

Wisconsin Master Cadre Trainers

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) hosted a WIDA Early Years Master Cadre. Master Cadre participants completed the requirements to provide training about supporting **dual language learners** (DLLs), age 2.5-5.5 years, and their families. The following trainers successfully completed the Master Cadre program, a training-of-trainers offered by WIDA Early Years in 2016.

Master Cadre trainers presented here agreed to share their contact information and may be available to offer training and consultation services specific to your region. DPI does not recommend specific products or services. If interested, please contact these individuals directly about their offerings; fees for services, if applicable; and availability. Any arrangements should be negotiated directly with the between parties involved.

Lesa Alston

Available for training in: Statewide

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, School District, CESA, CCR&R, FRC, Home Visiting Program, Hospital or Clinic, Birth to Three, Head Start/Early Head Start, Institute of Higher Education, Statewide Association, State Agency, Tribal Entity

Lesa Alston holds a master of arts degree in education, is employed by Child Care Resource & Referral in Kimberly, Wisconsin and is recognized as a level 16 master trainer on The Registry. Lesa conducts many different early childhood training and workshops through CCR&R for high school students learning about early care and regulation as well as child care professionals including family and group childcare teachers, staff, program administrators.

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and training in early childhood speech and language development as well as multicultural and multilingual aspects of speech language pathology. At Arizona State University, she obtained a Master of Science degree in Communication Disorders and completed the Graduate Clinical Training Program in Bilingual Speech Language Pathology. She has lived in Spain and Belize, and has traveled for extended periods throughout Mexico and Latin America. Julie has been practicing as a speech pathologist for over 10 years and has been working as a consultant for the State of Wisconsin, school districts in Southern Wisconsin, and non-profit organizations such as the Birth to 3 program. She is married, has two young children, and lives in Madison, WI.

For the past 10 years, Julie has been working with and advising Birth to 3 and school district (Early Childhood) teams and programs on best practices for performing dual language assessments and ways to determine between typical dual language development and language disorder. She has provided in-service trainings to Birth to 3 and elementary school staff throughout Southern Wisconsin on dual language development, language assessment considerations, and best practices for special education services with dual language children and families.

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Julie Kleinheinz Byrnes

Available for training in: Central Wisconsin (La Crosse, Oshkosh and south of those), Southern Wisconsin

Available for training of: 4K, School District, Home Visiting, Birth to Three

Julie Kleinheinz Byrnes is a licensed speech language pathologist and small business owner of a private practice called Early Foundations, LLC. She is fluent in English and Spanish and possesses specialized education

Amber Carlsrud

Available for training in: Northwestern and Central Wisconsin

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, School District, CESA, Home Visiting Program, Hospital or Clinic, Birth to Three, Head Start/Early Head Start, Institute of Higher Education, Statewide Association, State Agency

Amber Carlsrud is an early childhood/early child special education teacher in the Barron Area School District. She brings a passion for language, social and emotional development and the intertwined connection to school readiness. Amber emphasizes families as partners and the importance of celebrating culture in our school communities as a way to enhance learning.

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Nar Doumbya

Available for training in: Statewide

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, School District, CESA, CCR&R, Home Visiting Program, Hospital or Clinic, Birth to Three, Head Start/Early Head Start, Institute of Higher Education, Statewide Association, State Agency

I am a Registry Approved Master Trainer and Consultant with a B.A. in Language and Literacy and a M.S. in Early Childhood Studies. I have over twelve years of experience in early education as a lead teacher, director, professional development specialist and consultant. My professional endorsements, specialties, and interests include: Diversity, Social Justice and Equity, WIDA Dual Language Learner Master Cadre, Family Engagement, Socio-emotional Development, Adult Learning and Development, and Professionalism.

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Rosie Banda Hoeffner

Available for training in: Northeastern Wisconsin

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, School District, CESA, CCR&R, FRC, Home Visiting Program, Hospital or Clinic, Birth to Three, Head Start/Early Head Start, Tribal Entity

My name is Rosie Banda Hoeffner and I grew up as a Dual Language Learner while living in South Texas.

I have worked with young children for 26 years, 10 years with Dual Language Learners (6 years in Reynosa, México and 4 years in various US states).

I am currently the Bilingual Specialist for Child Care Resource and Referral in Kimberly, Wisconsin. One of my current responsibilities is to assist English and Spanish speaking families find child care. In addition, I help child care center directors and family child care providers communicate with Spanish speaking families by interpreting and translating needed documents. I also teach Early Childhood classes in both English and Spanish to teachers, childcare providers, and families.

Finally, I am a facilitator for Parent Cafés offered to families in either English or Spanish. I recently became a recipient of the Spanish Language Endorsement given by The Registry.

I believe if we inform educators and legislators regarding the benefits of DLL programs, the possibility exists for DLL programs to be instituted statewide.

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Diane S Kohl

Available for training in: Statewide

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, School District, CESA, CCR&R, Head Start/Early Head Start, Institute of Higher Education, Statewide Association, State Agency

My focus has been primarily on working with teachers and students at the preschool through kindergarten level, as well as their families, in the areas of oral language development, comprehension and communication, and emergent/early literacy skills.

I have ten years teaching experience in the public schools, having worked as an ESL teacher in Fond du Lac, in Menasha as a Kindergarten Bilingual Teacher in the Two Way Immersion program for several years and as an ELL teacher in Menasha, working mainly with EC, 4K and 5K programs. During this time, I was also Elementary (PK-6) Science Curriculum Coordinator for the Menasha School District. The past two years I have

worked with the Menasha Joint School District as a Teacher Trainer/Consultant, designing and providing professional development and on-site training for the 4K program teachers, administrators, and support staff, as well as providing ELL support in the 4K classrooms of the District.

I work with teachers to increase their understanding of and skills to work with DLLS/ELLs, primarily in the areas of oral language development, early/emergent literacy, and content comprehension. I have created and presented sessions on What are ELLs/DLLS, How Dual Language Learners Learn, the Impact of Home Language and its relationship to Second (or subsequent) Language Learning and Literacy, ELL Methods to Implement in the 4K classroom as well as Emergent Literacy and Dual Language Learners, among others.

My teaching licensures are in Early Childhood, Regular Education PK-8, English as a Second Language, and Bilingual-Bicultural Education. I have advanced training in emergent and early literacy, as well as integrating content with literacy.

My personal philosophy holds that dual language development increases academic and life success, that strong first language skills help develop strong second (and subsequent) language skills, and that communication is key.

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Jan Marson

Available for training in: CESA 4

Available for training of: CESA

Jan served as a classroom teacher for over 25 years in the School District of La Crosse. She spent most of her teaching years in elementary classrooms. While she was teaching, Jan served on numerous committees and presented on staff development days. In addition to her classroom time in the district, Jan worked for 5 years as an Elementary Literacy Specialist and Instructional Coach. Jan retired from the School District of La Crosse in 2014. Jan joined CESA #4 in August 2015. She is the Director of Instructional Services.

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Olga Neira

Available for training in: Dane County, Milwaukee

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, Head Start/Early Head Start, Institute of Higher Education

Olga Neira is originally from Bogota, Colombia. She has been in the field of Early Childhood Education for 14 years. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Arts with a major in Mass Communication. At the beginning of her work in the field of Child Care, Olga was a Family Child Care Provider for 8 years, and then she worked as an Administrative Assistant in Head Start for more than three years. She currently works as Bilingual Professional Development Counselor at WECA, she teaches Child Care courses at the Technical College in Madison WI. Olga is The Registry PDAS trainer with an endorsement in Spanish language.

SPANISH: Olga Neira es originaria de Bogotá, Colombia. Ella ha estado en el campo del cuidado y educación infantil durante 14 años. Olga tiene una Licenciatura en Artes con especialización en Medios de Comunicación. Al comienzo de su trabajo en este campo, Olga fue proveedora de cuidado infantil familiar durante 8 años y luego trabajó como asistente administrativa en Head Start durante más de tres años. Actualmente trabaja como consejera bilingüe de desarrollo profesional en WECA y enseña cursos de cuidado de niños en la Escuela Técnica en Madison WI. Olga es una entrenadora de "The Registry PDAS" con una ratificación en el idioma español.

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Romilia E. Schlueter

Available for training in: Dane County, Statewide

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, School District, CESA, CCR&R, FRC, Home Visiting Program, Birth to Three, Head Start/Early Head Start, Statewide Association, State Agency, Tribal Entity

Bilingual Quality Improvement Specialist, Romilia Schlueter joined SFTA's team in 2011, has a Masters in Religious Studies and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a minor in Psychology. She completed the UW Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Certificate program in June 2013 and has the WI-AIMH Endorsement as an Infant Family Associate (I).

Romilia is a 20-year professional in the field of family support and early childhood in the Dane County area and has worked primarily but not exclusively with low-income families and Latina/Latinos and other service providers and policy makers. In both her professional and personal life, Ms. Schlueter is recognized as a leader in the field of early childhood and beyond. As a former staff member for the Catholic Diocese and former Director of the Dane County Family Resource Center, Ms. Schlueter established credibility for both her direct service work with families, children and early childhood professionals and her community development efforts. Added to this strong foundation are essential skill sets in being a cultural broker to Latinas and Latinos. Romilia is endorsed by the WI Registry as bilingual in English and Spanish and has translated many of the trainings required by YoungStar.

Romilia is the hostess of "Apoyando Familias-Aprendiendo Juntos" (Supporting Families-Learning Together) SFTA's early childhood education class delivered live over the Spanish radio. Her academic and professional training have made her an effective host of this classroom format. Her training in evidence-based models for school readiness and abuse and neglect prevention such as Parents as Teachers and Strengthening Families combined with her expertise as an early childhood master trainer are a solid foundation for effective programming.

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Valerie Shaw

Available for training in: Southwestern Wisconsin

Available for training of: School District

Valerie Shaw is a K-12 ESL teacher in the Platteville School District – a small college town in southwestern Wisconsin. In this role, her work has included professional development in the following areas: differentiation strategies for English language learners (ELLs) in mainstream classes, SIOP Training, and using assessment data to drive instructional decision making. Valerie is also the Title III Program Coordinator for CESA 3 (Cooperative Education Services Agency 3), working with nearly 30 districts, specifically those in rural areas on Title III ESL issues.

Valerie has a wide variety of professional development experiences, both as a participant and a facilitator. She works closely with other school districts in CESA agencies to deliver the most up to date information on issues surrounding ELs, and as a practicing teacher, is deeply committed to ensuring that the professional development she delivers meets the needs of participants and the PD is practical and relevant.

Valerie holds a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Northern Iowa, an ESL certification from Drexel University and a K-12 certification licensure in ESL from Hamline University. She also has been trained in the SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol).

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Brianna Smit

Available for training in: CESA 10

Available for training of: 4K, School District, CESA

My name is Brianna Smit. I am the EL Coordinator/Resource Teacher for the Eau Claire School District. I support the English Learners teachers at our K-12 sites. I have a strong background with working with English learners as this is my 10th year of service. Through the Master Cadre training I have gained knowledge and numerous resources that have helped me make the connection to DLLs at the early childhood level. It is pertinent as a state that we educate and empower the caregivers and teachers for our DLLs. I feel this training combined with my background makes me a qualified presenter on this topic.

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Debbie Springsguth

Available for training in: Statewide

Available for training of: Head Start/Early Head Start

I have worked in Early Childhood Education for almost 20 years. My Bachelor's Degree is in Linguistics and my Master's Degree is in Training and Development. When I applied to take the course, I was working at United Migrant Opportunity Services Migrant and Seasonal Head Start as the Child Development Manager.

I have worked for Head Start in Nebraska for two years. In this program, I had many Dual Language Learners in my classroom. I had a translator who assisted me in supporting the home language of the children. I learned Spanish from the children and the children learned English from me!

My philosophy is to support children in acquiring language while supporting the family in preserving their home language and culture. The home language is gift that must be supported.

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Carrie J. Steinke

Available for training in: Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara, and Wood Counties

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, 4K Program, CCR&R

Carrie Steinke is a Wisconsin Registry approved Master Trainer with 10 years of training experience and more than 20 years in the Early Childhood profession. She holds a B.A. in General Studies with a concentration in Child and Adolescent Psychology and has three courses to complete before finishing a B.S. in Business Management and Leadership.

Carrie believes that there is immense value in diversity in Early Childhood programs, and through her

professional and personal life, hopes to help others come to recognize and celebrate this fact as well. In her professional life, Carrie currently assists Early Childhood professionals as a Quality Improvement Specialist at Childcaring, a Child Care Resource and Referral agency in Central Wisconsin that serves 10 counties. Before joining Childcaring over 10 years ago, Carrie served as a family child care provider, preschool teacher, and Christian Education Director.

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Sherri Underwood

Available for training in: Southwestern Wisconsin

Available for training of: Group Child Care, Family Child Care, School-Age Care, CCR&R, Head Start/Early Head Start

I believe all children and families should receive the highest quality services. It is incumbent upon professionals in agencies and programs working with children to seek out education, training, and resources to make those high-quality services possible. Early childhood professionals in Wisconsin are beginning to have increased training and tools available to heighten their level of professionalism in serving dual language learners, and I am excited to be able to facilitate trainings and provide resources for child care programs. I have a Bachelor's degree in Spanish and a Master's in Marital and Family Therapy and Professional Counseling. I also received certification in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). I spent four years teaching Spanish in the public school system. As an early childhood professional working in a child care resource and referral agency, I am currently a Master level PDAS-approved trainer through Wisconsin's Registry system. After participation in the Dual Language Learner Master Cadre program through WIDA, I have the knowledge and resources necessary for training child care programs to work with dual language learners and their families.

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Further Information

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