Statement of Potential Work: SRCD NH State Policy Fellow

As the state's designated administrator for the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration strives to be a consistent and responsive model of excellence – not only on behalf of the state's children, families, and early education service providers, but for the nation.

This commitment entails the identification of thoughtful and innovative approaches that transcend simple compliance, ensure the accountable use of all state and federal dollars, optimize child development, family stability, and parental workforce participation, and are grounded in research-based evidence.

It is in keeping with this spirit of excellence and innovation, that the Bureau seeks an SRCD State Policy Fellow to support strengthening research to practice connections in its early care and education policy work. Anticipated projects/duties to support Bureau leadership as an integrated team member may include (but are not limited to):

- Assist in the strategic planning and statewide implementation of continuous quality improvement efforts for children and families served and for early care and education programs and providers.
- Assist in the identification and conceptualization of innovative and accountable approaches to the implementation of newly enacted federal rules, which NH – like other states – will be expected to implement in full during the Fellow's tenure.
- Support continued exploration of governance and financing models, inclusive of mixed-delivery systems, leading to a comprehensive, quality, affordable, and accessible early care and education and out of school time care system.
- Examine alignment of state child care rules with both federal law and national best practices and leading research knowledge.
- Explore innovative state approaches to streamline application and eligibility processes for New Hampshire families and early childhood providers seeking to participate in the state's child care subsidy system, as well as explore resource hub models and professional development networks and systems focused on improving early care and education professional practice and family experience.
- Conduct analysis of the state's Granite Steps to Quality QRIS (Quality Rating and Improvement System) defining and promoting quality programming and settings with the intent of increasing providers' voluntary participation at levels exceeding basic licensure and refining observational measures of quality.

- Assist in assessing and enhancing internal data systems to support robust data-driven decision making and support further utilization and coordination of data within and across data systems.
- Coordinate a research agenda and conduct analysis of state and regional child care data for the purpose of identifying trends, addressing potential disparities, and formulating recommendations designed to drive continuous data-driven decision making within the Bureau. Such work also includes participating in established Research to Practice Partnership initiatives with local researchers where appropriate.