

AMY MEADE

Director, Center for
Early Learning

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As Director of the Center for Early Learning, Amy Meade leads the Center's work to build and transform systems that advance early learning, promote equity, and prioritize prevention through policy development, research, and collaboration. Amy works to foster relationships with stakeholders and strategic partners.

Amy has extensive experience facilitating, developing, and managing programs. Prior to joining Groundwork Ohio, Amy served as Program Director at Literacy Volunteers of Illinois, where she strengthened and championed neighborhood adult education programs that served people with low literacy skills in the Chicagoland area. She oversaw all strategic efforts to increase engagement and serve partner organizations in ways that built professional capacity, provided opportunities for interaction, and enriched the member experience.

Prior to that, Amy served as Volunteer Engagement Associate at Cradles to Crayons, where she played a critical role in creating and executing a strategy for community volunteer engagement. She is most proud of her work to develop and scale programs to support improved educational outcomes for children and their families. This work, coupled with her previous experience working as a home visitor to mother's experiencing poverty, has

strengthened her skills as an advocate, and deepened her understanding of the root causes of poverty in our communities, the larger systems by which they are perpetuated, and the challenges faced by community members.

Amy holds a bachelor's degree in Human Development from Earlham College, and a master's degree in Human Development, Early Childhood Education from the University of Rochester. Originally from Chicago, Amy enjoys spending time with her partner and daughter, finding new parks, and trying all the bakeries!

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