

Maureen K. Crowley, EASTCONN's Director of Planning and Research

Maureen K. Crowley, Ph.D., has worked for more than 30 years in the field of education in Massachusetts and Connecticut, creating exemplary services for learners of all ages. She has taught high school English; served on Massachusetts' MCAS development team; developed a collaborative adult learning drop-in center, involving two- and four-year colleges, as well as community organizations; established and directed the Cape Cod Collaborative for Adult Education and Support Services (ACCESS), which earned the Massachusetts Governor's Award for Excellence; and created a six-state collaborative project to better serve adult learners.

Adult learning and workplace education represent her scholarship and research interests, which she incorporates in effective professional learning models. Specific expertise and skills include program development and evaluation; organizational dynamics and systems thinking; research, data management, analyses, and writing. Maureen is trained in Results Based Accountability (RBA), Community Conversation and World Café strategies, systems thinking and strategic planning, and is one of 16 educators originally certified nationally to serve adults with learning disabilities.

On behalf of EASTCONN's member districts and other regional partners, Maureen's grant writing has resulted in more than \$40 million in funding awards from federal and state grants, as well as public and private foundations. She developed EASTCONN's middle college model; created over 30 interdistrict enrichment learning programs for K–12 students that promote academic rigor and cultural competence; developed a nationally recognized Service Learning program; and assisted in creating a statewide Advanced Placement program for non-traditional learners, outcomes of which out-surpassed all other models. Through EASTCONN, Maureen has collaborated with teachers, administrators, higher-education faculty and administrators, and community representatives in creating exemplary learning opportunities that continue to yield significant outcomes.

Maureen also represents EASTCONN in its many community and higher education partnerships, including Thread City Development, Inc., Windham ARTS, the University of Connecticut (UConn) in Storrs, Eastern Connecticut State University and Quinebaug Valley Community College, among many others. To keep her literature skills current, she serves as the statewide coordinator of the Jane Austen Society of North America's Connecticut Chapter.

Maureen holds a Ph.D. from UConn in Philosophy in Adult Learning and Workplace Education; a Master of Education degree in Educational Theory and Practice from Lesley University; and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Education from Bridgewater State University.

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