

CHANELE D. ROBINSON-RUCKER, PH.D.
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EDUCATION

- PhD, Human Development and Family Studies** 05/2013
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, West Lafayette, IN
Dissertation: *Associations among preschool classroom climate, children's social interpersonal skills and early elementary school adjustment in children at risk for school failure.*
- MS, Child Development and Family Studies** 08/2009
PURDUE UNIVERSITY, West Lafayette, IN
Thesis: *Preschool to kindergarten: The role of preschool social competence in the transition to kindergarten.*
- BA, Psychology** 05/2007
CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY, Atlanta, GA
Cum Laude

CURRENT EXPERIENCE

- CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR** 07/2025 – Present
Early Childhood Education and Exceptional Needs (ECEEN) Program,
Department of Human Development and Family Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- DIRECTOR** 07/2025 – Present
Early Learning Matters (ELM) Academy,
Department of Human Development and Family Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIR** 07/2023 – Present
Center for Early Learning (CEL),
Department of Human Development and Family Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR

Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Courses:

- *HDFS 420 - Developmental Foundations of Infant and Toddler Curriculum* 08/2023 – 12/2024
- *HDFS 332 - Stress & Coping in Contemporary Families* 01/2022 – 05/2022; 08/2012 – 12/2012
- *HDFS 318 - Developmental Assessment* 08/2012 – 12/2012
- *HDFS 408 - Curriculum Application of Atypical Development* 01/2012 – 05/2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ASSISTANT DIRECTOR; TRAINING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT LEAD** 08/2018 – 07/2025
Early Learning Matters (ELM) Curriculum
Department of Human Development and Family Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

PROJECT MANAGER 10/2013 - 08/2018
Curriculum Development Project for Early Care and Education
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT 03/2015 – 05/2018
Sunshine in a Backpack, Inc., West Lafayette, IN

FAMILY POLICY INTERN 08/2011 - 12/2012
Family Impact Institute/Center for Families
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

PRESCHOOL ASSISTANT TEACHER 05/2008 - 08/2008
Ben and Maxine Miller Laboratory Child Development Center
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

CHILD CARE ASSISTANT TEACHER 08/2006 - 05/2007
Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center, Atlanta, GA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH SCIENTIST
Center for Early Learning
Department of Human Development and Family Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Projects:
- Indiana Department of Education - Initiation and Continuation of Inclusive Early Childhood Programs
- Indiana Department of Education – Support and Evaluation of Transitions from Early Learning Environments into the Kindergarten Setting
- Institute of Educational Sciences – Reading and Playing with Math: Promoting Preschoolers’ Math Language through Picture Books and Play Activities

LEAD RESEARCH ASSISTANT 08/2008 - 05/2013
Classroom Links to Vocabulary and Phonological Sensitivity Skills
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Instrumental in implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the impact of teacher-focused interventions, including workshops and coaching, resulting in increasing the effectiveness of instructional practices for language and literacy development with positive effects on early reading skills of children.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT 08/2007 - 08/2008
Children’s School Success
Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Promoted the development of language, literacy and reasoning skills and social-emotional competence of early learners across five states by orchestrating, managing and executing research on the effectiveness of an early childhood curriculum, thus promoting school readiness and success in at-risk children.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT 08/2006 - 05/2007
Project HEALTH
Department of Psychology, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta GA
Increased awareness of nutrition-related health risks in African American female youth through informational sessions and assessments, in a part-time capacity.

PROJECTS

2024-2029, An Initial Efficacy Trial of the Early Learning Matters (ELM) Curriculum. IES. (\$328,859) **Role: Co-Investigator**

2024, Initiation and Continuation of Inclusive Early Childhood Programs, Indiana Department of Education, (\$48,019). **Role: Research Scientist**

2023-2024, Support and Evaluation of Transitions from Early Learning Environments into the Kindergarten Setting, Indiana Department of Education, (\$47,519). **Role: Research Scientist**

2020-2024, Reading and Playing with Math: Promoting Preschoolers' Math Language through Picture Books and Play Activities. Institute of Education Sciences (\$1,399,800). **Role: Personnel**

2021-2025, Development of the Early Learning Matters (ELM) Program. U.S. Department of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture. **Role: Key Personnel**

2019-2022, Early Learning Matters. Department of Defense. **Role: Program Development Manager**

2013-2018, Curriculum Development Project for Early Care and Education. U.S. Department of Defense ChildCare Curriculum Competitive Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture. **Role: Project Manager**

PUBLICATIONS

Powell, D. R., **Robinson-Rucker, C.**, Veen, L., & Elicker, J. (2021). ELM Curriculum User Guide: Birth–36 Months. West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University.

Powell, D. R., **Robinson-Rucker, C.**, Sterrett, R., Carlat, A., Broniarczyk, K., Diamond, K., Schmitt, S., Purpura, D., Mantzicopoulos-James, P., & Napoli, A. (2021). ELM Curriculum User Guide: 3 – 5 Years. West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University.

Robinson, C. D., & Diamond, K. E. (2014). A Quantitative Study of Head Start Children's Strengths, Families' Perspectives, and Teachers' Ratings in the Transition to Kindergarten. *Early Childhood Education Journal* 42, 77-84 doi: 10.1007/s10643-013-0587-4

Dobbs-Oates, J. E., & **Robinson, C. D.** (2012). Preschoolers' Mathematics Skills and Behavior: Analysis of a National Sample. *School Psychology Review* 41, 371-389.

PRESENTATIONS

Schlesinger-Devlin, E. & **Robinson-Rucker, C. D.** (2022, May). Social-emotional and self-regulation development from infancy to preschool. 2022 National Head Start Conference, Baltimore, MD.

Robinson, C. D., & Diamond, K. E. (2013, April). Associations among preschool classroom climate, children's social interpersonal skills and early elementary school adjustment and success in children at-risk for school failure. Poster session presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2013 Biennial Meeting, Seattle, WA.

Robinson, C. D., & Diamond, K. E. (2012, June). Children's social competence, adjustment, and school success from preschool through second grade. Poster session presented at the Head Start's 11th National Research Conference, Washington, DC.

Robinson, C. D., & Diamond, K. E. (2009, April). Preschool to kindergarten: The role of preschool social competence in the transition to kindergarten. Poster session presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2009 Biennial Meeting, Denver, Colorado (also presented at the 2010 Annual Graduate Student Educational Research Symposium, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN).

Robinson, C. D., & Dobbs, J.E. (2009, April). The relationship between social-emotional behaviors and mathematics skills in a national sample of preschoolers. Poster session presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2009 Biennial Meeting, Denver, CO.

Baroody, A. E., **Robinson, C. D.**, Son, S & Morrison, F. (2008, April). Variations within the home: Disentangling the impact of home learning and home social environments on preschoolers' development. Poster session presented at the 20th Biennial Conference on Human Development, Indianapolis, IN

PROFESSIONAL TALKS

Keynote Feature and Invited Scholar at Purdue University, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee Event, April 2022. "I am a Black Mother, Raising Black Sons": A Conversation with Dr. Chanele Robinson-Rucker.

PROFESSIONAL/ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

Purdue Doctoral Fellowship, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN	2012 - 2013
George Washington Carver Fellowship, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN	2007 - 2012
"Best Research Poster Award," AGSERS, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN	2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Division for Early Childhood (DEC)
Family Impact Institute, Affiliate Member
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
National Head Start Association (NHSA)
Zero to Three

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Sara Schmitt, PhD
Bricker-Squires Faculty Chair in Early Intervention, Associate Professor
Department of Special Education and Clinical Sciences
University of Oregon
sschmitt@uoregon.edu

Elizabeth Schlesinger-Devlin, Ed.D.
Director, Child Development Laboratory School
Purdue University
esdevlin@purdue.edu

Megan Purcell, PhD
Clinical Professor
Purdue University
meganpurcell@purdue.edu