Approaches to Resilience in Children & Self-Care

Ping Ho, MA, MPH
[Arts & Healing Initiative](#)

November 2023 – Early Risk and Resilience



Maternal Mental Health Matters for Women and The Next Generation

Catherine Monk, PhD

[Perinatal Pathways Lab](#)

[Columbia University Irving Medical Center](#)



Sprouts Professional Development *Part 2: Understanding Cues*

Gabriela Alejos, LCSW and Valerie Yarema, MSW

[SEEDS for Family School Readiness](#)

[UCLA Division of Population Behavioral Health](#)



Understanding the Impacts of Transgenerational Trauma & Racism on Maternal Mental Health

Susan Lowe, MA, LMFT, PMH-C

[Diversity Uplifts, Inc.](#)






Intervening to Enhance Parenting of Vulnerable Infants: Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-up




Mary Dozier, PhD

[University of Delaware](#)

December 2023 - Enhancing Services for Underserved Children and Families

	<p>Sprouts Professional Development <i>Part 3: Responding to Hot Moments</i></p> <p>Gabriela Alejos, LCSW and Valerie Yarema, MSW SEEDS for Family School Readiness UCLA Division of Population Behavioral Health</p>
	<p>Engaging Families with Young Children in Virtual Home-Visiting</p> <p>Nastassia Hajal, PhD Jane and Terry Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA</p>
	<p>Leveraging Home Visiting to Promote Child Development and Mental Health Among Refugee Families</p> <p>Aimee Hilado, PhD, LCSW Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice The University of Chicago</p>

January 2024 – Early Experiences and Brain Development

	<p>Sprouts Professional Development <i>Part 4: Responding in Cool Moments</i></p> <p>Gabriela Alejos, LCSW and Valerie Yarema, MSW SEEDS for Family School Readiness UCLA Division of Population Behavioral Health</p>
	<p>0-5 Neurodevelopment: Understanding Challenging Behaviors & Building Social-Emotional Capacities through a Neuropsychological Lens</p> <p>Jess Bernal, LMFT JBernalLMFT.com</p>
	<p><i>Professional Wellbeing Workshop:</i></p> <p>Let's Get Rooted: Movement + Mindfulness for the Early Childhood Professional</p> <p>Monica Rollins, MA Rooted: A Wellness Collective</p>

February 2024 – Attachment, Transitions and Healing



STAND with Me: Building Trusting Relationships During Transitions

Adriana Molina, LMFT
[Allies for Every Child](#)



Occupational Therapy through a Trauma Lens

Briana Pollard, OTD, OTR/L, SWC, CLE, CIMI
[Children's Hospital Los Angeles](#)



Professional Wellbeing Workshop:

Self-Care Through Nature's Elements

Vicki Alvarez, MS, R-DMT
[Dance for All](#)

March 2024 – Supporting Child and Family Resilience



Father Involvement During Early Childhood: Putting Inclusion into Practice

Alan-Michael Graves, EdD, MPA
[Good+Foundation](#)



LGBTQ Inclusion in Early Childhood Programs and Education: How to Support LGBTQ-Led Families and LGBTQ Children

Ellen Kahn, MSS
[Human Rights Campaign](#)



Early Childhood Experiences of Homelessness and High-Mobility: Risk and Resilience

Alyssa R. Palmer, PhD
[Jane and Terry Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA](#)

April 2024 – School-Based Perspectives



Accessing Early Intervention Services: Families who have Young Children with Developmental Delays or Disabilities

Judith Perrigo, PhD

[UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs](#)



Thinking about Executive Function to Address Behavioral Difficulties in Children with Developmental Needs

Stephanny Freeman, PhD

[UCLA Department of Child Psychiatry](#)

[David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA](#)



School-Based Behavioral Health Supports and Services for Newcomer Immigrant Children and Youth

Kelly Edyburn, PhD

[University of California, San Francisco](#)

May 2024 – Community Wellbeing



Culturaleza: Weaving Culture and Nature for Wellbeing

José G. González, MS

[Latino Outdoors](#)

[Avarna Group](#)



Young Children and the Outdoors

Sheila Williams Ridge, MA

[Institute of Child Development](#)

[University of Minnesota](#)



Outdoor, Nature-Based Prevention and Intervention

Kathleen Lockyer, OT

[Rx Outside](#)

June 2023 – Community Collaboration

Culminating Projects

**DMH + UCLA Early Childhood Fellowship
Class of 2024**



Early Relational Health

Junlei Li, PhD

[Harvard Graduate School of Education](#)