



**Child  
Resource  
Connect**

Linking Children,  
Families, & Communities



The Office of the County Executive and Child Resource Connect  
are partnering to host:




# GREATNESS GROWS HERE

A CONFERENCE FOR  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025**

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

CHARLES HERBERT FLOWERS  
HIGH SCHOOL  
SPRINGDALE, MARYLAND



# OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE



**TARA H. JACKSON**  
ACTING COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY



## Dear Friends:

On behalf of the residents of Prince George's County, I am delighted to extend my warmest congratulations and heartfelt appreciation to all participants, organizers, sponsors, and supporters of Great Grows Here: An Early Childhood Conference for Parents, Caregivers & Child Care Providers.

Your dedication to nurturing the youngest members of our community reflects a profound commitment to their well-being and future success. As parents and caregivers, you play a pivotal role in shaping the early experiences that lay the foundation for a lifetime of health, learning, and growth. Your presence at this conference demonstrates your unwavering commitment to providing the best possible support and care to our children, and for that, we are immensely grateful.

As you continue your important work, remember that each interaction, no matter how small, has the power to shape a child's future. Your dedication and commitment are truly inspiring, and I am confident that together, we will continue to nurture a community where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you once again for your dedication and for all that you do for the children of Prince George's County. Your efforts are truly making a difference.

**Sincerely,**

Tara H. Jackson  
Acting County Executive

# GREETINGS



**JENNIFER IVERSON**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CHILD RESOURCE CONNECT



**Welcome!** Here we are again! Parents, caregivers, and child care providers are here to learn so that the children whose lives we impact will be prepared to embrace bright futures. It is no small thing that you have given up your Saturday to be here.

We are thrilled to once again be partnering with the Prince George's County Office of the County Executive to make this event happen. The County's commitment to you and our youngest residents makes the world a better place, and gives me great hope for the future. Thank you, Interim County Executive Jackson for prioritizing our children and recognizing the importance of this day.

I hope you feel connection today, recognizing that you are among people striving for the same things as you. I know you will enjoy our keynote speaker, Dr. Calvin Moore, Jr.; the wonderful workshops you will attend; a delicious lunch; and our marvelous exhibitors and vendors.

**Thank you for coming. Enjoy!**

[jiverson@childresource.org](mailto:jiverson@childresource.org) | 301-772-8420, ext. 1005

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND  
EVERYONE WHO MADE TODAY POSSIBLE



PGCRC



CHILDRESCTR



CHILDRESOURCE.ORG

# SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

## 7:30 am:

Registration & Continental Breakfast

## 8:30 am – 10:30 am:

Opening Session & Keynote ..... Auditorium

### Welcome

Jennifer Iverson, *Executive Director*  
Child Resource Connect

### Reminders

Nathalie Coward, *Deputy Director*  
Child Resource Connect

### Greetings from The Office of the County Executive

Acting Prince George's County Executive Tara H. Jackson

### Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Laura Terrell, *Child Care Support Services Director*  
Child Resource Connect

### Keynote Address

Dr. Calvin Moore, Jr.  
CEO, Council for Professional Recognition

GREEN NAME BADGE	BLUE NAME BADGE
10:45 am: Session AM Workshops	10:45 am: Exhibitor Browsing
12:45 pm: Lunch (cafeteria), Networking and Exhibitor Browsing	11:15 am: Session AM Workshops
	1:15 pm: Lunch (cafeteria), Networking and Exhibitor Browsing
1:45 pm: Session PM Workshops	2:15 pm: Session PM Workshops

3:45 – 4:15 pm: See you next year!



# KEYNOTE SPEAKER



## **Dr. Calvin Moore, Jr.**

*CEO, Council for Professional Recognition*

## ***Finding Greatness Inside of YOU***

Calvin E. Moore, Jr., an accomplished leader in early childhood education, was appointed CEO of the Council for Professional Recognition in May 2020. Dr. Moore holds a BS degree in early childhood education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, a MS in Education degree, and a PhD in Early Childhood Education from Walden University.

Dr. Moore learned the value of early care and education when he participated in Head Start as a child. He also has vast professional Head Start experience, having served in large and small, urban and rural, center-based and family child care-based programs, as well as programs focused mainly on Hispanic families. Throughout his career, Dr. Moore has held senior roles directing complex federal and state departments that improve outcomes for underserved children and families.

He's the author of *The Thinking Book Curriculum: For Early Childhood Professionals*, *Men Do Stay: Recruiting and Retaining Qualified Male Early Childhood Teachers* and many other books. Dr. Moore has received a literary award from AIM and New Light Ministries for his book, *Agape Declarations*, the Maria Otto Award for Leadership from the National Family Child Care Association and the Billy McCain, Sr., Memorial Award from the Alabama Head Start Association.

# AM GREEN WORKSHOPS

10:45 am – 12:45 pm

WORKSHOP	ROOM
<b>GAM1 Getting CLASSy with Maryland EXCELS</b> (Curriculum & Professionalism) <i>Andrea Zabel, Maryland EXCELS</i>	<b>100</b>
<b>GAM2 Family Engagement Really Matters</b> (Community) <i>Xenia Grimes, Prince George's County Public Schools, Judy Center Early Learning Hub at Bradbury Heights Elementary School</i>	<b>101</b>
<b>GAM3 Little Kids at Hope</b> (Child Development) <i>Deborah Wood, Chesapeake Children's Museum</i>	<b>115</b>
<b>GAM4 Asthma 101 for Early Childhood Education Providers</b> (Health, Safety, and Nutrition and Special Needs) <i>Dr. Kristen Newman, Prince George's County Health Department</i>	<b>102</b>
<b>GAM5 The Practice of Slowing Down: Using Nature as a Role Model and Second Teacher</b> (Professionalism) <i>Heather Quinn, Hummingbird Hill Collective</i>	<b>202</b>
<b>GAM6 Accelerating Reading Achievement in Early Literacy Using the Science of Reading</b> (Child Development and Curriculum) <i>Otis Dupree, Dr. Lucy Hart Paulson and Dr. Pamela Sullivan, Prince George's County Public Schools, Department of Early Learning</i>	<b>103</b>
<b>GAM8 Building Resiliency with WETA PBS KIDS</b> (Community) <i>Stephanie Terezon and Jennifer Saldana, WETA PBS KIDS</i>	<b>105</b>
<b>GAM9 Financial Resilience</b> (Professionalism) <i>Frances Paul and Allyson Andrews, 20 Degrees</i>	<b>106</b>

# AM BLUE WORKSHOPS

11:15 am – 1:15 pm

WORKSHOP	ROOM
<b>BAM1 Mindfulness and Playfulness – Two Sides of the Same Coin</b> (Professionalism) <i>Patty Stine, Pure Play Every Day, Inc.</i>	305
<b>BAM2 Empowering Communities Through Holistic Early Care: A Cultural and Nutritional Approach</b> (Community and Health, Safety and Nutrition) <i>Nakia Porter, Nakia's Peace of Life &amp; Forever Connected Holistic Healing and Wellness Center</i>	110
<b>BAM3 Autism 101: Parenting Children in Early Childhood</b> (Child Development and Special Needs) <i>Dr. Abila Tazanu &amp; Dr. Melissa Duchene-Kelly, Spectrum of Hope: Health, Wellness &amp; Community Services</i>	111
<b>BAM4 Bringing Down the Walls – A Systematic Approach for Partnering with Families of Children with Challenging Behaviors</b> (Professionalism and Special Needs) <i>Tiffany Smith, Teaching Foundations LLC</i>	112
<b>BAM5 Hard Joys: Managing Behavior with a Creative Mind and a Playful Spirit</b> (Child Development) <i>Tanya Winters, TJ Winters Educational Services, LLC</i>	113
<b>BAM6 Helping Children Manage Anger</b> (Child Development) <i>Sonia Hinds, Chesapeake Beach Professional Seminars, LLC</i>	203
<b>BAM7 Schedules and Lesson Plans: High-Quality Planning Using the Maryland EXCELS Standards</b> (Curriculum & Professionalism) <i>L'Ornya Bowie, Maryland EXCELS</i>	114
<b>BAM8 Addressing the Mental Wellness of Preschoolers</b> (Child Development and Special Needs) <i>Paul Armstrong, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, Child Resource Connect</i>	205
<b>BAM9 Baby Books, Toddler Tales: The Story Experience</b> (Child Development and Curriculum) <i>Katherine Lyons, Arts for Learning Maryland</i>	303

# GREEN PM WORKSHOPS

1:45 pm - 3:45 pm

WORKSHOP	ROOM
<b>GPM1 Getting CLASSy with Maryland EXCELS</b> (Curriculum & Professionalism) <i>Andrea Zabel, Maryland EXCELS</i>	100
<b>GPM2 Family Engagement Really Matters</b> (Community) <i>Xenia Grimes, Prince George's County Public Schools, Judy Center Early Learning Hub at Bradbury Heights Elementary School</i>	101
<b>GPM3 Little Kids at Hope</b> (Child Development) <i>Deborah Wood, Chesapeake Children's Museum</i>	115
<b>GPM4 Asthma 101 for Early Childhood Education Providers</b> (Health, Safety, and Nutrition and Special Needs) <i>Dr. Kristen Newman, Prince George's County Health Department</i>	102
<b>GPM5 The Practice of Slowing Down: Using Nature as a Role Model and Second Teacher</b> (Professionalism) <i>Heather Quinn, Hummingbird Hill Collective</i>	202
<b>GPM6 Accelerating Reading Achievement in Early Literacy Using the Science of Reading</b> (Child Development and Curriculum) <i>Otis Dupree, Dr. Lucy Hart Paulson and Dr. Pamela Sullivan, Prince George's County Public Schools, Department of Early Learning</i>	103
<b>GPM8 Building Resiliency with WETA PBS KIDS</b> (Community) <i>Stephanie Terezon and Jennifer Saldana, WETA PBS KIDS ESPAÑOL</i>	105
<b>GPM9 Financial Resilience (Professionalism)</b> <i>Sandra Amorim 20 Degrees ESPAÑOL</i>	106
<b>GPM10 Give Me a Beat! Using Steady Beat to Explore Syllables</b> (Child Development and Curriculum) <i>Mary Fields, Arts for Learning Maryland</i>	303

# BLUE PM WORKSHOPS CONT.

2:15 pm – 4:15 pm

WORKSHOP	ROOM
<b>BPM1 Mindfulness and Playfulness – Two Sides of the Same Coin</b> (Professionalism) <i>Patty Stine, Pure Play Every Day, Inc.</i>	305
<b>BPM02 Empowering Communities Through Holistic Early Care: A Cultural and Nutritional Approach</b> (Community and Health, Safety and Nutrition) <i>Nakia Porter, Nakia's Peace of Life &amp; Forever Connected Holistic Healing and Wellness Center</i>	110
<b>BPM3 Autism 101: Parenting Children in Early Childhood</b> (Child Development and Special Needs) <i>Dr. Abila Tazanu &amp; Dr. Melissa Duchene-Kelly, Spectrum of Hope: Health, Wellness &amp; Community Services</i>	111
<b>BPM4 Bringing Down the Walls – A Systematic Approach for Partnering with Families of Children with Challenging Behaviors</b> (Professionalism and Special Needs) <i>Tiffany Smith, Teaching Foundations LLC</i>	112
<b>BPM5 Hard Joys: Managing Behavior with a Creative Mind and a Playful Spirit</b> (Child Development) <i>Tanya Winters, TJ Winters Educational Services, LLC</i>	113
<b>BPM6 Helping Children Overcome Anxiety and Fear</b> (Child Development) <i>Sonia Hinds, Chesapeake Beach Professional Seminars, LLC</i>	203
<b>BPM7 Child Passenger Safety for Providers</b> (Health, Safety, and Nutrition) <i>Kelly Current, Maryland Kids in Safety Seats</i>	204
<b>BPM8 Growing Together: Nurturing Early Childhood Development and Building Thriving Classroom Communities</b> (Child Development and Community) <i>Rebecca Sellman, University of Maryland, Baltimore –CIS</i>	205
<b>BPM9 Engaging Families as Partners</b> (Child Development and Professionalism) <i>Jen Float and Danequa Offei, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Program, Child Resource Connect</i>	114

# EXHIBITORS ON MAIN STREET

A. Williams Books  
Behavioral Innovations  
Charniece Barksdale – Team Invictus  
Chesapeake Beach Professional Seminars (CBPS)  
CPR – Hands of Hope  
Crystals Daycare  
Dija Financial Consulting LLC  
D&T Associates  
Griselda Houseworth Clemons, Author, *The Girl With the Iron Leg*  
Jafra Cosmetics  
Judy Center Early Learning Hubs  
Karen's Krafting Korner  
Latino Child Care Association of Maryland, Inc (LCAM)  
Maryland Family Network (MFN)  
Maryland State Department of Education – Maryland EXCELS  
Maryland State Department of Education – Office of Child Care  
Region 4, Prince George's County  
Prince George's County Memorial Library System  
PGCPS Birth Through Five Program  
Professional Child Care Providers Network of Prince George's County  
Professional Development Solutions, LLC DBA STEAM4RKIDS  
School Counselor's Corner Press  
SCORE  
SPED Sensory

*DR.KHADIJAT IBRAHIM*

Pharmacist  
Financial Professional & HIFE  
College Planning Consultant

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<https://agents.worldfinancialgroup.com/Khadijat-Ibrahim-92QXM>



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# JOINING VOICES ADVOCACY

**SERVING CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS**

## FRIDAY FIVE GREATNESS GROWS HERE CONFERENCE EDITION

1



### **Head Start Call to Action**

First Five Years Fund has an easy way to contact a Congress member to help protect Head Start.

2



### **Maryland Bill Summary**

The Maryland General Assembly meets each year for 90 days, and this year completed their work and adjourned on April 7, 2025. You can find the summaries of the bills that Joining Voices advocacy was tracking.

3



### **Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)**

CACFP has an action center that makes it easy to contact a Congress member to voice your support for CACFP.

4



### **Sign Up for Public Policy Alerts**

You can sign up with Maryland Family Network to receive Public Policy Alerts.

5



### **SNAP is Facing Budget Cuts**

CHN Action is an alliance of national organizations working together to promote public policies and they have an easy way for you to send a message to Congress to protect SNAP from deep cuts.

# CHILD RESOURCE CONNECT

## Family Support Services

**Family Support Center Prince George's** provides multi-generational programming to the immigrant community in the Adelphi/Langley Park/Hyattsville Area.

**CONTACT:** [fsc@childresource.org](mailto:fsc@childresource.org)



### Family Connects Prince George's

This universal access home visiting program is open to all new moms and caregivers. A registered nurse visits a family within the first few weeks of the infant's arrival, conducting wellness checks for both caregiver and baby, and connecting to resources in the community.

**CONTACT:**

[familyconnects@childresource.org](mailto:familyconnects@childresource.org)

**Healthy Families Prince George's** is an affiliate of Healthy Families America and provides long term home visiting services that focuses on positive parent-child interaction, healthy childhood development to enhance school readiness and the prevention of poor childhood outcomes including abuse and neglect.

**CONTACT:**

[healthyfamilies@childresource.org](mailto:healthyfamilies@childresource.org)



**Scan to visit our website | [childresource.org](http://childresource.org)**