



Institute for the Development Of Educational Advancement

**Session &
Program Agenda**

Hilton Virginia Beach- Ballroom A,B,C

September 9th & 10th

Virginia Beach, VA

IDEA
Invitational



Agenda at a Glance

September 9th

7:00am -8:00am

Registration and Check-in

8:00am -10:45am

Welcome and General Session- Ballroom

- 8:00-8:15- Welcome
- 8:15-9:30-Immigration 101: Pathways to Immigration, the Current Landscape, and a Better Way Forward- [Jeanne Atkinson & Aaron Gentry](#)
- 9:15-10:45- Current Trends in US Agriculture- [Jessica Castañeda](#)

10:45am - 11:00 am

Break

11:00am - 12pm

Breakout Sessions (in Ballroom A, B,C)

- Room A: How to Provide Effective and Meaningful Instructional Services- [Tracie Kalic and Emily Hoffman](#)
- Room B: IDRC Tools and Resources- [Jessica Castañeda](#)
- Room C: MSIX Made Clear: Tools, Data, Roles, and Reports- [Melissa Schelah & Maggie Villarroel](#)

12:00pm-1:00pm

Lunch Provided

1:00pm-2:00pm

Breakout Sessions (in Ballroom A, B,C)

- Room A: New York Academies- Support for 9th-12th Students- [Odilia Coffta, Emily Callaghan, Felix Guzman](#)
- Room B: Strengthening Support for Out of School Youth Through Effective Identification and Engagement- [Deb Benitez and Zujaila Ornelas](#)
- Room C: Introduction to the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office- [Flora Chacon](#)

2:00pm-2:15pm

Break

2:15pm-4:00pm

Afternoon General Session- Ballroom

- 2:15-2:30- Media Tools- [Jessica Castañeda](#)
- 2:30 3:45- Beyond Outreach: Networking Strategies for Lasting Agribusiness Partnerships- [Efrain Magallanes & Zujaila Ornelas](#)
- 3:45-4:00 Closing



Agenda at a Glance

September 10th

7:00am -8:00am

Registration and Check-in

8:00am -9:45am

Welcome and General Session- Ballroom

8:00-9:00- Migrant Clinicians Network Resources- [Esther Pizza](#)

9:00-9:45 New Learning Resources- Case Studies, Portal Tools, and English as a Second Language Resources- [Jessica Castañeda](#)

9:45am - 10:00am

Break

10:00am-11:00am

Breakout Sessions In Ballroom A,B,C

- Room A: From Blank Page to Best Practice- Using AI- [Jessica Castañeda](#)
- Room B: Strong Recruiters- Student Focused, Meaningful Results- [Deke Showman & Lori Potutschnig](#)
- Room C: Building a Culture of Continuous Improvement in MEP- [Lisa Severino & Deb Benitez](#)

11:00am -12:00pm

Breakout Sessions In Ballroom A,B,C

- Room A: Understanding how all parts of MEP work together- [Jessica Castañeda](#)
- Room B; When ID&R Data Gathering Becomes More Meaningful Than an Expectation- [Isaura Barreto & Ita Mendoza](#)
- Room C: Quality Control in The ID&R World- [Melissa Schelah](#)

12:00pm-1:00pm

Lunch Provided

1:00pm-4:00pm

Afternoon General Session Ballroom

- 1:00-2:15- MSIX Overview- [Benjamin Starr & Tyler Salensky](#)
- 2:15-2:30- Break
- 2:30-4:00- Test Your Knowledge: Large Group Eligibility Scenarios Activity- [IDRC](#)



Presenter Information

Jeanine Atkinson



As Vice President & Chief Program Officer of the National Immigration Forum, Ms. Atkinson oversees the Forum's work with faith communities, law enforcement, business leaders, and national security experts to advance sound federal immigration solutions that strengthen American communities while valuing the humanity of immigrants.

Ms. Atkinson was the Executive Director of CLINIC, the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, from 2013 -2019. Prior to joining CLINIC, Ms. Atkinson served as the Director of Catholic Charities' Immigration Legal Services program and the Refugee Center for the Archdiocese of Washington. Ms. Atkinson speaks nationally and has worked with local, national, and international partners to protect the rights of immigrants and to ensure the smooth implementation of legal immigration programs.

Ms. Atkinson chairs the Alliance to End Human Trafficking and sits on the boards of the International Catholic Migration Commission, Inc and Catholics for Family Peace.

Isaura Barreto



Isaura Barreto has been committed to the Migrant Education Program since June 2000, when she began as a local recruiter. She later advanced to roles as a regional recruiter and State Identification & Recruitment Coordinator.

Throughout her career, Isaura has participated in mass recruitment efforts, advocated for countless migrant families, and supported other states with their intra-state recruitment and re-interview initiatives. Her work has focused on ensuring that migrant children and youth have access to the educational services and support they need to succeed.



Presenter Information

Deb Benitez

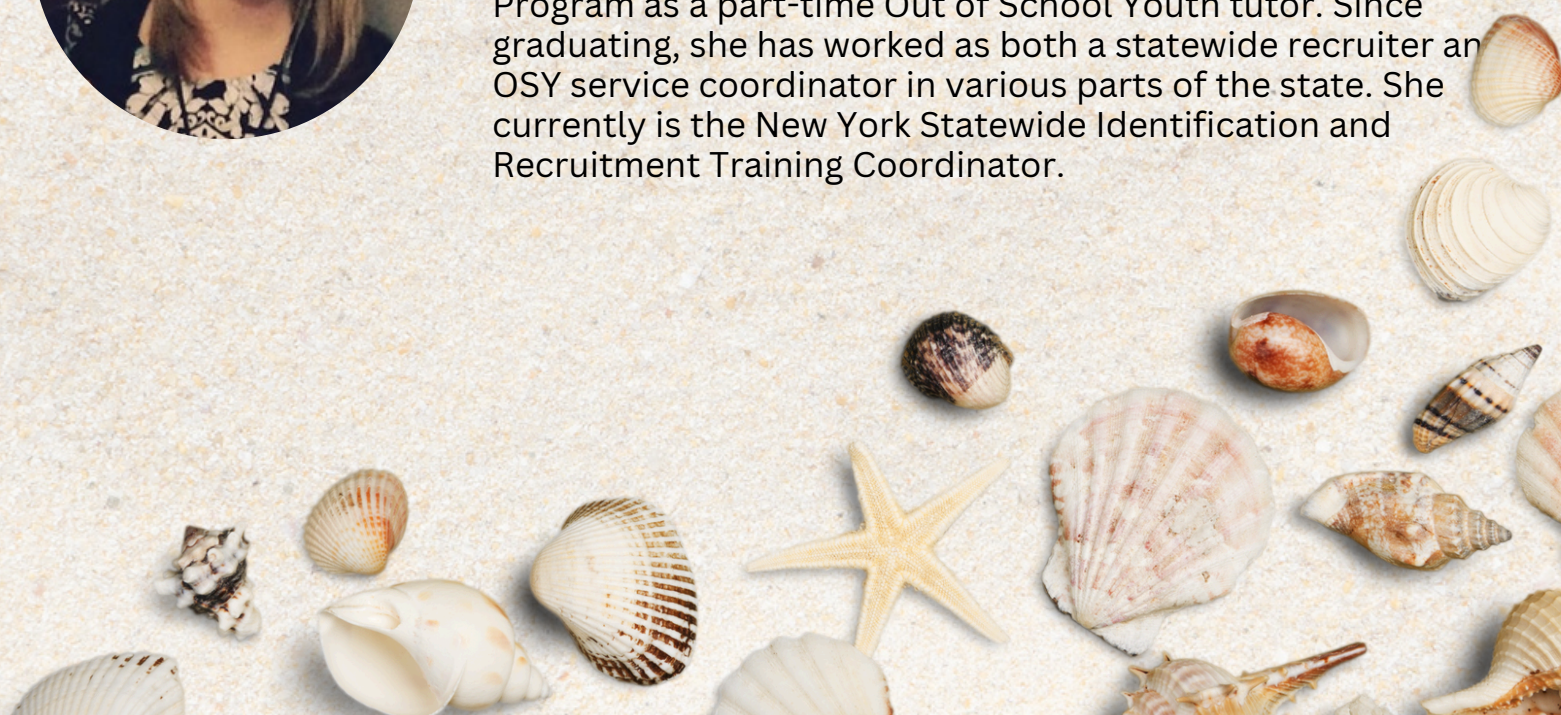


Debra Benitez, PhD, is a Research Director and Director of Migrant Education Services at WestEd, where she provides strategic leadership for research, evaluation, and systems improvement initiatives that strengthen education programs nationwide. She partners with state and local education agencies to design and implement evidence-based solutions that advance data-informed decision-making, continuous improvement, strategic planning, and organizational effectiveness to improve outcomes for migratory students and other highly mobile youth. Dr. Benitez is recognized for translating research and evaluation into practical strategies that strengthen educational systems, inform policy and practice, and build the capacity of education leaders to drive sustainable improvement. Before joining WestEd, Dr. Benitez served as a special education teacher and evaluation consultant in K-12 schools and nonprofit organizations throughout California.

Emily Callaghan



Emily Callaghan has been involved in the NYS Migrant Education Program for 16 years. She attended SUNY Brockport and obtained degrees in Spanish Language, Literature and Culture and Business Administration, and has a Master's Degree in Adult Education from SUNY Buffalo State. During her time studying at SUNY Brockport, Emily began working for the Migrant Education Program as a part-time Out of School Youth tutor. Since graduating, she has worked as both a statewide recruiter and OSY service coordinator in various parts of the state. She currently is the New York Statewide Identification and Recruitment Training Coordinator.



Presenter Information

Jessica Castañeda



Jessica Castañeda has worked 26 years in the field of education with a primary focus of disadvantaged students in the Title I, Part C. She has worked in every aspect of the program from recruiting students, working with farmers and agribusinesses to designing and implementing direct instruction to students of all ages and developing summer programs and grant writing. She has also taught second language instruction with youth and adults and coordinated project based learning sites with 21st Century Afterschool Projects. She has worked the past 10 years with the Consortium projects and is the Project Director for the 32 State IDRC Consortium. In addition, she is a project coordinator for IDEA.

Flora Chacon



Dr. Flora Chacon has worked with community-based organizations and served many children and families throughout her journey to becoming a change agent for over 30 years. Some of the projects she has participated in include supporting and mentoring young mothers, providing resources to families in crisis, and sharing her knowledge of the distinct constructs of leadership with multifaceted groups. Inspiring teamwork, honest communication, and personal responsibility are the foundations of her commitment to success.

Dr. Chacon obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management and a Master of Arts Degree in Organizational Management and Leadership with an emphasis in Conflict Management and Peace Making. Flora also earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership. Her dissertation focused on transitioning children to public school districts and empowering families to take action to ensure access to quality education. Flora is a contributing published author of *Cultura and Educational Leadership: Praxis and Perspectives*, focusing on the educational leadership contribution of agricultural workers.

Odilia Cofta



Odilia R. Cofta is an administrator with close to 20 years of experience supporting the New York State Migrant Education Program. As Associate Director of the New York State Identification and Recruitment/MIS2000/MSIX Program, she provides leadership in data administration, compliance, program development, staff training, and continuous improvement across programs statewide. Odilia has presented at national conferences on migrant education data, MSIX, recruitment, privacy, and program implementation. She holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Pittsburgh and is passionate about using data, collaboration, and accessible programming to strengthen educational opportunities for migrant students and their families.



Presenter Information

Felix Guzman



Felix Guzman has been working with the New York State Migrant Education Program for six years. He has worked with migrant students and families across Long Island. He earned an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences from Suffolk County Community College and a Bachelor's Degree in General and Special Child Study with concentration in Spanish from St. Joseph's University. He is currently pursuing graduate studies in Bilingual Education and TESOL. Throughout his experience with the Migrant Education Program, Felix has worked as a Community Service Advocate, tutor, and recruiter, supporting migrant families and Out-of-School Youth. He is currently the Statewide Identification and Recruiter for Long Island, New York State.

Emily Hoffman



Emily Hoffman serves as CES Director of the Massachusetts Migrant Education Program. Ms. Hoffman has previous experience in administration, professional development, and cross-cultural educational programming. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic, and worked as a program director for educational non-profits in the Boston area. Ms. Hoffman has worked as a regional and state director in the migrant program since 2010. She holds a M.Ed. in Museum Education from Bank Street School of Education in New York, NY and a BA from Hampshire College in Amherst, MA in Science Education and Biology.

Aaron Gentry



Aaron Gentry has over 20 years of experience in child welfare and has held positions in private non-profit, state child welfare, and the Administration for Children and Families. His current work is centered on the intersection of immigration and child welfare with a focus on how child welfare regulations and practice affect immigrant children and families. Aaron holds a Master's Degree in Non-Profit Management.



Presenter Information

Tracie Kalic



Tracie Kalic is the director of the Innovative Strategies for Out-of-School and Secondary Youth (iSOSY) Consortium. The 16-state iSOSY Consortium Incentive Grant (CIG), funded by the Office of Migrant Education (OME) at the United States Department of Education (USDE), develops resources and materials to address the needs of migratory youth. Its products help students identify and achieve their academic and career goals with support from innovative technology.

Tracie has 30 years of education experience, starting her career as a teacher at the high school and university level. Tracie has assisted school districts in implementing and evaluating federal programs, including Title I, Part A and Title I, Part C. She has provided technical assistance to states across the country to help establish systems of support for at-risk students, both in and out of school. Tracie also assisted in the development of a Multi-Tier System of Support for secondary students in literacy, mathematics, and behavior for the state of Kansas.

Efrain Magallanes



Efrain was born in Mexico and migrated between Mexico, Yuma, and Monterey County until the age of 18, following his father, a farm worker and his hero. His father's sacrifices made Efrain the first in his family to graduate from college. For 25 years, Efrain has served as the Migrant Education Program (MEP) Manager for Region 16 in California, expertly coordinating identification and recruitment, data, and out-of-school youth services. The MEP chose him, and he embraces the work as his calling.

Known for sharing recruitment strategies at I&R Committee events, Efrain's work feels like purpose, not labor. His two sons are his pride and joy, grounding him daily. He finds joy in life's simple pleasures, including camping, biking, and plain coffee. To Efrain, life is truly beautiful.

Ita Mendoza



Ita Mendoza is the Regional Coordinator for the Title I Part C Education Program at ESU 9 in Hastings, Nebraska. She previously served as the State ID&R Coordinator and now works alongside her team to identify and recruit eligible migratory children and youth and coordinate services and support for them and their families across 18 central Nebraska counties. With a background in PreK–12 education, school counseling, and educational leadership, Ita is passionate about using data, collaboration, and creative problem-solving to strengthen program outcomes. She brings a practical, student-centered approach to her work and enjoys finding ways to make complex processes more meaningful, manageable, and impactful.



Presenter Information

Zujaila Ornelas



Zujaila Ornelas, EdD, is a Program Manager of Migrant Education Services at WestEd, where she supports professional learning, technical assistance, and continuous improvement initiatives related to Title I, Part C compliance, federal reporting, comprehensive needs assessments, service delivery planning, and identification and recruitment. Previously, Dr. Ornelas served as State Director and State Identification and Recruitment Coordinator for the Arizona Migrant Education Program, overseeing compliance, grant administration, corrective actions, and the allocation of more than \$10 million in federal funding. She also served as Student Recruitment and Family Engagement Coordinator for Arizona State University's College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), where she supported more than 200 migratory students through the college application process.

Esther Pizza



Esther Pizza serves as Program Manager with Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) where she manages national initiatives focused on improving access to health education, workforce training, and community-centered outreach for underserved, immigrant, and migrant populations. Since joining MCN in 2021, she has coordinated and managed national initiatives that support clinicians, community health workers, and community organizations through training, technical assistance, and the development of culturally and linguistically appropriate educational resources on a variety of public health topics from infectious disease to occupational health and safety. She has a bachelor's degree of Science in Public Health from Salisbury University and is currently based out of Salisbury, MD.

Lori Potutschnig



Lori Potutschnig serves as Project Manager for Region 1 of the Pennsylvania Migrant Education Program at the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU), where she oversees Project Areas 6 and 9. Her work centers on program leadership, student recruitment, family engagement, and partnerships that connect migratory children and families with education and essential supports. Having lived and worked in Bolivia for 16 years, Lori brings a bilingual, cross-cultural perspective and a deep commitment to serving mobile and multilingual communities.



Presenter Information

Tyler Salensky



Tyler Salensky is a Business Analyst at Deloitte, currently living in Washington, DC. Since joining the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX) project in October 2024, he has contributed to system testing, stakeholder engagement, and the development of training materials and webinars that support state users and the U.S. Department of Education.

Melissa Schelah



Melissa Schelah joined IDRC in February 2022 as a Project Specialist. Before joining IDRC, she worked for several years with the Tennessee Migrant Education Program as both a Data Entry Specialist and Recruiter. She managed responsibilities related to the Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR), MSIX, data coordination with local educational agencies, and the identification and recruitment of eligible children and young adults in my region. Her goal is to use her experience to support IDRC's state members and partners in strengthening their identification, recruitment, data, and service-delivery efforts so that eligible children and young adults receive the educational opportunities and support they need. Outside of work, she enjoys listening to audiobooks, completing puzzles, and spending time with her four dogs.

Lisa Severino

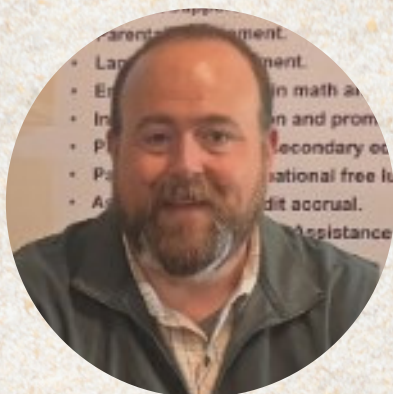


Lisa Severino is a Program Manager at WestEd who leads Migrant Education Services projects focused on the continuous improvement cycle and quality control in identification and recruitment (ID&R). She has led continuous improvement cycle initiatives for multiple state Migrant Education Programs and facilitates professional learning networks that support migrant education professionals in testing, refining, and scaling effective practices. Her work also includes strengthening ID&R quality control systems, improving data quality, and using data visualization to support informed decision-making and program improvement for migratory children and families.



Presenter Information

Deke Showman



Deke Showman is the State Recruitment Supervisor for the Pennsylvania Migrant Education Program. Over his 18 years with PA-MEP, he has served as a Program Supervisor, Recruitment Coordinator, Recruiter, and In-Home Teacher & Aide/Interpreter Intern. His experience includes leading teams, working with out-of-school youth, supporting families, and managing afterschool and summer programs. Outside of work, Deke enjoys spending time with his wife and three children and helping care for the cows on the family farm.

Benjamin Starr



Benjamin Starr is the Project Lead for the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX) at the US Department of Education. Ben has worked for the U.S. Department of Education for over eleven years. Prior to working in OME, Benjamin worked in the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) where he had many roles involved with grantmaking. Dr. Starr earned his Ed.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 2015 and his Master's from Bowie State University in 2012 in Secondary Education: Science. His Bachelor's degree is in Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was a K-12 science teacher for over five years in Maryland. He has also served as a substitute teacher, private tutor, and have taught Spanish and science at a daycare. Ben is 42 years old and happily married with three children, 14- and 13-year-old sons, and an 8-year-old daughter. In his spare time, he enjoys playing soccer and reading.

Maggie Villarroel



Maggie Villarroel is the Identification and Recruitment Coordinator for the Mississippi Migrant Education Service Center (MMESC). She has the privilege of leading efforts to identify, recruit, and connect eligible migrant students and their families with educational opportunities that can make a lasting difference in their lives. Working alongside an outstanding team of recruiters, she is passionate about ensuring that every eligible student has access to the support and resources they deserve. Originally from Venezuela, she understands the importance of opportunity, perseverance, and the power of education. Being fluent in both Spanish and English allows her to build trust with the families we serve and to advocate for their unique needs with compassion and cultural understanding.

Session Descriptions September 9th

Immigration 101: Pathways to Immigration, the Current Landscape, and a Better Way Forward- Jeanne Atkinson & Aaron Gentry

Immigration is one of the more consequential issues of our time. This panel session U.S. immigration policy in the Trump administration, the impact of these changes, and recommendations for fair, firm, and compassionate immigration solutions.

Current US Agriculture Trends- Jessica Castañeda

This session will delve deep into the areas of agriculture that impact movement of workers from one place to another. If one change is constant in the world of agriculture it is change itself. There are immense pressures facing the industry and it is important for staff to understand these and the impacts it has on the industry and those we work to serve. Currently U.S. agriculture faces a severe economic downturn driven by soaring production costs, plummeting commodity prices, and tighter profit margins. Farmers struggle with record farm debt, export disruptions from shifting trade and tariff policies, persistent labor shortages, and increasing climate and weather pressures. In addition to the challenges we will explore that is going well in the industry.

How to Provide Effective and Meaningful Instructional Services- Tracie Kalic & Emily Hoffman

How do you plan programming to maximize effective and meaningful instruction while maintaining the flexibility to meet students' needs?

The Innovative Strategies for Out-of-School and Secondary Youth (iSOSY) Consortium offers hundreds of resources designed to connect with, educate, and support migratory adolescent students. Its Catalog of Resources helps staff identify materials based on academic level, English proficiency, available instructional time, and relevant topics. In this workshop, participants will explore how to identify student needs, navigate and select appropriate iSOSY resources, and use the iSOSY Student Portal to support instruction. Participants will also be introduced to professional learning tools that support curriculum implementation, staff development, and personal wellness.

IDRC Tools and Resources-Jessica Castañeda

IDRC has a myriad of resources that can be accessed by staff immediately. These include media resources, learning tools, language resources, maps, agriculture data and visualizations, self guided learning courses, videos and more. Join this session to get an indepth overview of what tools are available.





Session Descriptions September 9th

Media Tools

This short session will share media resources such as videos and sample marketing materials that are available through IDRC.

Beyond Outreach: Networking Strategies for Lasting Agribusiness Partnerships-Efrain Magallanes & Zujaila Ornelas

This session is designed for coordinators and state leaders seeking to strengthen connections with local agribusinesses through intentional and strategic engagement. Participants will explore practical approaches for developing and sustaining relationships that move beyond one-time outreach to foster long-term collaboration benefiting Migrant Education Program (MEP) staff, students, families, and employers. Using a California Region 16 (CA R16) case study, the session will highlight how a recruiter's initial outreach, an ID&R coordinator's ongoing engagement, and a regional director's leadership worked together to build and sustain successful agribusiness partnerships. Through interactive discussions and activities, participants will identify priority partners, assess local networking opportunities, and develop an actionable plan with clearly defined roles and responsibilities to strengthen partnerships in their state or region.



Session Descriptions September 9th



MSIX Made Clear: Tools, Data, Roles, and Reports- Melissa Schelah & Maggie Villarroel

This interactive session will build participants' understanding of MSIX and how to use it effectively. Participants will explore IDRC tools and resources, and review the Minimum Data Elements (MDEs) that require the most attention. The session will also examine MSIX roles, available reports, and how they can support students and program operations. Instructional videos, practical examples, and live mock MSIX demonstrations will provide hands-on experience navigating the system and using its reports.

New York Youth Academies- Support for 9th-12 Students- Odilia Cofta, Felix Guzman, Emilyy Callagher

This session will explore how the New York State Migrant Education Program's Leadership Academy helps migratory students overcome barriers and increase their likelihood of graduating from high school. Since 2017, the Academy has served approximately 400 high school students, with more than 95% graduating or remaining on track to graduate. Participants will learn about the Academy's key components, including college readiness, self-awareness, leadership development, hands-on learning, mentorship, and opportunities to experience college life and earn college credits. Join us to explore the design of this impactful program and the lessons learned from a decade of implementation.

Strengthening Support for Out of School Youth Through Effective Identification and Engagement- Deb Benitez & Zujaila Ornelas

This session is designed for recruiters, Out-of-School youth (OSY) liaisons and advocates, service providers, and program administrators seeking to strengthen their knowledge and practices for identifying, recruiting, and providing services to OSY. Participants will explore effective strategies for engaging this unique population and learn practical approaches to improving access to meaningful services and support. Through interactive discussions and firsthand stories from former OSY, participants will gain valuable insights into the challenges these youth face and the resilience, determination, and success that are possible with strong, student-centered support.

Introduction to Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office- Flora Chacon

The Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Collaboration Office provides a comprehensive orientation to the range of services delivered through Migrant and Seasonal Start programs, which collectively serve families across 25 states nationwide. This session invites participants to engage in meaningful dialogue and critical examination of strategies to strengthen collaboration and foster sustainable partnerships within their communities. Additionally, participants will be introduced to the Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework, a foundational model that guides efforts to address the complex and evolving needs of agricultural working families with intentionality.



Session Descriptions September 10th

New Learning Resources-Jessica Castañeda

Have you ever gone empty handed to the home of a family or youth in the program and wished you had more tools and resources you could share. What happens if a family asks you to know of resources to help their child read better, help them learn English, find scholarships, learn more about career paths, study math, or learn to write an essay? IDRC has tools to help with each of these areas. Learn about these tools and our new resources to help with English Language Development.

Migrant Health Clinicians Resources-Ester Pizza

Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN) works at the intersection of migration and health to improve access to care for migrant, immigrant, and other underserved populations. This session will provide an overview of MCN's programs, services, and bilingual resources, including Health Network, MCN's continuity-of-care program for mobile patients, and Ventanilla de Salud, a community-based initiative that connects individuals and families with health education, screenings, referrals, and navigation services. Participants will also learn about free educational resources and training opportunities that can support professionals serving migratory children and their families.

From Blank Page to Best Practice- Using AI-Jessica Castañeda

This session will provide an introduction to artificial intelligence (AI), focusing on how it works, processes information, and can support day-to-day work. Participants will explore current generative AI tools and practical ways they can assist with communication, planning, research, organization, and other routine tasks while understanding their limitations.

The session will also address responsible AI use, including risks related to privacy, confidentiality, data security, accuracy, and bias, particularly when working with sensitive student, family, and program information. Through demonstrations and hands-on examples, participants will learn how to use AI thoughtfully and effectively while maintaining professional judgment and protecting sensitive information.

Strong Recruiters- Student Focused, Meaningful Results- Deke Showman, Lori Potutschnig

Recruitment coordinators play a critical role in shaping both the effectiveness of their teams and the impact of their programs. This session focuses on how coordinators can grow as leaders to build confident, accountable recruitment staff, maintain a clear focus on student needs, and produce measurable, meaningful results.

Participants will explore practical strategies for strengthening recruiter performance, setting clear expectations, increasing outreach consistency, and fostering a culture of ownership across project areas. The session will also highlight how to center work around students while using data and outcomes to demonstrate program value to partners and leadership.

Designed for coordinators who want to move beyond managing tasks to leading teams, this session provides actionable tools and real-world practices to help build strong recruiters, keep students at the center, and drive results that matter.



Session Descriptions September 10th

Building a Culture of Continuous Improvement in MEP- Deb Benitez & Lisa Severino

This session is designed for Migrant Education Program (MEP) coordinators, state leaders, data specialists, and program staff seeking to strengthen continuous improvement efforts through effective data use. Participants will explore practical strategies for using data to inform decision-making, identify priorities through the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA), and align services and resources within the Service Delivery Plan (SDP). Through interactive discussions and real-world examples, participants will examine how data literacy can support ongoing program improvement, strengthen stakeholder engagement, and ensure services remain responsive to the evolving needs of migratory children and youth. Participants will leave with practical tools and actionable strategies to foster a culture of continuous improvement and data-informed decision-making within their state or local MEP.

Understanding How all Parts of MEP Work Together-Jessica Castañeda

There are a lot of moving parts in the Migrant Education Program, and it can be challenging for someone new to Title I, Part C to understand how they all connect. This session will provide a practical overview of the major components of the program and help participants see the bigger picture of how each part works together to support migratory students and improve student outcomes. Participants will explore how Identification and Recruitment can be conducted strategically, how the needs assessment helps identify priorities, and how those priorities should drive service delivery. The session will also examine what constitutes a service, what does not, and how recruitment, eligibility, identification of needs, program planning, services, and data all connect. This session is designed to help new staff move beyond understanding individual pieces of the program and begin to see how the entire system works together to ensure that migratory students and families receive the support they need.

When ID&R Data Gathering Becomes More Meaningful Than an Expectation- Isaura Bareto & Ita Mendoza

How can we embrace tools and data, build upon it, and make it work for both state and local programs? Join Isaura and Ita as they share how state and regional ID&R data can move beyond documentation to inform meaningful action. From the Season's Balanced Recruitment Tool and daily logs to Connecteam and Data Studio, discover how data gathering can become more than an expectation - it can become a resource that strengthens recruitment, implementation, and program decisions. Come see how the dots were connected.



Session Descriptions September 10th

Building an Effective Quality Control Process- Melissa Schelah

This session will help participants develop a practical quality control system that strengthens the accuracy, consistency, and defensibility of eligibility determinations. Participants will explore strategies for conducting annual family re-interviews, establishing a second-review process for every Certificate of Eligibility (COE), and identifying potential errors before they become compliance concerns. The session will provide practical steps for assigning responsibilities, tracking reviews, identifying recurring issues, and using findings to improve recruiter training and program.

MSIX Overview from OME- Benjamin Starr and Tyler Salensky

OME and the MSIX Team will present an overview of the MSIX system. We will cover how the MSIX system works, how to get an MSIX account, and the main functions that MSIX serves including enrollment, placement, credit accrual, and participation in the MEP. We will go into detail on the MSIX consolidated student record, move notices, data requests, course history data, and the reports that are available in MSIX.

Test Your Knowledge Large Group Scenarios Activity

Join this final session to test your knowledge of general program eligibility. During this interactive session you will get a chance to determine if you are able apply the eligibility factors to scenarios ranging from simple to complex.

