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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 began my undergraduate degree when it was acceptable to be called a Severe/Profound/Multiply-Handicapped major, as well as an Early Childhood major. I had the great learning opportunity to student teach in an urban inner city school followed by teaching Early Childhood: Special Education in an economically disadvantaged rural school district. The absolute importance of Early Childhood education became abundantly clear to me when my career switched to supporting elementary and middle school students with autism spectrum disorders. Currently, I assist teachers in meeting the needs of learners with disabilities across all age ranges, especially those with challenging behaviors.**

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

**The majority of my graduate level of study concentrated on research based curriculum and practices for supporting preschoolers (and older students) with autism spectrum disorders. I am comfortable supporting a gentle and functional Applied Behavioral Analysis model, especially Verbal Behavior and Pivotal Response Teaching. Peer mediated social skill instruction is another area of strong interest. I am a strong proponent for understanding the neuro-biology of behaviorally based disabilities and will continue to advocate for positive behavioral support until I draw my last breath.**