

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHY

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Tonya Russell is currently Director at the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education at the AR Department of Human Services. The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education is responsible for administering the following programs: child care licensing, child care voucher, Special Nutrition and the Arkansas Better Chance (state pre-k) program as well as providing outreach to child care providers to support quality in early childhood education. Tonya has served as a Head Start Director, Head Start Collaboration Director, and Even Start/HIPPY Coordinator. Prior to that, she worked in the private sector. She holds a B.A. in English/Communications and has presented at conferences nationally, regionally and at the state level.