

Support for the Coalition of Northwest Florida CoP Facilitators

Overview

The Early Learning Coalition (ELC) of Northwest Florida would like to offer the 24-hour Foundational Community of Practice CoP facilitator institute to a cohort of individuals across multiple roles. The most pressing educational issues of the day are socially and structurally complex, difficult to define, and almost always require systemic responses. Successfully addressing and managing complex challenges depends on a group's capacity to inspire and mobilize individuals to work in ways that enable them to grow and apply their individual assets to maximize collective impact. Understanding the importance of collaboration, reflective dialogue, and authentic engagement to results-driven action in early childhood education, this institute provides a professional development experience focused on the facilitation of explicit tools specifically designed to help groups work better together.

Objectives

During this Foundational CoP Institute, participants will

- Build community and co-construct a highly collaborative action space within which to tackle issues to improve practice and increase quality in the early childhood programs they serve.
- Experience the key elements of communities of practice (CoP)—*community, domain, and practice*—as a job-embedded structure to enhance learning, communication, and collaboration in the workplace.
- Assess collaboration in their respective workplace according to the four key considerations of the “Cookie” framework.
- Analyze and employ a set of collaborative tools and processes to address issues of practice.
- Align the nature and purpose of collaborative tools and processes experienced during the institute to address the specific needs of work groups they support and/or facilitate.
- Understand the intent and process of giving and receiving productive, actionable feedback on practice as one of the core practices of collaborative communication.