



STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

EQUITY | EXCELLENCE | EDUCATION



An Orientation to SERC

CT Prevention Training & Technical Assistance Service Center (TTASC)

Lunch & Learn

Tuesday, July 22, 2025 12:00 pm -1:00 pm

Presenters: Malik Champlain, EdD (C) – champlain@ctserc.org

Bianca Irizarry, LMSW – irizarry@ctserc.org

EQUITY. EXCELLENCE. EDUCATION.





What recently has unexpectedly brought you joy?

SERC's Mission and Vision

Mission:

SERC provides resources, professional development, and a centralized library to educators, families, and community members in collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Education and other partners.

Vision: EQUITY. Excellence. Education.

We believe all students deserve opportunities that reflect and respect their differences and abilities. We work to eliminate opportunity gaps by addressing institutionalized racism and fostering equity in education.

Who We Are

- SERC is a quasi-public agency that partners with the Connecticut State Department of Education, schools, districts, and communities.
- With over 50 years of experience, SERC is a hub for professional learning, technical assistance, and equity-centered resources across all educational levels.
- We are facilitators of transformation, supporting sustainable solutions and meaningful change.

Core Focus Areas

- Racial Equity
- Special Education
- Family & Community Engagement
- Culturally Responsive Practice
- Prevention & Student Support
- Disproportionality and Compliance Support

SERC & CSDE Partnership

- Collaborations with CSDE include:
- Special Education
- Indicator 4, 9, 10 (Disproportionality)
- Equity Labs
- IDEA Compliance
- Professional Learning & IEP Support

Special Education Services

- Technical Assistance to districts
- IEP Quality Training & Coaching
- Inclusion & UDL support
- Transition planning & compliance supports

Addressing Disproportionality

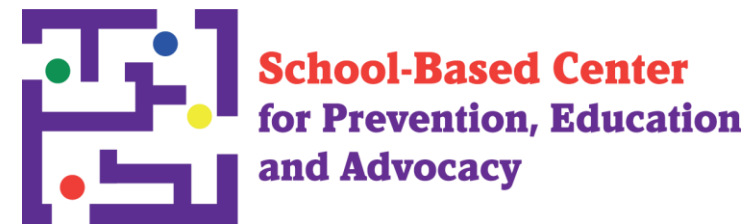
- Support to districts with significant disproportionality via:
- Equity Analysis Protocol (EAP)
- Data review, root cause analysis
- Indicators 4, 9, 10
- Stakeholder engagement & PD
- Equity-centered improvement planning

Equity-Centered Prevention Supports

- Embed equity in SEL, mental health, and prevention
- Culturally responsive practices
- Trauma-informed & restorative approaches
- Address root causes of disengagement & school pushout

Prevention with the SERC Lens

The State Education Resource Center (SERC) has created a new centralized School-Based Center for Prevention, Education and Advocacy, developed for grades K-12 and funded by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS).



Resources and Tools

- Access: <https://ctserc.org/>
- Toolkits, equity briefs, videos, publications
- SERC Library (Waterbury): books, journals, multimedia
- Online catalog: <https://ctserc.org/library>
- Prevention Resource Hub for guidance materials - <https://prevention.serc.co/>

Professional Learning Opportunities

- Upcoming workshops & conferences
- Customized training for districts
- Virtual and in-person options
- Explore: <https://ctserc.org/events>

Technical Assistance

- Customized support: leadership coaching, policy review
- Equity audits, improvement planning
- Training + coaching for sustainability
- Strengths-based, research-driven, long-term partnerships

Contact and Access

- Website: <https://ctserc.org>
- Request TA: <https://ctserc.org/contact>
- Prevention Hub: Resources section - <https://prevention.serc.co/>
- Follow on LinkedIn & Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/CTSERC/>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/se>

Final Thoughts

- SERC is your prevention partner grounded in equity.
- Let's collaborate to build inclusive, responsive learning environments.
- Q&A or drop questions in the chat.

Questions?