

FIEP FACILITATOR BIOS:

Rosemarie Fischer is a former full-time Speech/Language Pathologist with almost 40 years of experience in working with students with wide-ranging abilities. She has earned speech degrees from Fort Hays State University and Southeast Missouri State University. Rosie holds a lifetime teaching certification in Missouri and permanent licensure as a Speech-Language Pathologist and Clinical Competency in Speech-Language Pathology. She has worked in rural and urban schools as well as a large special education consortium. Rosie's experience as an IEP team member transfers well to that of being an IEP facilitator.

Carol Myers has a lifetime certificate as a speech and language pathologist. She taught in public schools for 37 years that included providing therapy for preschoolers, elementary, and secondary students. Carol was the Executive Director of a not-for-profit organization, Deaf Education Awareness Foundation, for three years. She also served as a process coordinator and had a provisional certificate to teach students who were deaf. Carol has been a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer for foster children for seven years. Currently, she is semi-retired. Carol states, "I am interested in providing facilitation practice for IEP meetings because I believe in effective communication and the FIEP process to provide a means for the student, the special education members, teachers, and the family to provide appropriate services.

Cathy (Cat) Hubbard graduated from Lincoln University with a Masters Degree in Elementary Education, with certifications in early childhood and special education. She taught in public schools, at not-for-profit agencies, and as adjunct faculty at the university level. She retired from the office of special education at DESE in 2010. Cat became a State Facilitator in 2015 with the MO FIEP Pilot Program. She was certified as a State Trainer in 2019.

Cat lives in Jefferson City and enjoys genealogy research, playing the dulcimer and ukulele, and traveling to fun places with her husband.

Dianna Haley retired after working 30 years in public education as a special educator and building level administrator. She received her undergraduate degree in special education at the University of Missouri-Columbia and her graduate degrees in educational leadership from Lindenwood University. Her fifteen years of educational teaching experience includes elementary and middle school special education. In addition to teaching responsibilities, Dianna was an integral member of the building level diagnostic teams. She administered and

interpreted academic and behavioral assessments for initial evaluation and re-evaluations. As a building level administrator, she served an essential role in the development of effective and quality Individualized Education Programs (IEP) that were aligned with federal and state regulations, and at the same time, meeting the best interests of the child. As a parent of a child with a diagnosed learning disability and ADHD, she understands the parent's perspective along with their hopes and fears about their child's future. Dianna possesses a broad knowledge of the IEP process, effective practices, and leadership through her career and personal experiences which serves her well in her role as an IEP Facilitator.

Ernestine Newsome received her bachelor's degree from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO, and her master's degree from Lesley College in Cambridge, MA. She has taught 35 plus years and has experience working with students with a wide--range of special needs. Ernestine holds a Lifetime teaching certification in Missouri. She volunteers in a reading program for youth in the community. She currently serves as a Life Style Coach for chronic diseases.

Lois Jones has served in the field of education for over 40 years. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Missouri State University. Her experience in the field of public education gave her the opportunity to serve in a wide variety of capacities, including classroom teacher, counselor, psychological examiner, and administrator. Since retiring from public education, Lois has spent over 13 years at the Agency for Teaching, Leading, and Learning as a school improvement consultant to districts in the areas of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, Special Education Effective Practices and Special Education Compliance. Her positions have allowed her to work directly with area school districts in providing technical assistance, training, and support in their efforts to create the educational programs that can have a lifelong impact and contribute to the success of all students. Lois's experiences will make her an asset to districts and parents during the facilitated IEP process.

Lorri Osbourn is currently the Director of the Tri-Lakes Special Services Cooperative, supporting 16-member school districts. She has served as an administrator for the last six years, overseeing ECSE, ELL, 504's, PAT, and K-12 special education programs. She graduated from Drury University with a BS in Elementary Education. Lorri went on to receive her Masters' and Specialist Degree from William Woods University in Educational Leadership. She has been working toward her Ph.D. in Early Childhood Special Education through Walden University. She has taught special education for grades K-4, served as a process coordinator, and worked as an after-school tutor during her 15 years in public education. Lorri is currently serving as President for the Springfield Area LASE group. She has been a member of CEC, MO Case, and Case for the past seven years. Lorri is a life-time learner, and her experience as an IEP team member will serve her well in the role of facilitator.

Reta Tyrrell began her career in education in the fall of 1977 and has taught both general and special education classes in districts ranging in size from tiny rural schools to urban schools. Reta has also served as a special education process coordinator and special education administrator. Reta was awarded the Outstanding Special Education Director award by the Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association and served on the MO-CASE Board of Directors. Reta's experience in education gives her the unique ability to understand both sides of an issue and has often been called upon to facilitate difficult situations to help meet the best interests of students. She brings experience and leadership to the FIEP process. Reta is not only a highly trained FIEP facilitator but also trains others to implement the FIEP meeting process.

Stephanie Johnson is from southwest Missouri. She is currently a high school special education teacher of students with intellectual disabilities. She has taught K-3 special education for eight years, high school mild to moderate disabilities for two years, and her current position for three years. She loves her job and working with the kids. Parent meetings are an area of her job that she truly enjoys. She believes that communication between the school and parent is a critical piece to having a productive relationship that helps increase student success.

Ellen Brown has a lifetime certificate as a Speech/Language Pathologist from Lincoln University, a Masters in Professional Counseling from Webster University, and certification in Autism from Missouri Western. She has over 40 years' experience working with elementary and secondary students with a wide range of abilities. She is also a Surrogate for DESE, assisting students with their education in a residential setting. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, traveling, and cardmaking.

Nancy Watts began her career in education in 1981. She has worked as a paraprofessional in special education, an elementary classroom teacher, a school counselor, and a special education process coordinator/student services director. She was named South Central Missouri School Counselor of the year in 2013. Nancy served on the board of the Missouri School Counselors Association from 2013 through 2015. She believes communication between school personnel and parents/guardians is the cornerstone for providing the best education we can for our students. As the grandmother of children with special abilities, she understands "both sides of the table" during IEP meetings. In her spare time, she enjoys her grandchildren, traveling, crocheting and quilting.