



## Jodi Wall

**ELAC Representation:** Regional Advisor – South West Early Learning Regional Coalition

**Occupation:** Director of Child Care and Early Learning, ESD 112

**City/Region:** Vancouver, Southwest Washington



### Getting to know YOU:

#### **What drew you to early learning?**

My mom was an elementary school teacher and she inspired my love of learning and teaching at a very young age. As an only child I did a lot of babysitting in the neighborhood and I was always drawn to the imagination and creativity of young children – and growing up I asked Santa for a baby brother or baby sister for Christmas every year!

#### **How do you hope to influence a stronger early learning system for Washington?**

I believe that the strength of our system is only as good as the direct services we provide to children and families at the local level. I hope to bring the voice of children, families and community to the larger state discussions to ensure that all decisions are made with children and families at the heart of the work.

#### **What was your first job?**

I worked at Lady Foot Locker in high school and I got really good at selling socks with every pair of shoes just to make sure I met my sales quota!

#### **As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

I wanted to be a teacher during the school year and a marine biologist during the summer - mostly so I could swim with dolphins.

#### **What is your favorite childhood memory?**

My dad was the Airport Director in our city so when I was young I got to meet Jimmy Carter and tour Air Force One. We also did a lot of traveling as a family and I cherish my memories of our trips to Hawaii together.