

Brief on Child Care Inclusion Specialists

I. Background

- a. Based on recommendations from the “Quality Child Care for All” task force, a new position dedicated to supporting the inclusion of young children in early childhood settings was created. The Child Care Inclusion Specialists (CCIS) were first funded in 2007 through CYFD to work as part of the Training and Technical Assistance Programs (TTAP) across the state of New Mexico.

II. Purpose

- a. The consultants provide training and support to early childhood educators who work in home and center based child care settings. This work is done in collaboration with other systems including the Family Infant Toddler Program and Local Education Agencies.

III. Key Participants

- a. Families
- b. Early Childhood Educators
- c. Childcare Center Directors
- d. Early Intervention Service Providers
- e. Public School Teachers and Therapists
- f. Medical Professionals
- g. Mental Health Professionals
- h. Transition Team Members

IV. Child Care Inclusion Specialists are able to provide

- a. On-site observations and consultation regarding children and the learning environment
- b. Recommendations and/or referral information
- c. Professional development, teaching strategies, and support for including children with challenging behaviors
- d. Technical assistance to support the IFSP or IEP process
- e. Facilitated collaboration between families, early childhood programs, and other community service providers
- f. Assistance in the transition from early intervention programs to public school special education programs
- g. Resource materials & linkages to community resources

V. Contact Information

- a. www.newmexicokids.org, professional development-training and technical assistance programs