

Dana Bell is Associate Director for Early Childhood Projects and Senior Research Scientist I at the Center for Education Policy Research at the University of New Mexico. She collaborates with partners in the early childhood as well as workforce training fields to support their efforts to effect data-informed policy change. Her work with CEPR focuses on state and local efforts to improve outcomes for New Mexico children, with current projects including the state's first two Annual Home Visiting Outcomes Reports; a multiyear implementation study of the State's federally-funded home visiting outreach to family child care centers; studies of the child care sector; and leadership positions with statewide and local cross-sectoral initiatives, such as the Early Childhood Accountability Partnership, a collective impact network in central New Mexico. Prior to joining CEPR, Dana worked for more than fifteen years as a freelance researcher, writer and editor in a variety of academic and nonprofit settings, including for the University of New Mexico and the U.S. Department of Education. Before moving to New Mexico, Dana was project associate at the Center for Ethics and Social Policy in Berkeley, CA, where she helped design and facilitate projects to foster cross-sectoral collaborations on social and economic public policy initiatives. Dana earned her Master of Divinity degree at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA, with a program emphasis on education and social change. She has also worked as an elementary classroom teacher and writing specialist in Albuquerque Public Schools, and in the children's book publishing industry in New York.