

**Lisa Poppe, Early Childhood Educator
Engagement Zone 8**



One Hour, Once a Month - FHK (co-taught, marketer, evaluator) web-based training sessions were offered this year for 6 months. 3,050 childcare provider hours were awarded. 27,852 indirect children were touched by the knowledge gained. Our client's knowledge grew from 23% before the class who were very or extremely knowledgeable of the subject matter to after the class 77% of the providers were very or extremely knowledgeable of the subject matter. As a result of Fit and Healthy Kids programming 82% of our providers feel better about themselves and the work they do. Our providers stated a financial benefit because of behavioral changes they would implement because of the program: the total average (saved/gained) per month \$103,670 and the total average (saved/gained) per year \$1,244,040. A participant stated, *"A healthy relationship with families is such a crucial component in better understanding our children & how to build that positive relationship."* NEAFCS-Excellence in Multi State Collaboration Award- 1st Place National & Central Regional (Sponsorship \$300)

Discover and Design – FHK (marketer and evaluator) is a resource that provides age-appropriate, engaging activities for young children. New lessons are added quarterly. 436 users downloaded 2,464 lessons from 22 different states and 3 countries indirectly reaching 12,004 children. After a two-month post-evaluation, data reveals: 100% of users are very likely to recommend the lessons to others and 100% of users strongly agree that they will use additional Discover and Design activities in the future. Presented at the Get Connected Afterschool Conference.

In-Depth Learning Circle **Learning in the Heartland** – FHK (co-teacher, developer, evaluator), encompass a series of learning sessions with homework assignments in-between sessions. Childcare providers can take the knowledge gained from the learning sessions and practice it within their early childcare setting. Evaluation reveals: 100% of participants gained strategies to engage children in play through manipulatives, sensory experiences, and scientific explorations. Participants also gained strategies to bring community services to life in an early childhood setting. 72 childcare provider hours were awarded. Through Learning in the Heartland materials 427 users downloaded 851 lesson plans indirectly reaching 6,493 children in 14 different states.

On-Demand Classes – FHK (co-developer, marketer, evaluator, teacher) are two hours of continuing education classes for early childhood professionals that they can take at their own pace. Within the last 12 months 158 classes were taken. 316 childcare provider hours were awarded with 6,708 indirect children touched by the knowledge gained. After class, 78% of participants felt very to extremely knowledgeable and 86% felt they were more in control. 98% of participants stated they would use the information. A participant stated, *"This is super beneficial because we have a student in our program that is on the Spectrum, and I love being able to help him anyway that I can when he needs it. I think that other staff members can benefit from this class in so many ways."* The providers stated a financial benefit because of behavioral changes they would implement as a result of the program. The total average (saved/gained) per month \$854 and the total average per year was \$10,254. (Revenue generated - \$1,580)

The [Virtual Conference – Little Minds Big Ideas](#) – **FHK (co-developer, marketer, evaluator)** was multi-level learning over a duration of time. The conference is designed with hands-on experiences and interactions. These engaging training courses are delivered over a two-month span. 100% of participants stated they will provide opportunities for children with interactive challenges and activities to enhance brain development. After a two-month period a post evaluation revealed that 100% of participants stated that because of the hands-on activities at the conference, they were able to provide new learning experiences for children in their care. A testimonial from a participant: *“I enjoyed the different extensions of creativity through science, reading, and motor development. I also will be thinking more about activities that have a broader approach to documentation and evaluation.”* 64 participants were awarded 358 childcare provider hours, and 3,697 children were indirectly impacted by the knowledge gained. (Revenue generated - \$1,125; Sponsorships - \$1,000)

I have **co-authored** several on-demand lessons which are housed at **Penn State’s Better Kid Care**. In 2023, 18,495 courses were completed totaling 24,798 training hours. 87% of participants gained knowledge about Positive Relationships and will use the strategies provided in the lessons. Two evaluation questions were asked, *how much did you learn in this professional development course?* Mean 3.60 and *how much of what you learned will you be able to use with the children or families in your care?* Mean 3.53.

The **Co-Parenting for Successful Kids (teacher)** program requires parents who are in the process of divorce or custody modifications to take a class on communication. In 2023, the program served 1,947 participants generating \$97,350 for the Co-Parenting program. I graded 3,078 assignments which (generated funds of \$2,604) for my individual programming. Participants (n=670) reported their knowledge score increased on average by 41%, from 2.98 (fairly knowledgeable) to 4.2 (very knowledgeable), a difference of 1.22 (p<0.001). Topics with the largest average increases in knowledge include **parenting styles (+46.2%)**, **“I” messages (+40.8%)**, and **child-focused parenting plans (+40.5%)**. The average scores increased across all topics and were all statistically significant, indicating meaningful increases in knowledge. A participant stated, *“Basic categories of effective disciplines and their effectiveness. ‘Children win when they have BOTH loving parents involved in their lives to focus on their need and keep them securely out of the middle of conflict and adult games.’”*

Professional Development Specialist for the CDA Program (Child Development Associate Credential). I am certified in Family Home, Infant/Toddler and Childcare Center. I completed observations for three childcare providers. *“I had been working with children for about three years when I was given the opportunity to obtain my CDA. During the process I was able to gain so much knowledge about all aspects of caring for children and catering to their unique abilities and cultural differences that I undoubtedly saw myself as not just a caregiver but as an early childhood educator. Obtaining my CDA has become a confidence booster and steppingstone to furthering my education.”* (Generated funds - \$300.00)

I am a **coach** for the Dodge County **Rooted in Relationships** initiative. I taught three, 6-hour modules for 20 childcare providers and coached two childcare providers for 60 minutes every

month. External evaluators observed childcare rooms at baseline and again the second year. Classrooms demonstrated strong improvements in implementing Pyramid Model practices over time. Negative practices decreased and fidelity to the model increased. (Generated funds - \$2,040)

Other Contributions

Early Childhood Leadership Team – I organize the team meetings, provide the communication piece for the team with emails and notifications. I organize the face-to-face meeting once a year and the monthly meetings both leadership team (setting the agenda) prior to the group meeting and the group meeting. I assist in preparing the Team’s yearly Impact Report and the EC Team State Action Plan. I send out monthly [EC content for Social Media](#). We have partnered with seven different agencies to push out this content. (Radio Sponsorship - \$1500) I also attend the Extension Program Area Leadership Team meetings to provide input to Extension Administration and to keep up to date with big picture issues.

EC Team Evaluation – Co-developed an all-team evaluation system using common core questions. Set up a system to gather data in Qualtrics for the EC Team to utilize, which prepared them in 2022-2023 to incorporate the PEARS system for 2024. With the assistance of a grad student gathered data for the team and for individuals to assist them with their year-end reporting.

PEARS Advisory Team – In 2023, piloted the PEARS system to assist team members in the adoption of the system for the 2024 reporting year. I co-developed how-to-sheets for Individual Action Plans and prepared PEARS notebooks for each team member to organize year-end reporting, evaluation, and PEARS questions. I will continue in 2024 to teach team members how to do Program Activities in PEARS.

4-H Program – I continue to advise the Dodge County 4-H program in the absence of a Youth Educator in the areas of 4-H Council, judges, history of program, rules and operations, and the 4-H Foundation. I assist at the county fair with various activities and notably on static judging day. I have transformed the kidZone into an early childhood agricultural experience during the four days of the county fair. (see Individual Impact Statement)

Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association – I served as the President of NCEA in 2023, leading monthly board meetings and creating Ad Hoc committees to better serve our membership. We hosted our annual meeting in Kearney in November with special topics on revenue generation, University benefits, and professional development.

Advisory Groups - As a member of each one of these groups, I meet frequently with them at monthly meetings and share content as it relates to Early Childhood and Extension faculty in general.

- All Things Nebraska
- Dean’s Advisory
- North Central Quality Childcare Networking Group
- Nebraska Extension Communication