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Please tell us (in a few sentences) about your path to EC leadership. For example – Where did you go to undergrad- what was your major? Other: What EC jobs have you had; when did you first think about being a PST/leader in EC?

*I graduated from college in English Lit., then worked in the Madison schools as a Handicapped Teacher's Aide, working first with elementary aged children with autism (then labeled "emotionally disturbed") and later with children who had a variety of disabilities. I loved everything about my new field. (At that time I didn't know about paperwork)! Since I wanted to work with children with all types of disabilities I decided to get my teaching credential in early childhood special education. As I lived in Madison I applied to the special education department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was lucky enough to be admitted to the program with Lisbeth Vincent. Lisbeth was way ahead of her time in teaching her students about routines based interventions, working with parents, working as transdisciplinary teams and working as consultants in natural environments. My training with Lisbeth has always been one of my strengths. I think that Lisbeth recognized some leadership skills in me way back when and nurtured them. When a mid-semester opening came up in the Madison Schools, she encouraged me to apply. I started with a temporary credential as one of their two 0-3 teachers. I taught 0-3 and 3-5 for the Madison schools, 0-3 for San Diego County in CA, worked as an EC and Elementary Coordinator in Middleton-Cross Plains, WI and as an itinerant teacher in Madison and Middleton-WI. Currently I work as coordinator of the Wisconsin state SIG grant on EC Leadership.*

Please tell us about your special interests/knowledge in our field which others might contact you about.

*Autism and community based programming-especially helping communities take those first steps toward identifying how to move from self contained classes to a broader range of options including classrooms. I like to work with teams in a supportive role.*

Is there anything else you'd like other, newer EC leaders to know? \_\_\_\_

*This state has great networking opportunities and positive, supportive networking is the best resource available to all of us. No matter where we are in the state-small or large community-or where we are in our career-just starting or years in. AND networking is generally FREE! (It also makes you feel good).*