Keystone STARS Infant-Toddler Specialist Program

Goal: To offer technical assistance and consultation to infant-toddler programs that expands high quality care of very young children and their families. Participation is voluntary and is individualized based on the needs of the participants. The program is focused on relationship-based provision of care ultimately resulting in improved outcomes for children.

Primary Components:

Targeted Consultation
STARS Infant-Toddler Specialists work with a maximum of 10 sites within a 6 month period providing 35-50 hours of consultation. Priority is given to STAR 2 sites. The Specialists’ primary work occurs within the infant-toddler classroom with the goal of enhancing relationship based practices throughout the facility. Plans and strategies are designed so that they can be applied throughout the program.

Collaborative Teaming
STARS Infant-Toddler Specialists work as members of a collaborative team in each Regional Key to identify needs of the children, families and staff within the infant-toddler system. The Collaborative Team assures a coordinated approach.

Professional Development
STARS Infant-Toddler Specialists provide regional professional development specific to infant and toddler care. Events will be designed in cooperation with the statewide Infant Toddler Network and offered as needed to early childhood professionals from varying infant-toddler programs.

Regional Supports
STARS Infant-Toddler Specialists design an infrastructure specific to each region that meets the needs of the infant toddler professionals in their communities. Resource libraries, networking opportunities, web-based communities, and mentors are some of the ways each region offers unique infant and toddler supports.