



Speaker Bios

Kylie Wheeler • Project Manager • kylie@childrensfundingproject.org



Kylie joined Children’s Funding Project in 2019 as a Policy Associate, where she helped support and expand the organization’s policy research and analysis capacity. Now a Project Manager, she specializes in applying data and geospatial analysis in an authentic, person-centered, and actionable manner.

Prior to starting at Children’s Funding Project, Kylie worked as a Research Analyst for a nonprofit orphanage foundation in Hinche, Haiti, where she conducted interviews with vulnerable youth in the community and produced a report on their subjective well-being. She recently completed a report on the status of public health in the Greater Williamsburg area for a nonprofit foundation in Williamsburg, Virginia. Outside of policy, Kylie spent more than five years working as a Search Engine Marketing Manager for a small marketing firm in Chesapeake, Virginia.

Kylie graduated in May 2019 with a Master of Public Policy from the College of William & Mary, where she served as Vice President of the Graduate Policy Association and Editor-in-Chief of the William & Mary Policy Review. While in graduate school, she created and facilitated a one-hour, in-classroom civics enrichment program for fifth graders in Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools called “Citizenship Activate!”—teaching kids about the value of and responsibilities involved with being a good citizen.

Kylie is committed to improving outcomes and reducing opportunity inequalities for young people.

Kate Ritter • Early Childhood Advisor • kate@childrensfundingproject.org



Kate joined Children’s Funding Project in 2021 as an Early Childhood Advisor. She specializes in early care and education finance, policy, and cost modeling.

Since 2001, Kate has been working with state and local governments, foundations, national policy organizations, early care and education providers, and child advocacy groups to provide strategic early childhood policy and finance recommendations. Prior to joining CFP, Kate consulted with cities and states on creating comprehensive early childhood system cost models. Kate worked in the Illinois Governor’s Office of Early Childhood Development where she created a cost model for the state’s Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) and led the process to develop a QRIS for family child care. She was a senior policy associate at Illinois Action for Children where she negotiated legislative outcomes, developed administrative advocacy strategies, and managed statewide campaigns for policy change and increases in fiscal expenditures.

Kate has an undergraduate degree in psychology from Middlebury College and a master’s degree in public policy from the University of Chicago. She is also a certified labor & postpartum doula and has the honor of assisting families entering parenthood. She lives in Vermont with her husband, two daughters, and Husky.