

EILEEN O'BRIEN
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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Service-based:

Women's and Children's Health Policy
Early Childhood Developmental Programs

Programmatic:

Public/Private Collaboration Process
Program Development and Implementation
Research Dissemination Products

EDUCATION

National Head Start Fellow, The Administration for Children and Families, September 1997-August 1998. Head Start Bureau, Health and Disabilities Branch and Early Head Start, Washington, DC

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine (September 1990)
Department of Pediatrics, Clinical Psychology, Developmental delay and learning disabilities testing, Kennedy-Kreiger Institute, Baltimore, MD

Ph.D., Developmental Psychology (February, 1987)
Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

M.A., Psychology (December, 1984)
Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

M.S., Nursing (May, 1977)
Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

RN licensure (August, 1973)
Ohio State Board of Nurse Examiners; Reciprocity State of Maryland

B.S., Nursing (May, 1973)
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.

RECENT EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE

Senior Lecturer University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Department of Psychology. Lectureship in the **Undergraduate** program; Teaching varied courses related to biological basis of behavior, child development, child welfare, and the psychology of gender. Designed and created peer mentoring program in Intro Psychology, team leader for the redesign of Intro Psychology with NCAT. UMBC Course Redesign Leader.

Graduate Course: Applied Psychology and Public Policy. Member dissertation and thesis committees. Associate Member of the Graduate School.
Contract **January, 2003 to present.**

Consultant. Consultation for Systems Improvement. Senior Partner. Providing consultation and guidance to early childhood projects, mental health initiatives, women's programs, and contractual grant writing tasks. Providing consultation for new grants in early childhood and mental health, Head Start, and grant writing consultation for Foundation grant proposals related to early childhood. **October, 2002 - present**

ACF, Panel Chair for grant reviews of early learning opportunities grants, (August, 2003; 2004)

SAMHSA, Task Order: "Parent Child Interaction Observation" Contract to provide training and technical assistance to the DC Department of Child and Family Services. (April 2003- Sept 2003)

Rand Corporation/University of Pittsburgh, Contract to provide consultation to the Heinz Endowment RFP and continued consultation on integrated services grants for women and young children (June 2003)

HRSA, Maternal Child Health Bureau, Contract to produce dissemination products from research on integrating behavioral health into primary care. (November, 2005 - July 2006.)

Senior Enterprise Development Specialist, Casey Family Programs. Leadership position in a private foundation to continue the public-private collaboration with SAMHSA (DHHS Federal Agency), to represent Casey's interests and strategic plan, and direct the development of products for use internal to Casey and to the general field. This translated into contracts management, services grant management, research grant management, partnership proposal development, budget development and management, advocacy work with Federal agencies and States, national Convening planning and implementation, Capitol Hill briefings, and the development and implementation of the peer-to-peer consulting program (Peer Technical Assistance/Education). Trained in Casey's Leadership and Management Program; results based accountability; results based facilitation. **May, 2000 - July, 2002.**

Interagency Personnel Agreement, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Office on Early Childhood (OEC). Served on the project Starting Early Starting Smart, an unprecedented public/private partnership funded Knowledge Development project. Assigned to provide the Office with expert assessment of the data analysis plan, represent the funders of SESS activities on the AD Hoc Expert Panel, to assure that the research design has the potential to produce definitive results, and that the results produced can inform policy and practice for the field of multicultural early intervention. Identified strengths and weaknesses of the collaborative study design process, and generated a report to the field of knowledge development on this process.

Assisted in planning for dissemination of findings to early childhood providers, such as Head Start and Child Care. Assisted OEC to build linkages to other early intervention

efforts and ethnic outreach, and created an infrastructure which maintains a study connection among SESS grantees and the multiple audiences affected by SESS findings. Served as technical resource to the staff of OEC, provided expertise on study methodology and current knowledge in the field of early intervention. Served as resource to project officers in relation to issues of study performance, research participation, data validity, and integrity of individual grant sites. Completed the Federal Project Officer course within DHHS. **October, 1998 - April, 2000.**

National Head Start Fellow, Administration for Children, Youth and Families, Head Start Bureau. Awarded one year competitive Fellowship to serve with a senior administrator in the Federal government. Assignment was 50% with the Head Start Bureau, Health and Disabilities Branch. Supervisor: Dr. Mimi Kanda, Branch Chief. Assigned to Early Head Start and services to pregnant women within the EHS centers. Additional assignment with SAMHSA in the Office on Early Childhood (OEC), Starting Early, Starting Smart Program to participate as the ACF representative in the planning and implementation of substance abuse prevention, treatment and mental health services in early childhood settings. As an ACF representative, worked with the Head Start and Child Care settings where families receive services. Focused on the implications for the research process when conducted in early childhood settings. Since this was a Knowledge Development project, served as the liaison to the research group within ACYF. Program supervisor: Dr. Pat Salomon, OEC Director. **September 1997-September 1998.**

PRIOR EXPERIENCE IN ACADEMIA:

Adjunct Faculty Trinity College, Washington DC. Weekend College course in Psychology. Program assists women working full-time during the week to complete Baccalaureate study. **September, 1993 - 2005.** Supervisor: Dr. Jonathan Segal, Chairperson, Psychology, Trinity College.

Associate Professor, University of Maryland School of Nursing, Baltimore, **July, 1995 - July, 1999** (LOA for above Fellowship and IPA 1997-1999) **Program Coordinator:** Advanced Practice Pediatric Nursing. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist graduate program. **Regular Member - Graduate School**, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland. (July, 1990-1997). Responsible for graduate student seminars, research guidance, dissertation committee membership, and thesis guidance. Planning and presentation of developmental theories to MCH students. Lectured on topics of Pediatric AIDS, substance abuse, adolescent pregnancy, high risk pregnancy, mental health in children, and community services available to specific populations. Planning and presentation of MCH research topics to doctoral students in Nursing, Health Policy, and Administration.

Assistant Professor, prior contract. School of Nursing, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland **July, 1987 - July, 1995.**

CLINICAL/RESEARCH ROLES:

Program Officer: Casey Family Grants Programs (now Marguerite Casey Foundation) emerged as a separate entity from Casey Family Programs in January 2001. Sponsored and monitored grants in early intervention and prevention, and support grants from the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health. Created Peer TA Network and initiated program nationally. **January, 2001-July, 2002.**

Postdoctoral Fellow in Clinical Psychology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Kennedy Krieger Institute. Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology Department. Evaluation, diagnosis and referral of children with developmental and behavioral disabilities. Worked with families to develop IEPs for children and identify resources for parents in the community. **September, 1989 - September, 1990.**

PUBLICATIONS AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Butz, A, Pulsifer, M, O'Brien, E, Belcher, H, Lears, M., Miller, D., Kaufmann, W., Royall, R. Caregiver Characteristics Associated with Infant Cognitive Status in In-Utero Drug Exposed Infants. Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse, Vol. 11 (4) 2002, 25-41.

O'Brien, E. Editor and collaborator for **Starting Early Starting Smart** publications, 2001-present.

Whiteside-Mansell, L., Lewin, A, Sims, B. and O'Brien, E. Health Services Need and Use: A Study of Three Head Start Populations. Paper submitted to Early Childhood Research Quarterly, June 2002.

O'Brien, E. Column Editor. Journal of Pediatric Nursing (July 1997 - July 2001) Write, review and edit articles relevant to community care and technologies available to support the delivery of community care. Special emphasis on Women's and Children's health and relevant research questions.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS:

O'Brien, E. UMBC Course Redesign for Introductory Psychology. NCAT Redesign Alliance Second Annual Conference. March 2008. Orlando, FL.

O'Brien, E. UMBC Course Redesign for Introductory Psychology: Pilot Report. University of Maryland System Course Redesign Initiative. May 2008. UMBC Tech Center.

O'Brien, E. Starting Early Starting Smart. Briefing for Representative Kennedy (D-RI), April 2002.

O'Brien, E. Starting Early Starting Smart. White House Domestic Policy Council Briefing, March 2002.

O'Brien, E. Starting Early Starting Smart. Meeting the mental health needs of children and their families. Child Welfare League Conference, March 2002.

O'Brien, E. Early Findings in an Integrated Behavioral Health Model: SESS Tampa, FL. Systems of Care Conference. CMHS, March 2002

O'Brien E. SESS and Next Steps. Presentation to the Division of Knowledge Development and Application, CSAP, SAMHSA, January 2002.

O'Brien, E. SESS Findings in Head Start. , presentation to the Head Start Research Consortium, November 2001.

O'Brien, E. Starting Early Starting Smart. Capitol Hill Briefing for Hill Staff, Sponsored by the Coalition on Adoption. October 2001.

O'Brien, E and Harris, E. NCAST use in SESS: Research findings at Time 2. NCAST Conference, Seattle, WA., August 2000.

O'Brien, E. Integrated Behavioral Health Model in Early Childhood Settings, Phoenix, AZ, Demand Drug Reduction Conference, June 2000.

Lee, C, Lewin, A, Sims, B, O'Brien, E. and Knitzer, J. Behavioral health needs in Head Start Across Three Settings. Head Start Research Conference, June, 2000.

O'Brien, E. and Butz, A. Infants of Substance Abusing Mothers: Developmental Considerations. Poster presented at Sigma Theta Tau, International Research Symposium, Vancouver, Canada. June 1997.

O'Brien, E. and Butz, A. Drug Exposed Infants and their Mothers: Examining the Relationship Research presented at the Society of Pediatric Nurses, Anaheim, California, April, 1997.

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

SESS Steering Committee. Starting Early Starting Smart, Collaborative Research Project, October 1997- June 2002.

Butz A and O'Brien, E. Longitudinal Follow-up on Drug-Exposed Children funded NINR, 1997 October. (Subcontract on hold due to Fellowship)

Butz, A. and O'Brien, E. Drug Exposed Infants and Their Mothers Research funded NINR, October 1995-October - 1997.

SERVICE-BASED PRESENTATIONS

Foundation funding: Practical Advice for Applicants. Presentation to Children's Research Institute, Washington, D.C., December 13, 2002.

Starting Early Starting Smart: Peer Technical Assistance Matches to disseminate lessons learned to additional communities. Baltimore Head Start, Baltimore, MD, December 2001; Arapahoe House, Denver, CO, June 2002.

Mental Health Services for Families in Head Start: Integrating Research and Practice Presented programs across the nation meeting the mental health needs of children and families within the Head Start Program. Region 3 Conference. Philadelphia, Pa. June 1998.

Changing Needs of Health Services Provisions in Head Start and Early Head Start in the Next Millennium. Workshop presented to Head Start programs at the National Head Start Association Meeting, Seattle, Washington, April, 1998.

Serving Pregnant Women: Statistics and Practicalities. Workshop at the Early Head Start Institute, Washington, DC, January 1998.

Services to Pregnant Women: Early Head Start Programs. Seminar presented at the Head Start Quality Improvement Conference. Bethesda, Md. December 1997.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS, ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

Society for Research on Child Development
American Psychological Association
National Council on Family Relations
National Head Start Association

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Consumer Representative. Policy Council of the Howard County Head Start. January 2004 to present. Review and advise early childhood programming in Head Start projects throughout Howard County.

Citizen representative, Howard County Council for Children and Youth, appointed June 1995 - 1997. Review and advise on community programs available for women, children and teens in the County.

Early childhood Task Force, Howard County Council for Children and Youth. Review and advise on programs for children, zero to three throughout the County. Interagency

Task Force, September 1995 - 1997.