

Sarah L. Davidon, Ed.D.

Web: [www.davidonconsulting.com](http://www.davidonconsulting.com)

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## EDUCATION

Ed.D. University of Colorado School of Education and Human Development, Denver, CO.  
Leadership for Educational Equity (Early Childhood Special Education Leadership concentration)

M.Ed. Harvard University Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA. Educational Psychology

B.A. Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA. Psychology

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### Georgetown University

2021-present Assistant Professor

### University of Colorado Denver, School of Medicine

2018-present Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

2016-2019 Director of Early Childhood, Colorado Leadership Education in  
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

2007-2018 Senior Instructor of Pediatrics

2003-2019 Director of Community Education, JFK Partners

2001-2007 Instructor of Pediatrics

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Principal/Owner Davidon Consulting, LLC** (present). Support and guide organizations in mental health strategy, with a focus on policy development and system change. Clients have included: Colorado School Medicaid Consortium, Colorado Department of Human Services (Office of Early Childhood; Behavioral Health Ombudsman Office), Healthy Child Care Colorado, Parents to Parents, the National Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, and the Center for Applied Research Solutions.
- **Mental Health Colorado, Research Director/Director of Children's Mental Health Strategy** (2017-2020). Led the organization's research initiatives to impact systems change, best practices, and policy initiatives, which included direct work and relationship-building with the Colorado state legislature, and drafting or contributing to multiple bills relating to Colorado's mental health systems. Imagined, sought funding for, and managed over \$1.5M in projects that dovetailed philanthropic, public, and non-profit collaboration for impact at both the state

and local level. Led children's behavioral health initiatives resulting in statewide improvements in services to children and families.

- **University of Colorado Denver, School of Medicine, Faculty** (2001-present). Focus: Leadership and Public Policy, Children's Mental Health, Early Childhood Systems, Mitigation of Restraint/Suspension/Expulsion in Public Schools. Secured and managed multimillion dollar projects focused on children's mental health and systems of care.
- **Colorado Department of Human Services, Manager of Children's Disability Services** (1999-2001)
- **Special Kids/Special Families of Colorado, Interim Executive Director** (1999)

#### EXPERT CONSULTATION TO MEDIA/PRESS (SELECTED – [LINK TO MORE](#))

Denver Post, *Teens increasingly turn to Safe2Tell for suicide, mental health emergencies* [Teen suicide in Colorado: How Safe2Tell, police respond to mental health calls \(denverpost.com\)](#)

Documentary Film (winner of Best Documentary in the Boston Film Festival), *American Tragedy: Love is Not Enough*. 2020 [brainfit \(americantragedymovie.com\)](#)

Denver Post, *Suicide of Sol Pais — Florida teen seen as threat to Denver-area schools — highlights mental health, mass tragedies*. 4/19/19 [Death of Sol Pais — Florida teen seen as threat — highlights mental health, mass tragedies \(denverpost.com\)](#)

5280 Magazine, *Anxiety and depression are increasingly plaguing American adolescents*. April 2019

Colorado Sun, *No Colorado school districts meet federal safety standards for behavioral health staffing, investigation shows*. 4/12/19 [Columbine, 20 Years Later: Mental Health Issues Plaguing Adolescents \(5280.com\)](#)

Durango Herald, *Youth screened regularly for vision, hearing. What about mental health?* 3/10/19 [Youth screened regularly for vision, hearing. What about mental health? \(durangoherald.com\)](#)

Chalkbeat Colorado, *Young lives lost: Suicide prevention efforts expand slowly and cautiously in elementary schools*. 8/31/18 [Young lives lost: Suicide prevention efforts expand slowly and cautiously in elementary schools - Chalkbeat Colorado](#)

Colorado Parent, *What you should know about childhood depression*. October 2017 [What You Should Know About Childhood Depression \(coloradoparent.com\)](#)

#### HONORS

Healthy Child Care Colorado Champion for Collaborative Leadership (2017)

Who's Who of American Women (2000)

Outstanding Young Women of America (1989)

Charles A. Dana Foundation Scholar (1988)

Helena Rubinstein Foundation Scholar (1988)

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Partners for Children's Mental Health Advisory Board (present)  
Healthy Child Care Colorado Board of Directors (present)  
Governor's Behavioral Health Task Force Children's Subcommittee (2019-2020)  
Maternal Behavioral Health Policy & Financing Committee (2018-2020)  
Family Voices Colorado Advisory Board (2016-2018)  
Early Childhood Colorado Partnership Steering Committee (2013-2017)  
Governor's Appointment to the Colorado Behavioral Health Transformation Council (2013-2016)  
President, Board of Directors, Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health – Colorado Chapter (2013-2016)  
Chair, Colorado Pyramid Plus State Policy Team (2010-2013), member (2013-2015)  
Co-chair, Blue Ribbon Policy Council for Early Childhood Mental Health (2003-2014)  
SpecialQuest State Leadership Team (2009-2010)  
Colorado Office of Professional Development Advisory Board (2006-2008)  
Colorado Early Childhood State Systems Team (ECSST) (2004-2008)  
Colorado's Early Childhood Summit (2002-2006)  
Colorado Family Resource Network Advisory Board (2002-2006)  
Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council Legislative/Public Policy Committee (2002-2006)  
Governor's appointment to the Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council for Part C (2000-2001)  
Colorado Early Childhood Leadership Team (2000-2001)  
Massachusetts Executive Steering Committee on Children's Services (1997-1998)  
Governor's appointment to Massachusetts Interagency Coordinating Council for Part C (1997-1998)  
Massachusetts Special Education State Advisory Council (1997-1998)  
Best Buddies of Massachusetts Advisory Board (1997-1998)  
State Advisor to Massachusetts Special Olympics (1997-1998)

## FEDERAL, STATE, AND PHILANTHROPIC GRANTS AND CONTRACTS FUNDED

Maternal Mental Health Policy. 2018-2020. ZOMA Foundation.  
Early Childhood Mental Health Best Practices Toolkit. 5/2017-4/2020. Buell Foundation; Rose Community Foundation; Caring for Colorado; Community First Foundation.  
School Mental Health Best Practices Toolkit. 3/2017-4/2020. Colorado Office of the Attorney General; Community First Foundation  
University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Developmental Disabilities. Community Education Director 7/1/04-6/30/19. Award # 3-90DDUC001401. Sandra Friedman Principal Investigator.

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Maternal Child Health. Director of Early Childhood 7/1/16-6/30/19. Award # 5 T73MC11044-10-00. Sandra Friedman, Principal Investigator.

Project LAUNCH. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through the Colorado Department of Human Services. Evaluation Liaison 10/1/14-9/30/19. Award # 17IHIA93904. Lorraine Kubicek, Principal Investigator.

PLAY-MH/Prevalence, Treated Prevalence, and Co-occurrence of Internalizing, Externalizing, and Tic Disorders in Colorado School-Aged Youth. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Disability Research and Dissemination Center. Co-Investigator 10/01/13-09/30/16.

CASCADE: Collaborative Addressing System Change in ASD and other Developmental disabilities. DHHS/HRSA/Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Consultant 10/01/11-09/30/14.

Training and Technical Assistance in Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation. Colorado Department of Human Services. Principal Investigator 07/01/10-12/31/13.

Early Childhood Social-Emotional/Mental Health Navigation and Disparities. Colorado Health Foundation. Principal Investigator 01/15/11-01/14/13.

Early Childhood Mental Health Environmental Scan for Philanthropic Impact. Rose Community Foundation; Caring for Colorado Foundation. Principal Investigator 07/16/12-10/16/12.

Early Childhood Social-Emotional/Mental Health. Buell Foundation. Principal Investigator 11/01/08-10/31/11.

Project BLOOM for Early Childhood Mental Health system of care cooperative agreement. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Project Director 10/01/02-09/30/08.

Early Care and Education Expulsions. Colorado Division of Child Care/Child Care Quality. Principal Investigator 07/01/04-06/30/07.

Colorado Partners in Systems Change: Family Support. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Developmental Disabilities. Project Director 10/01/01-9/30/02.

## PUBLICATIONS

### PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS & SCHOLARLY WRITING

Reyes, N. M., Moody, E., Hightshoe, K., **Davidon, S.**, Rosenberg, S., Dahl, E., & Kubicek, L. F. (2021). Factors that May Influence Social Communication Questionnaire (SCQ) Scores: An

Examination of the Spanish and English SCQ in School-Aged Students. *School Psychology Review*.

Davidon, S. (2018). Demystifying the policy process: supporting sustainability and adoption of project LAUNCH practices through policy. SAMHSA Issue Brief.

Davidon, S. (2017). Recommended practices for school restraint mitigation. University of Colorado School of Education and Human Development (Doctoral dissertation).

Vinh, M., Strain, P., Davidon, S., Smith, B. (2016). One state's systems change efforts to reduce child care expulsion: Taking the pyramid model to scale. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*.

Hoover, S.D., Kubicek, L. F., Rosenberg, C. R., & Zundel, C., & Rosenberg, S. A. (2012). Influence of behavioral concerns and early childhood expulsions on the development of early childhood mental health consultation in Colorado. *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 33(3), 246-255.

### BOOK CHAPTER

Perry, D.F., Kaufmann, R.K., Hoover, S.D., & Zundel, C. (2008). Services for Young Children and Their Families in Systems of Care. In Stroul, B. A., & Blau, G. M. *The system of care handbook: Transforming mental health services for children, youth, and families* (pp. 491-515). Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes Pub. Co.

### REVIEWS

American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (2011). *Caring for our children: National health and safety performance standards; Guidelines for early care and education programs*. 3rd edition. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; Washington, DC: American Public Health Association.

American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (2015). *Caring for children with special health care needs in early care and education*. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics; Washington, DC: American Public Health Association.

### RESOURCES AND REPORTS DEVELOPED (SELECTED)

Early Childhood Mental Health Toolkit (2019). Mental Health Colorado.

School Mental Health Toolkit (2018). Mental Health Colorado.

Report on Recommendations for Statewide Implementation of Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (2014). Colorado Department of Human Services.

Early Childhood Mental Health in Colorado: An Environmental Scan of Challenges, Progress and Recommendations for the Social and Emotional Health of Colorado's Young Children.

(2013). Report to Caring for Colorado Foundation and Rose Community Foundation.

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Resource and Sustainability Toolkit (2006). JFK Partners.

A Guidance Document for Flexible Funding for Families of Children Receiving Services and Supports. (November 2005). Colorado Project BLOOM.