ERSEA is no longer considered a stand-alone system, however, as described in the Management Systems Wheel,it is supported by each of the Head Start management systems. ERSEA is the “gateway” to Head Start service delivery because it opens the door of your program to children and families and the community. It is their first glimpse into the window of your Head Start/Early Head Start program. ERSEA identifies the children and families for the program, gets children and families into the program, and helps keep children and families in the program. For this reason, we are more compelled to thoughtfully and inclusively consider what the data from the Community Assessment is telling us about our programs. In this session we will examine what the Head Start Performance Standards tell us about ERSEA and the important elements of the Community Assessment.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this session participants will be able to:

* Explore how data informs community assessments
* Review the importance of community assessment and its relationship to ERSEA activities
* Identify tools and strategies to support community assessment and ERSEA