# **Mentor-Coach Census Survey**

[After clicking the survey link, below is the first thing respondents will see]

You are being invited to take this online survey as part of an evaluation of the federal Office of Head Start's Early Learning Mentor Coaches (ELMC) Grant Initiative. This is an evaluation of the ELMC initiative, and *not* an evaluation of you, your Head Start/Early Head Start grantee or its centers.

In the survey, we ask about you, your grantee and your mentor-coaching. This survey should be completed by Early Learning Mentor Coaches.

Participation in this survey is voluntary and you may stop at any time without penalty. You also may skip any questions you don't want to answer. The survey should take approximately 30 minutes to complete, depending on your responses. Completion of this survey is considered an agreement to participate.

All of your responses will be kept private. Your name will not be used in any summary reports that result from this survey and no comments will be attributable to you. Identifying information is requested solely for the purposes of matching information to other surveys and interviews and to the Head Start/Early Head Start PIR data.

Your participation in this survey will contribute to the development of profiles of mentor-coaching approaches to inform policy, practice, and research. There are no risks to your participation.

If you have any questions, you may contact either Eboni Howard, Ph.D. (202-403-5533; <u>ehoward@air.org</u>) or Fiona Helsel, Ph.D. (202-680-0870; <u>fhelsel@air.org</u>). For questions regarding your rights involving participation in this evaluation, please contact the chair of AIR's Institutional Review Board at <u>IRB@air.org</u> or toll free at 1-800-634-0797.

Thank you for your time!

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### . YOUR BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

To start with, we would like to ask some questions about your work, background, and experience.

- 1. What is the name of the Head Start/Early Head Start grantee you are working for on the Early Learning Mentor Coach initiative? [text box; 100 character limit]
- 2. What is your name? [text box; 50 character limit]
- 3. What is your job title (when mentor-coaching)? [text box; 50 character limit]
- 4. Please briefly describe your job role. [text box; 200 character limit]
- 5. Do you also currently hold another job position at your Head Start/Early Head Start grantee?
  - YES NO [GO TO Q6]

[IF YES] What is that job title? [text box; 50 character limit]

- 6. How many years of professional experience do you have with <u>teaching</u>, <u>training</u>, <u>and/or facilitating groups of adults</u>? [drop down menu to select from 0, less than 1 year, each of 1 through 40, 41+]
- 7. How many years of experience do you have in <u>early childhood education</u> (include any work with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and families of young children)? [drop down menu to select from less than 1 year, each of 1 through 40, 41+]
- 8. When you think ahead three years from now, do you picture yourself working within the early childhood care and education field? YES NO
- 9. How many years have you been <u>a mentor-coach</u>, providing professional support to early care and education staff? Please include any mentor-coach experience that you had before the Early Learning Mentor Coach initiative. [drop down menu to select from less than 1 year, each of 1 through 40, 41+]
- 10. How many hours per week are you paid to work as a mentor-coach for this Head Start/Early Head Start grantee? [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+]
- 11. If known, how many of those hours per week are paid for by the Early Learning Mentor Coach grant? [drop down menu to select from 'do not know,' each of 0 through 40; 41+]

- 12. How many hours per week do you work at your Head Start/Early Head Start grantee in other work (not mentor-coaching)? [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+]
- 13. What is your employment status as an Early Learning Mentor Coach? (please select one)

Permanent Head Start/Early Head Start employee	
Temporary Head Start/Early Head Start employee	
External consultant (non-employee)	
Other (please specify):	

14. Will you continue to work with this grantee as a mentor-coach after February 2012? (please select one)

YES	
NO	
DO NOT KNOW	

- 15. Do you use any formal assessment tools in your mentor-coaching work?
  - YES 
    I [GO TO SECTION II]
  - a. [IF YES] Which of the following assessment tools have you been formally trained in? (please select all that apply)

Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)	
Early Language & Literacy Classroom Observation (ELLCO)	
Adult-Child Interactive Reading Inventory (ACIRI)	
Teacher-Pupil Observation Tool (T-POT)	
Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS)	
Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS)	
Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS)	
Child/Home Early Language and Literacy Observation (CHELLO)	
Home Visit Rating Scales (HOVRS)	
Other (specify):	

b. Of the tools that you have been formally trained in, which are you currently using in your mentor-coaching work? [text box]

# **II.** PREPARATION FOR THE EARLY LEARNING MENTOR COACH GRANT

We would like to know about the training you received <u>specifically</u> for the Early Learning Mentor Coach initiative.

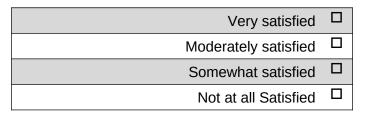
- 1. When was your start date as an Early Learning Mentor Coach? [Select Month/Select Year]
- Did you receive an orientation from your Head Start/Early Head Start grantee as a part of the Early Learning Mentor Coach initiative?
   YES
   NO
   [GO TO Q5]
  - [IF YES] What was the focus of the orientation or training? (please select all that apply)

Overall grantee structure and organization	
Overall goals for mentor-coaching	
Staff roles and training needs	
Mentor-coaching structure and implementation (for example, how frequently to meet with staff)	
Mentor-coaching strategies (for example, modeling, providing feedback)	
Content area domains (for example, literacy development)	
Assessments and observation tools	
Other (please specify):	

3. How satisfied were you with the quantity of the initial training/orientation you received? (please select one)

Very satisfied	
Moderately satisfied	
Somewhat satisfied	
Not at all satisfied (could have used more)	
Not at all satisfied (could have used less)	

4. How satisfied were you with the <u>content of the initial training/orientation</u> you received? (please select one)



5. Have you received <u>ongoing training</u> from your Head Start/Early Head Start grantee as a part of the Early Learning Mentor Coach initiative? YES NO [GO TO Q6]

[IF YES] What was the focus of the ongoing training? [text box; 100 character limit]

- 6. What additional training would be helpful for your work? [text box; 100 character limit]
- 7. During your work as an Early Learning Mentor Coach, have you received professional development support (such as feedback, resources, training, or problem-solving) from any of the following sources? (please select all that apply). For all sources that you received support from, please indicate how helpful it was.

	<u>Hel</u> Very helpful	<u>pfulness of Su</u> Moderately helpful	 <u>red</u> Not helpful	
Office of Head Start	YES I NO I DON'T KNOW			
National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning	YES 🗆 NO 🗆 DON'T KNOW			
Mentor-coaching trainers	YES 🗆 NO 🗆 DON'T KNOW			
State early childhood education specialist	YES 🗆 NO 🗆 DON'T KNOW			

Regional program specialist, T/TA	YES I NO I DON'T KNOW		
Other Head Start/Early Head Start staff (please specify):	YES 🗆 NO 🗆 DON'T KNOW		
Other resources (please specify):	YES I NO I DON'T KNOW		

### III. MENTOR-COACHING APPROACH

- **1.** How many centers are you working in as a mentor-coach? [text box; numerical entry only]
- 2. Please identify how many of the following staff you are formally mentor-coaching as a part of the Early Learning Mentor Coach initiative? (please select one for each response option)

Early Head Start lead teachers [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Early Head Start assistant teachers [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Head Start lead teachers [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Head Start assistant teachers [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Home visitors (Head Start and Early Head Start) [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Family child care staff [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Administrators (specify job title): [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Supervisors (specify job title): [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Other administrators (specify job title): [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Other (please specify): [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+] Other (please specify): [drop down menu to select from 0 through 40; 41+]

- 3. Do you mentor-coach staff that speak a language other than English when working with children and families? (please select one)
  - YES 🛛
  - NO GO TO Q4]
    - a. [IF YES] What language? [text box; 20 character limit]
    - b. Do you speak this language fluently?
      - YES D
      - NO 🗆

4. Do you ever mentor-coach staff teams together (such as teachers with the assistant teachers or family care provider teams)? (please select one)



IV. How often over <u>a typical month</u> do you use the following formats to interact with the staff you mentor-coach? Please indicate the average number of times you use these for each individual staff person. (select one response for each type of contact)

	Never	About once a day	More than once a day	About once a week	About every other week	About once per month
Phone call						
Face-to-face meeting (individual)						
Face-to-face meeting (group)						
Email						
Online messaging (instant messenger, chat room)						
Texting						
Virtual meeting (such as Skype, GoToMeeting)						
Social media (such as Facebook, Twitter)						
Video camera (such as flip camera)						
Other (please specify):						

The next set of questions is to help us learn about the <u>strategies</u> you use while mentor-coaching. There are a variety of strategies that you could use while mentor-coaching and it is possible that you have used some, all, or none of the strategies listed below. Our goal is to find out your mentor-coaching strategy profile, so please check the list carefully.

5. Please briefly list your most common goals that you strategies in your mentor-coaching. [text box; 200 character limit]

V. On average, how often do you use the following *observation, feedback,* and *discussion* strategies in a typical month with each staff person that you mentor-coach? (please select one response for each strategy)

	Never	1 to 2 times	3 to 4 times	More than 4 times
Conduct live on-site observation (with or without tool)				
Watch a video of staff member's work				
Watch with staff, video of other staff members' work				
Video journal				
Arrange for staff to observe peer				
Provide verbal feedback based on live observations				
Provide verbal feedback based on discussion with staff				
Provide written feedback on paper				
Provide written feedback via text, email, or other online method				
Introduce new skills, practices, or strategies				
Reflect on skills, practices, or strategies				
Set and re-assess goals for individuals				
Facilitate group discussion				
Staff shares mistakes/challenges in their work				
Other observation/feedback/discussion strategy (please specify):				

VI. On average, how often do you use the following *practice and modeling* strategies in a typical month with each staff person that you mentorcoach? (please select one response for each strategy)

	Never	1 to 2 times	3 to 4 times	More than 4 times
Demonstrate/model skills and strategies while in work-setting (in the classroom, home visit, or child care room)				
Demonstrate/model skills and strategies while not in work- setting (not in classroom, home visit or child care center)				
Work with staff to role play a skill or strategy				
Ask staff that you are mentor-coaching to practice skill and report back				
Mentor-coach "on the fly" (e.g., unplanned, unscheduled, "on the run," or in a hurry)				
Other practice and modeling strategy (please specify):				

VII. On average, how often do you use these other *supportive strategies* in a typical month with each staff person that you mentor-coach? (please select one response for each strategy)

	Never	1 to 2 times	3 to 4 times	More than 4 times
Problem solve with staff on personal issue				
Provide emotional support				
Work on stress reduction				
Share materials and resources				
Conduct/arrange an on-site workshop or training				
Help with preparation, administration, scheduling				
Work as an assistant in classroom, home visit or child care room (such as help manage a child)				
Other supportive strategies (please specify):				

VIII. Of all of the strategies that you use with the staff that you mentor-coach, what would you say are the three most effective mentor-coaching strategies for changing staff practices? [text box; 200 character limit]

IX. Would you say that your strategies for mentor-coaching sessions vary depending on the staff you are mentor-coaching?

Almost always consistent across staff	
More consistent across staff than varying	
More varied across staff than consistent	
Almost always vary across staff	

X. Thinking across all your work as a mentor-coach, how often do you take on the following 'roles'? (please select one rating for each role)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
Teacher/Instructor for adults				
Crisis Intervention				
Advocate				
Technical expert				
Problem-solver				
Collaborative partner				
Supervisor				
Emotional supporter				
Logistical supporter				
Assistant to the staff that you are mentor-coaching				
Other (please specify):				

XI. Are you a formal\_supervisor of any program staff? 

YES

[GO TO SECTION IV] NO

[IF YES] Are\_you a supervisor of program staff for whom you mentor-coach?

YES GINO (GO TO SECTION IV)

[IF YES] How helpful or challenging is it to your mentor-coaching work to also be working as a supervisor? (please select one)

Mostly helpful	
Somewhat helpful	
Neither challenging nor helpful	
Somewhat challenging	
Mostly challenging	

6. Do you report to somebody about overall progress that you staff are making in mentor-coaching?

YES D

[IF YES] What is the job title of the person you report to? [text box; 50 character limit]

#### IV. MENTOR-COACHING GOALS AND CONTENT

The next set of questions is to help us learn about the <u>content</u> of your mentor-coaching sessions. There are a variety of topics that you could focus on in mentor-coaching and it is possible that you have focused on many, some, or none of the topics we list here. Please take your time to check the whole list, so we can get an accurate picture of your mentor-coach profile.

1. Please briefly list your most common goals that you target in your mentor-coaching. [text box; 200 character limit]

XII. How do you gather information about the needs of staff you mentor-coach? (please select all that apply)

Staff self-identifies needs	
Staff's supervisor identifies needs on performance review	
Results from child assessment data	
Results from classroom and teacher observational assessment tools	
Observations without formal assessment	

Office of Head Start on-site monitoring review	
Grantee administration chose targets that apply to all staff	
Other (please specify):	

2. In your mentor-coaching, how often do you work to increase staff's professional knowledge in each of the following areas? (please select one response for each area)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Never
Developmental domains (such as literacy, social emotional)				
Needs of children with identified disabilities or other special needs				
Behavior management				
Needs of culturally diverse families				
Needs of Dual Language Learner <i>children</i>				
CLASS scores				
Other knowledge areas (please specify):				

3. In your mentor-coaching, how often do you work to increase or improve staff's skills and strategies in each of the following areas? (please select one response for each area)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Never
Instructional practices for specific developmental domains (please identify):				
Staff use of language with children				
Staff responsiveness to children				
Teacher-child interactions				
Encourage parent-child interactions				
Engaging parents				
Implementation of specific curricula				
Other skills and strategies (please specify):				

4. In your mentor-coaching, how often do you work to improve structure and organization in each of the following areas? (please select one response for each area)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Never
Classroom or center organization				
Use or display of materials (center or elsewhere)				
Home organization, management, and safety				
Use of books and other educational materials (center or elsewhere)				
Content and organization of home visit				
Other structure and organization (please specify):				

5. In your mentor-coaching, how often do you work to increase and improve the use of assessment or technology in each of the following areas? (please select one response for each area)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Never
Overall use of technology (please specify):				
Ongoing child assessment for tailoring instruction				
Ongoing child assessment for ongoing program quality assessment				
Other assessments or technology (please specify):				

6. In your mentor-coaching, how often do you work to <u>encourage staff personal growth</u> in each of the following areas? (please select one response for each area)

	Frequently	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Never
Positive interactions with colleagues (for example: teaching assistants, administrators)				
Self-efficacy, motivation, and empowerment				
Enrollment in professional development (such as training to improve qualifications)				
Enrollment in college coursework in pursuit of a degree, certificate, or credential				

Other (please specify):				
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- 7. In which of the areas identified in questions 3 through 7 do you feel <u>you</u> need additional training, resources, and support to be able to bring about positive change in program staff? [text box]
- XIII. Would you say that your goals or targeted topics for staff are consistent or vary, depending on the staff you are coaching? (please select one)

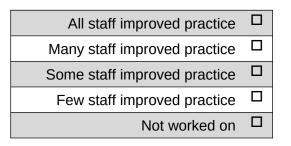
Almost always consistent across staff	
More consistent across staff than varying	
More varied across staff than consistent	
Almost always vary across staff	

#### V. EFFECTIVENESS OF MENTOR-COACHING

1. Thinking over your work as an Early Learning Mentor Coach, please rate your <u>success at increasing openness to learning</u> in the staff you worked with. (please select one response)

All staff more open to learning	
Many staff more open to learning	
Some staff more open to learning	
Few staff more open to learning	

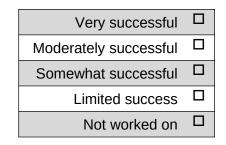
2. Thinking over your work as an Early Learning Mentor Coach, please rate your <u>success at improving the quality of practice</u> of the staff you worked with. (please select one response)



3. Thinking over your work as an Early Learning Mentor Coach, please rate your <u>success at increasing the appropriate use of assessment</u>. (please select one response)

All staff increased their assessment use	ב
Nany staff increased their assessment use $~~$ $\square$	
ome staff increased their assessment use $\ \ \Box$	ב
Few staff increased their assessment use $\Box$	ב
Not worked on	

4. Thinking over your work as an Early Learning Mentor Coach, please rate your <u>success at increasing staff focus on career development and</u> <u>pursuit of education and training.</u> (please select one response)



[IF ANYTHING BUT "NOT WORKED ON"] Please briefly explain your rating [text box]

5. Thinking over your work as an Early Learning Mentor Coach, please rate your overall success as a mentor-coach. (please select one response)

Very successful	
Moderately successful	
Somewhat successful	
Limited success	

Please briefly explain your rating [text box]

6. What single topic or goal area did you address most successfully as a mentor-coach? [text box]

## VI. REFLECTIONS ABOUT MENTOR-COACHING

1. In your opinion, what top three qualifications are most important for a mentor-coach to be successful?

	Select top 3
Degree in early education or related field	
Background in working with families	
Background in teaching	
Background in early childhood education and care	
Background in clinical work (such as counseling)	
Background in management work (such as administration)	
Experience training, teaching, mentoring, or coaching adults	
Experience with Head Start/Early Head Start Programs	
Experience with Home Visitors	
Familiarity with Center/Staff or Program (worked there previously)	
Time management skills	
Interpersonal skills (such as ability to establish relationships)	
Experience with reflective practice or supervision	
Ability to provide constructive feedback	
Knowledgeable about adult learning strategies/principles	
Language and Culture Match (with staff and/or families and children	
Other (please specify):	

1. Thinking across all the staff you mentor-coach, in general what <u>staff characteristics have been challenging to your success</u> as a mentor and coach? (please select one for each response option)

Never challeng
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Level of openness to self-improvement		
Level of engagement/interest		
Level of effort		
Level of ability to engage in self-reflection		
Ability of staff to share mistakes		
Ability of staff to use feedback		
Basic skill level of staff members being mentor-coached		
Level of community buy-in to quality improvement in general		
Openness of community to 'trusting' mentor-coach		
Relationship quality between you and staff you mentor-coach		
Match (such as personality, age, experience) between you and staff		
Other (please specify):		

2. To what extent are these systems features challenging to you as an Early Learning Mentor Coach? (please select one for each response option)

	Never challenging	Sometimes challenging	Often challenging	Always challenging
Number of staff per mentor-coach (such as case load size)				
Consistency of messaging across mentor-coaches				
Methods for identifying staff mentor-coaching needs				
Variation in staff needs				
Demands on staff time interfering with scheduling				
Lack of language match between you and staff, children or families				
Job demands from work you are doing besides mentor-coaching				
Other (please specify):				

3. To what extent are the following logistics factors challenging to you as an Early Learning Mentor Coach? (please select one for each response option)

	Never challenging	Sometimes challenging	Often challenging	Always challenging
Language of staff, children, and families				
Availability of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for staff being mentor-coached				
Availability of supplies/resources				
Availability of space for mentor-coaching meetings				
Travel issues (distance between centers where mentor-coaching)				
Technological barriers (such as internet access)				
Availability of substitutes for staff				
Other (please specify):				

4. To what extent are the following contextual factors challenging to you as an Early Learning Mentor Coach? (please select one for each response option)

	Never challenging	Sometimes challenging	Often challenging	Always challenging
Level of support from Head Start/Early Head Start director				
Level of support from other mentor-coaches				
Program staff turnover				
Families' comfort with mentor-coach in their homes				
Other (please specify):				

5. Using your responses to questions 2 through 5, what is the biggest challenge to the success of mentor-coaching? [text box]

#### VII. ABOUT YOU

Lastly, we'd like to gather some information about you so that we are able to describe the mentor-coaches who were a part of the ELMC initiative.

1. In what year were you born? [Select Year]

2. What is your ethnicity? (please select one)

Hispanic or Latino

3. What is your race? (Select one or more)

American Indian or Alaska Native	
Black or African American	
Asian	
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
White	

4. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (please select one)

Up to 8 <sup>th</sup> grade	
9 <sup>th</sup> to 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	
12 <sup>th</sup> grade but no diploma	
High school diploma/GED/or equivalent	
Voc/Tech diploma after high school	
Some college, but no degree	
Associate's Degree (AA)	
Bachelor's degree (BA or BS)	
Graduate or professional coursework, but no degree	
Master's Degree (MA or MS)	
Doctorate degree (Ph.D. or Ed.D.)	
Professional degree after bachelor's degree (MD, DDS, MBA, JD, LLB)	

5. Do you have any of the following certificates or licenses? (please select all that apply)

Mentor-coach certification	
State-awarded teaching certificate	
State-awarded early childhood or preschool certificate	
Child Development Associate (CDA) credential	
Special education teacher degree	
Social work, psychology, or counseling license	
Teaching certificate or license	
Other (please specify):	
None of the above	

6. Do you have any other comments that you would like to make? [text box; 100 character limit]

Thank you very much for your participation in this survey!