Early Learning Fellows Newsletter — August 2013

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WHAT'S NEW

Welcome to the FELLOWS NEWSLETTER. This is a bi-monthly newsletter produced for the Early Learning Fellows program. In the newsletter, you will find the latest NCSL information on state legislative actions, research and other upcoming events and resources related to early learning policy.

We were excited to see some of the Fellows in Atlanta for NCSL’s Legislative Summit. For those who couldn’t attend, the Legislative Summit early childhood session and Educare tour plus other meeting resources from the 2013 Legislative Summit can be found by clicking HERE.

EARLY LEARNING FELLOWS WEBINAR #2: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

Thank you to those that participated in last month’s webinar The Correlation between Executive Function and Achievement: Implications for ECE Policy on July 9. Remember you are always able to view the archived version of the webinar by clicking HERE.

Expanding on the Science: An Hour with Dr. Jack Shonkoff

Tuesday, September 10, 2013
2 p.m. ET/ 1 p.m. CT/ Noon MT/ 11 a.m. PT

This webinar is the second in a series of two webinars that will offer Early Learning Fellows an exchange of ideas and solutions related to early learning, and provide them with practical policy information they can use in their states. Dr. Jack Shonkoff spoke at NCSL’s Legislative Summit in August about the understanding of the lifelong consequences of adversity early in life and the importance of building special skills for adults who care for young children, which can lead to greater health, learning and
economic self-sufficiency. Hear Dr. Shonkoff give the highlights and some of the takeways from his presentation. An interactive question-and-answer period will follow. This webinar will also build on the brain science heard throughout the year.

Please be sure to register and participate in this final webinar of the Fellows. Click HERE for more information including how to register. Have a question about registering, please contact Alison May at Alison.May@ncsl.org.

SAVE THE DATE FINAL FELLOWS MEETING: December 6-7, Washington DC

The Fellows final meeting is set as a post conference with NCSL’s Fall Forum and will begin at noon on Friday, December 6, 2013 and will conclude at 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 7, 2013. Both the meeting and lodging will take place at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park. Additional information including how to register for the meeting will be sent out electronically by early October 2013. If you have any immediate questions about the meeting please email Alison.May@ncsl.org.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT RECAP

Here is a recap of and links to more information on this year’s exciting Early Care and Education sessions at Legislative Summit in Atlanta. Meeting resources are available on the web HERE.

- **Driving Science-Based Innovation to Strengthen the Foundations of Lifelong Learning, Behavior, and Health:** Dr. Jack Shonkoff, director of the [Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University](http://www.developingchild.harvard.edu) spoke to a packed audience on August 13 about recent advances in neuroscience, molecular biology, and genomics that now help us better understand why healthy development in the early years provides the building blocks for educational achievement, economic productivity and lifelong health. A great discussion followed from Washington and Georgia policymakers on the policy implications across many sectors including early education, child welfare, family support and health. The session drew considerable attention and included over 150 attendees. Click HERE to view Dr. Shonkoff’s presentation and click HERE to see coverage of the session in *Youth Today*.

- **Educare of Atlanta Tour:** In collaboration with [Educare of Atlanta](http://www.educareatlanta.org) center, NCSL hosted a site visit on August 14 to this nationally recognized school. Educare Atlanta is operated by Sheltering Arms Early Education & Family Centers, in partnership with The Annie E. Casey Foundation and Atlanta Public Schools. The tour was enthusiastically attended by over 35 legislators, staff, and community partners. Click HERE to view Atlanta NPR’s story about the tour.

RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION

START a conversation with other Fellows! Send a question or comment on early learning to the group by emailing elfellows-dist@ncsl.org.
To access the latest Early Care and Education State Budget Actions FY 2013 report put together by NCSL’s Early Care and Education Project please click HERE.

The Early Learning Fellows May 1-2 meeting agenda and other resources are available on the web HERE.

NCSL is here for you! Have a question? Please contact Julie Poppe at Julie.Poppe@ncsl.org or Alison May at Alison.May@ncsl.org.