

Center for Research in Education & Social Policy (CRESP)

Rigorous Research to Improve Lives

Our Mission

The Center for Research in Education and Social Policy (CRESP) within the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Delaware conducts rigorous research, program evaluation, and policy analysis to help practitioners, policymakers, and the researchers who collaborate with them better understand critical issues in education, community health, and human services. (cresp.udel.edu)



Our Team in Action



Some of Our Projects

Evaluation of Delaware's Opportunity Grants Program

Jeff Klein (Lead Researcher)

CRESP partners with the Delaware Department of Education (DOE) to evaluate the Delaware Opportunity Grants program. The Opportunity Grants program intends to provide additional resources for English learner and low-income students in Delaware schools. CRESP's evaluation of the Opportunity Grants program assesses the program's impact and identifies best practices related to schools' use of Opportunity Grant funds. This evaluation is funded through the Delaware Department of Education.

The Center for Research Use in Education (CRUE)

Henry May, PhD (PI) &
Elizabeth Farley-Ripple (Co-PI)

The CRUE/Research for Schools (R4S) project involves a large-scale nationally representative survey of over 10,000 staff from 300 schools to document how and when schools use research, and the conditions that promote or inhibit research use in schools. To learn more about the study visit research4schools.org. This research is funded by the U.S. Department of Education Institute for Education Sciences (IES).

"Our Center's goal is not only to understand the relationship between research and practice, but also to transform it."

-Dr. Elizabeth Farley-Ripple, (Co-PI)

Leadership Education for Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Evaluation

Sue Giancola and Katrina Morrison (Lead Researchers)

CRESP partners with the UD Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS) for the evaluation of the LEND project (a CDS program which offers integrated training to pre-professionals and professionals pursuing fields connected to autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities). CRESP's evaluation provides information to LEND staff about program implementation that enables them to continuously improve and shape the project, and to gauge the extent to which the program is on track to meet its goals. The project is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration.

Healthy Beverages in Kids' Meals Policy Research

Allison Karpyn (CRESP Lead Researcher)

In the fall of 2018, Wilmington, Delaware enacted a policy requiring that healthy beverages (i.e., milk, water, 100% juice) be the default choices at restaurants serving bundled children's meals. CRESP researchers collected baseline data about children's meal beverages at affected restaurants in December 2018, prior to policy implementation. Six months later, in July 2019, CRESP researchers collected data post-policy implementation. Also in 2019, the state of Delaware passed a healthy kids meal beverage policy. Accordingly, CRESP's future research plans include conducting statewide pre- and post-policy assessments. This study is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.