



**CENTER FOR
REACHING & TEACHING
THE WHOLE CHILD**
FISCALLY SPONSORED BY COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

EMPOWERING EDUCATORS AND TRANSFORMING CLASSROOMS

WWW.CRTWC.ORG

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rebecca Baelen, Ph.D.

The Center for Reaching & Teaching the Whole Child (CRTWC) is thrilled to have reached the milestone of providing 15 years of impactful professional learning for educators in California and across the United States! We have been able to achieve this because of our passionate and dedicated team, and the support from our committed donors and partners.

This past year has been a year of tremendous growth and impact for the Center. For the first time, we are offering two Teacher Educator Institutes in the same year and conducting research on these Institutes in partnership with university researchers. We have brought on two new team members and have broadened our reach through our first-ever webinar and presentations at several national conferences.

Core to our mission, our offerings consistently equip and empower educators for a changing school landscape, preparing them with the necessary skills and mindsets to thrive in teaching and to teach the whole child. We are taking an upstream approach to solve issues in education at the source - focusing on the teacher educators who train and support our next generation of teachers. We continue to be a transformative change agent in teacher preparation and development and are grateful for your support and partnership in this effort.



CRTWC Team at Our January Retreat
*Not pictured: Chelsea Rubin



Oregon Teacher Education Institute, Kick Off Retreat - Portland, OR (June, 2024)

CRTWC'S MISSION

EMPOWERMENT



Equipping educators with tools to create **safe, brave, and supportive learning environments** where teachers and students can learn and thrive.

EQUITY



Promoting equity in teaching and learning by helping educators to acknowledge their **context** and that of their students - so that they can address students' unique needs and uplift their diverse strengths.

TRANSFORMATION



Transforming classrooms by preparing **whole educators** with the social, emotional, and cultural competencies needed to teach the **whole child**.

2023 - 2024

MAJOR EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

State of Oregon - Teacher Educator Institute:

In June 2024, we launched a state-level Teacher Educator Institute (TEI) with 32 faculty from the 15 colleges and universities across Oregon with Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs). The impetus for the TEI emerged out of a growing interest and need for EPPs to meet the new culturally responsive Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) state standards in Oregon - standards that were created based upon CRTWC's Anchor Competencies Framework. In the TEI, faculty are honing their skills, engaging in a community of practice, and gaining strategies to infuse a focus on the whole child into their courses and across their programs.

Minneapolis Public Schools Academy - Teacher Educator Institute (TEI):

In May 2024, CRTWC kicked off a new year-long TEI with a group of 16 teacher educators, mentors, and district administrators involved with Minneapolis Public School District's (MPS) first-ever teacher licensure program for Special Education teachers - the MPS Academy. CRTWC worked closely with the district in 2022 to integrate the CRTWC Framework into the course modules for the Academy. Now, the TEI is helping those teaching in and leading the Academy to support the development of the whole teacher candidate, so teacher candidates are prepared to support the whole child and create equitable, inclusive, and supportive classroom environments.

First Webinar – Responding Constructively Across Differences:

In March 2024, CRTWC led its first-ever webinar focused on equipping educators with resources to respond constructively across differences in their teaching and to help students do the same as difficult situations arise in classroom settings. Over 30 educators attended the webinar from across the United States, Canada, and Europe. We look forward to hosting more webinars in the future and expanding our reach through this online format.

Sunnyvale School District Book Club:

CRTWC team member, Rachel Bacosa, led a five-session Book Club with Programmatic ToSAs (Teachers of Special Assignment) in Sunnyvale School District. Participants read *Teaching with a Social, Emotional, and Cultural Lens* (Markowitz & Bouffard, 2020) and discussed how to bring a focus on the social, emotional, and cultural dimensions of teaching into their support of teachers in the district. 100% of participants reported that the Book Club was important or very important for their professional development as Programmatic ToSAs.

Conference Presentations:

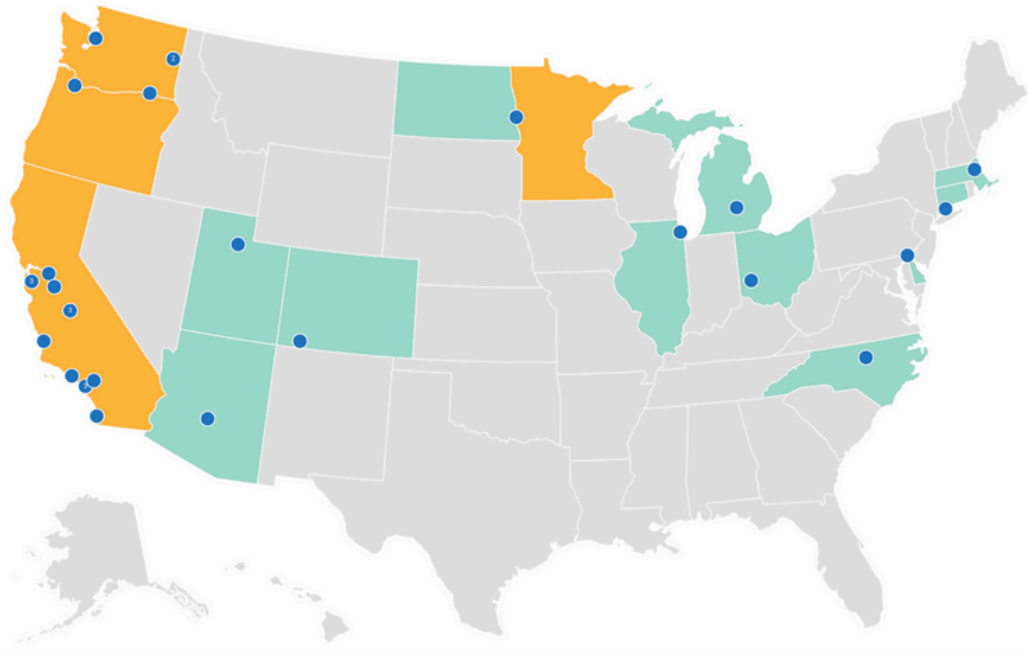
In November 2023, Dr. Nancy Markowitz co-led a pre-conference workshop at the [2023 SEL Exchange](#) in Atlanta, GA focused on the collaboration between CRTWC and Minneapolis Public Schools. This coming November, Dr. Markowitz and Dr. Rebecca Baelen will co-facilitate a panel session at the [2024 SEL Exchange](#) in Chicago, IL on the integration of the CRTWC Framework into teacher preparation at CalStateTEACH, EPPs in Oregon, and in Minneapolis Public Schools' teacher licensure pathway. In December 2024, Dr. Markowitz will co-facilitate a workshop at the [2024 Learning Forward Conference](#) in Aurora, CO.



WHO WE SERVE

CRTWC is committed to supporting educators across California and the United States. We recognize the impactful role that educators play in creating classroom environments where all students can learn and thrive.

Participants in our 7 Teacher Educator Institutes have hailed from over **47 colleges and universities** and **15 states** across the United States. In this map, blue dots represent universities or clusters of universities that our TEI participants come from. States in gold are those where CRTWC consulted at the state- or district-level to infuse our Framework into new standards or teacher licensure pathways. In California, Oregon, and Washington, members of CRTWC have served on or advised state commissions focused on infusing a whole child focus into their teacher performance expectations and/or state standards.



*Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) Academy - Teacher Educator Institute, Kick-Off Retreat
Minneapolis, MN (May 2024)*

CRTWC NUMBERS

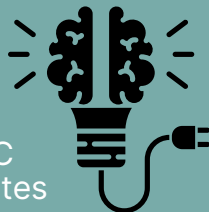


720+

Educators in Sunnyvale School District have participated in professional learning experiences with CRTWC since 2009.

48

Teacher educators participating in CRTWC Teacher Educator Institutes in 2024 - 2025.



+138,000

Teacher candidates impacted this year by the 138 teacher education program faculty who attended Teacher Educator Institutes between 2017 - 2023.

~1.3 MILLION

Estimated number of students impacted this year by the teachers of CRTWC trained teacher education program faculty.



GRANTS AWARDED TO CRTWC: 2023 - 2024

Oregon Community Foundation: In December 2023, CRTWC received a \$70,000 grant to provide a year-long Teacher Educator Institute (TEI) for teacher education faculty across the state of Oregon.

The Ford Family Foundation: In August 2024, CRTWC was awarded an \$81,000 grant to research the implementation and impact of the Oregon TEI and to develop supports for state-level accreditors looking for evidence of the new culturally responsive SEL standards in action within Oregon's EPPs.

Margaret & Kapil Nanda Family Foundation: A \$15,000 grant was awarded to CRTWC in May 2024 to support the development of a resource guide to aid teacher educators and teachers as they develop their own social, emotional, and cultural lens, equipping them to teach the whole child.

Morgan Charitable Foundation Grant & Sponsorship: A total of \$15,000 was awarded to CRTWC for general operating support and sponsorship of our Celebratory Event in October 2024.

FROM OUR COLLABORATORS & PARTICIPANTS

"The [CRTWC] Framework helps educators see the mindsets and practices necessary to create spaces of belonging and engagement for students. It helps educators engage in teacher moves that create equitable learning spaces for students from all different backgrounds and identities."

Dr. Dawn White

Minneapolis Public Schools: K-12 SEL Content Lead

"When I was a classroom teacher, every school had a big poster board at the front entrance of the school that said 'Every Child can Learn'. That was something they said, but I never believed they knew how to do. CRTWC gives teacher educators the skills to inform teacher candidates so that the mantra of the school can be changed to 'Every Student will Learn'."

Dr. Ernest Black

CalStateTEACH: Systemwide Director

"The [CRTWC] Framework is so helpful ... this is not an add on, or 'one more thing,' but rather an essential foundation from which to build.... I can't help but feel the momentum and a desire to channel it where it might be most needed (i.e. teachers in classrooms). Adult SEL feels like a soothing balm to the prickly world we live in!"

Dr. Corissa Mazurkiewicz

*Oregon Teacher Educator Institute Participant:
Assistant Professor at Pacific University*

I really appreciate how supportive and responsive CRTWC [is]. From the point of initial exploration of the Framework, to adoption and deeply diving into the content, the Center staff was eager and willing to meet us where we [were] and shepherded us along the path to full state-level adoption.

Kristin Rush

*Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, Oregon:
Holistic Education and Alignment Specialist*

A TRIBUTE TO DR. PATTY SWANSON

In memory of Dr. Patty Swanson, who dedicated 26 years to San José State University and who was integral to the development of the CRTWC Anchor Competencies Framework. We wish to extend our deepest gratitude for her commitment to this work and her invaluable contribution to the Center. Her legacy lives on through the Dr. Patty Swanson Trailblazer Award, honoring her passion for innovation in education. This year, the inaugural recipient of the award was Dr. Ernest Black of CalStateTEACH.



Dr. Ernest Black (Inaugural Dr. Patty Swanson Trailblazer Award Recipient) with Monica Page Black & Khaliq Black

THANK YOU SUPPORTERS

CRTWC extends a special “thank you” to all of our 2023 - 2024 supporters whose generosity allowed us to expand and deepen our impact this year. We could not do this important and meaningful work without them.

Sustainers (\$10,000+)

Baelen Family
Margaret & Kapil Nanda Foundation
Morgan Charitable Foundation
Oregon Community Foundation
The Ford Family Foundation

Leaders (\$5,000+)

Donna Dubinsky & Len Shustek

Partners (\$500+)

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Ethan Gur-esh and Meisha Brodsky Aziz
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Mary Vreeland
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Abby Wood
Ann and Joel Zeitlin

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The CRTWC Team

Rachel Bacosa, Project Manager & Professional Development Specialist | **Dr. Rebecca Baelen**, Executive Director | **Linda Hutcherson**, Professional Development Specialist | **Joshua Lovett**, Research Associate | **Dr. Nancy Markowitz**, Founder & Strategic Advisor | **Chelsea Rubin**, Project Manager | **Wendy Thowdis**, Professional Development Specialist

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