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Group Website: [Family Engagement Community of Practice](#)

## 2021-22 Family Engagement Community of Practice (CoP)

### AGENDA

January 21, 2021, from 1:00 to 2:30

**1:00-1:15 Welcome Participants and Special Guest, Introduce Facilitators**

- Quick review of December session (Self-Reflection, Self-Care, and Self-Compassion)
- Welcome special guest, Lillian Mallinson, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Head Start

**1:15-1:45 Topic Introduction and Small Group Discussion #1: *Relationships & Social Connectedness***

“Social relationships and the networks they create have a crucial impact on our health, well-being, and longevity.” – [The Work and Well-Being Initiative](#) (WWBI), Harvard and MIT

Sample questions:

- When you think of relationships and social connectedness, what comes to mind?
- What is the role of family engagement professionals in building and sustaining relationships? With colleagues? Families? Students? Communities?
- How do our physical and social environments, policies, and programs strengthen, promote, neglect or disrupt social connections?
- How do we evaluate our work, programs, and systems to understand and improve relationships and social connections?

**1:45-1:55 Whole Group Discussion**

**1:55-2:25 Topic Introduction and Small Group Discussion #2: *Relationships and Key Resources***

We are being joined by Lillian Mallinson, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Head Start, Region V. Lillian will talk about relationships and some of the resources on the [Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center](#) (ECLKC), which is one of the best websites for family engagement.

Sample questions:

- How do you create opportunities to help families feel safe and comfortable enough to express their true selves with you?
- How do you contribute to building a parent’s level of trust, openness, and ability to work with you as a partner on their parenting journey?
- What makes conversations challenging and why should we prepare for them?
- What strategies can we use during conversations with families?

**2:25-2:30 Whole Group Discussion and Closing Comments. *Remember to complete survey!***

[Survey for this session](#) (to share knowledge and receive clock hour certificate).