

Buncombe County Early Childhood Committee
Workforce Development in Early Childhood Education Series, 2023

This is a 4-part series hosted by Buncombe County's Early Childhood Committee focused on workforce challenges and opportunities in the field of early care and education. From August through November 2023, the committee will focus its monthly meetings on understanding the issue, assessing the current landscape, studying promising practices, and forming potential recommendations.

Session 1: Setting the Stage

August 1, 1:00-2:30

What do we mean when we say “workforce crisis” in the field of early childhood education? We’ll spend this session focused on defining the issue. We’ll hear about the challenges related to recruitment, compensation, development and retention of teachers and staff to work in early care and education settings. A presentation by our local Child Care Resources team will be followed by a panel discussion with representatives that bring day-to-day experience navigating workforce issues in early care and education.

Presenter:

- Jenny Vial, Director of Child Care Resources, Buncombe Partnership for Children

Panelists:

- Aimee Spooner, Children’s Services Director, Irene Wortham Early Learning Center
- Amy Sosebee, Acting Director, Regent Park Early Childhood Development Center
- Tameka King, Executive Director, Children’s Center at Gracelyn
- Melissa Wilson, Early Childhood Specialist, Buncombe Partnership for Children