

# Kayla O'Neill

## RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

### Education

#### **Master of Arts in Education, English as a New Language**

Augustana University in Partnership with Learner's Edge, December 2015

GPA: 4.0

#### **Bachelor of Science in Special Education, Developmental Disabilities & Early Childhood**

##### **Special Education**

Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN, May 2009

GPA: 3.52, Cum Laude

Honors: MSUM Dean's List, NSIC Academic All-Conference Award

### Experience

#### **Research Associate**

Indiana Institute on Disability & Community, Bloomington, IN

2021-Present

- Facilitates professional learning communities focused on implementing Family Guided Routines Based Intervention practices.
- Certified as a Family Guided Routines Based Intervention Provider Coach after completing comprehensive training.
- Curates content to support providers who have completed FGRBI training, utilizing email newsletters, videos, and community of practice sessions.
- Creates engaging social media videos highlighting tips and strategies in early childhood education and showcasing the latest research findings.

**Developmental Therapist**

A Step Ahead, Columbus, IN

2019-Present

- Provides specialized early intervention services for children eligible under the Indiana First Steps program.
- Guides and supports new developmental therapists within the First Steps system, helping them navigate and excel in their roles.

**Digital Content Creator**

Self Employed

2016-Present

- Creates engaging content for websites and social media platforms, providing valuable information to parents and caregivers on child development and parenting for children from birth to age 3.
- Partners with brands and organizations to creatively convey their messages and expand their reach to new audiences.

**Early Childhood Special Education Teacher**

Moorhead Public Schools, Moorhead, MN

2012-2016

- Collaborated with the Daycare Association to disseminate crucial information on child development.
- Served as a member of the leadership team for the implementation of the 2014 Division of Early Childhood Recommended Practices, working closely with the Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center.
- Completed extensive training programs to effectively support learners and families with diverse needs.
- Delivered comprehensive early intervention services to children from birth to age 3, including case management and conducting evaluations.

**Early Childhood Special Education Teacher**

Anne Carlsen KIDS Program, Fargo, ND

2010-2012

- Delivered tailored early intervention services to families and children from birth to age three, ensuring developmental support, and guidance.
- Collaborated closely with families and case managers to develop and implement Individualized Family Service Plans, addressing specific needs and goals.
- Organized and led weekly playgroups for children and families in the KIDS Program, fostering community engagement and developmental growth.

**Screener**

Right Track Program, Fargo, ND

2010-2016

- Administered developmental assessments for infants and toddlers, from birth to age 3, to monitor and support their growth and development.

**Presentations**

- **Family Guided Routines Based Intervention**  
Early Intervention Conference, Co-Presenter, 2023
- **Why Try FGRBI? A Panel Presentation**  
Early Intervention Conference, Co-Presenter, 2023
- **Targets, Strategies, and Routines: An Interactive Session for Providers**  
Early Intervention Conference, Co-Presenter, 2024
- **Why Try FGRBI? A Panel Presentation**  
Early Intervention Conference, Co-Presenter, 2024
- **Family Guided Routines Based Intervention**  
Early Intervention Conference, Co-Presenter, 2024
- **Go Viral or Add Value? How to Balance your Content Strategy**  
MOM 2.0 Summit, Co-Presenter, 2025
- **Beyond the Floor: Rethinking Play in Everyday Life**  
National Conference on the Value of Play, Co-Presenter, 2025