



Amy Szarkowski, PhD, The Institute, Director, Psychologist amyszarkowski@cccbsd.org



Amy Szarkowski, PhD, is a psychologist specializing in supporting children who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) and their families. Dr. Szarkowski is a Core Team member for Fostering Joy, which aims to ‘intentionally shift attention’ to the joyful and meaningful interactions between families and their children. Szarkowski leads the professional arm of this families-professional-DHH leader collaboration ([Fostering Joy – Professionals](#)). Dr. Szarkowski is Director of [The Institute](#) at CCCBSD (Children’s Center for Communication/Beverly School for the Deaf), which strives to “generate and disseminate transformational ideas and practices” in support of children who are DHH. Additionally, Szarkowski is the Training Director for the [LEND](#) (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities) program at Boston Children’s Hospital, teaching an

interdisciplinary group of emerging leaders in health care and disability policy/advocacy, including disability self-advocates and family members of individuals with disabilities. Further, Dr. Szarkowski is a Research Fellow with the [Institute for Community Inclusion \(ICI\)](#) at the University of Massachusetts Boston where she collaborates with disability scholars, bringing a lifespan perspective and an emphasis on early childhood development. Dr. Szarkowski obtained bachelor’s degrees in Psychology and a Health Promotion/Fitness Management; three master’s in Clinical Psychology, Developmental Psychology, and Administration & Supervision; and a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. She is the proud mom of two children. With her Japanese husband, she is raising her children to be bilingual and bicultural. Amy lives with her family near the ocean, on the East coast of the U.S., where she loves watching sunrises.