



Eboni Howard, Ph.D.

Principal Early Childhood Specialist
American Institutes for Research

20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1231, Chicago, IL 60606
ehoward@air.org | 312.588.7339



Areas of Expertise

- Early Childhood Education
- Child Development
- Family Functioning and Support

Current Work

- Oversees early childhood/child development practice area at American Institutes for Research (AIR) and provides managerial leadership in the learning support portfolio within AIR's Education program
- Provides research, evaluation, technical assistance, and consultant support to various states, organizations, and federal agencies on early childhood topics related to school readiness, kindergarten assessment, professional development, family engagement, program quality, home visitation services, and family and social services
- Directs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Research, Planning and Evaluation Head Start Professional Development – Best Practices in Coaching design study and is the senior advisor and research alliance lead for early childhood education for Regional Educational Laboratory Midwest

Background

- Has more than 20 years of experience conducting child and family research, evaluation, policy studies, and consultation and advisory work
- Provided consultation services to U.S. Department of Education's Early Reading First Project about early childhood and the Council of Chief State School Officers on kindergarten assessment efforts
- Served as the Frances Stott Chair in Early Childhood Policy and founding director of the Herr Research Center for Children and Social Policy at Erikson Institute
- Directed several large-scale evaluations in early childhood, home visitation, education, and child welfare while serving as a senior researcher at Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago
- Conducted welfare-reform and child/family research while serving as a research associate concurrently with the Joint Center for Poverty Research at Northwestern University and the Center for Culture and Health at UCLA

Selected Publications and Presentations

- Dermer, L. M., Howard, E. C., Slapac, A., & Mathews, K. (in press). The importance of improving implementation research for successful interventions and adaptations. *Journal of Prevention & Intervention in the Community*, 42(4).
- Howard, E., Allard Agnamba, L., Wessel, J., & Rankin, V. (in press). *Uses and definitions of implementation terms in early childhood education research*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.
- Howard, E. (2012). *Statewide implementation of child and family evidence based practices: Challenges and promising practices*. Washington, DC: Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health.
- Howard, E. (2011). *Moving forward with kindergarten assessment efforts: A position paper of the Early Childhood Education Assessment Consortium of the State Collaboratives on Assessment and Student Standards*. Washington, DC: Council of Chief State School Officers.
- Horn, D., Howard, E., & Escamilla, I. M. (2013, June 8–12). *Preparing the next generation of professionals to implement, own and lead the next era of developmentally appropriate practice*. Closing plenary session presented at National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, San Francisco, CA.
- Howard, E. (2012, March). *Green light, go! Ready or not, here comes kindergarten entry assessment*. Presentation delivered at State of Connecticut Department of Education Early Assessment Summit, Hartford, CT.
- Howard, E. (2012, February). *Now what? Framework and principles for making good use of kindergarten entry assessments*. Presentation delivered at Council of Chief State School Officers and the Build Initiative State Kindergarten Entry Assessment Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Howard, E. (2011, November). *Early learning challenge: Kindergarten entry assessments*. Presentation delivered at the meeting of the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative, Washington, DC.
- Howard, E. (2011, June). *Kindergarten readiness assessment*. Presentation delivered at the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Early Childhood Specialists in State Departments of Education, Providence, RI.
- Howard, E. (2011, June). *The importance of early childhood education*. Testimony to Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker and the Governor's Read to Lead Task Force, in Lacrosse, WI.
- Howard, E. (2010, January). *Issues in early childhood and child welfare*. Presentation delivered at the Early Childhood Mental Health Summit, Child Welfare League of America Conference, Washington, DC.
- Howard, E. (2009, July). *Home visitation programs*. Presentation delivered at the IRP Working Conference: "State Innovations in Policies Supporting Healthy Families," Madison, WI.