Building Inclusive Communities in Early Childhood
October 21, 2019
Devens Common Center, Devens, MA
9:00am-3:30pm
Registration begins at 8:30am

The Departments of Early Education and Care (EEC) and Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) invite:

Special Education Directors, Early Childhood Coordinators, Teachers, Early Care and Education Directors, Head Start Disabilities/Education Coordinators, Family Services Coordinators, Commonwealth Preschool Partnership grantees, Early Intervention providers, Coordinated Family and Community Engagement grantees and Community Partners

Join us to:
• Hear from renowned, national experts on inclusion - Rich Villa and Dr. Jacque Thousand
• Learn about regulations, polices, and best practices to create quality inclusive early childhood services
• Ensure services are grounded in access, participation and supports for children with and without disabilities
• Receive leadership strategies to support inclusion
• Learn support strategies to engage families around inclusive practices
• Hear about an opportunity to participate in the second cohort of the BIC initiative.

Building Inclusive Community team application process:
• EEC and DESE will be choosing 5 new school district teams to participate in the BIC initiative. Please see the following criteria:
  ➢ Priority will be given to teams that include the mixed delivery system (public and community program teachers, directors, coordinators, Early Intervention, Head Start and where they exist, a Preschool Expansion Grant liaison).

Outcomes of the Building Inclusive Community (BIC) Initiative:
• Receive information regarding The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act definition and what the research says about inclusion and inclusive practices in early childhood;
• Develop an action plan that describes how your team will create strong partnerships with community partners to strengthen inclusive practices;
• Receive strategies for building relationships with families to engage them in decisions around inclusion;
• Learn and implement practices to address disproportionality and implicit bias;
• Receive strategies, resources, and tools for developing appropriate practices for promoting inclusive settings and,
• Learn ways to implement good inclusive practices and sustain this work to build strong community connections for children with and without disabilities

There is no cost to attend this kick-off conference or to participate in this initiative.

Register here: bit.ly/bicot21