



AN EARLY
CHILDHOOD
CONFERENCE
FOR PARENTS,
CAREGIVERS,
& CHILD CARE
PROVIDERS

JUNE 3, 2023 | 8 AM - 4 PM
CHARLES HERBERT FLOWERS HIGH SCHOOL

Workshop Descriptions

Morning Classes:

AM01 Little Kids at Hope: Early life experiences, especially caregiving relationships, lay the foundation for a happy childhood. The models used in Kids at Hope point to opportunities to be successful every day and the ways that a network of adults can contribute. Research shows how early brain development, based on these experiences, also shapes future success in adulthood.

AM02 Building the Value of the Relationship Between Directors and Teachers: This session emphasizes reflecting on valuing the relationship between the center director and the teaching staff of children. Understanding and establishing the important roles of each person and the impact of the dynamics and difference of ensuring the program provides the best quality of service to children, parents and the community.

AM03 Telling Your Story for Advocacy: Connecting Policy and Real Life: Policy decisions are made every day about your work and your life. Let's work together to make sure your story moves decision-makers to action.

AM04 What is Social Emotional Learning: Why it Matters: One of the most important concepts to teach children is the ability to identify and regulate their emotions. Social Emotional Learning is comprised of the skills we use to recognize and manage our own emotions and being able to recognize emotions in others. These skills include being able to work well with others,

identifying problems, feeling sympathy and empathy for others, help-seeking and help-giving behaviors and general ethical behavior.

AM05 Promoting Home Visits Through Storytime: Engaging Caregivers with Children's Literature: Opening caregivers' minds to home visiting through self-written children's books. Children's literature can be used to increase parents'/guardians' awareness of the benefits of home visiting and improve the quality of the engagement. Participants will be provided with simple outreach/marketing strategies for promoting home visiting programs.

AM06 Dads Play Best!: Dads play a vital role in the wholistic development of their children. During this session we will explore some methods and materials adults (especially men) can utilize to engage children in play that will promote problem solving skill building, ethical schema development, and physical literacy skills. Child care providers, parents and guardians will find valuable resources throughout this interactive session.

AM07 Genes, Generation & Gender: Evaluate how the “3G’s” influence learning, labeling and lives in homes, schools and community. Examine how studying styles, situation and status effect outcomes. Participants will discuss how to eliminate performance gaps in classrooms, companies and culture from pre-birth to preschool to personal proficiency and how well our teaching practices acknowledge and address different needs.

AM08 Literacy, Learning, and Love: A Family That Reads Together Grows Together: Literacy is the heart of Learning. And who is better to learn with than our families, friends, and teachers. This workshop method focus is for families and educators to embrace and develop a love for reading collectively during family bonding time. Reading increases vocabulary skills, thinking processes, improved cognitive skills, and making better choices. Participants will be introduced to a variety of literacy materials, free resources, phonemic/phonetic implementation, and reading strategies that will improve ready fluency, writing skills, and family dialogue.

AM10 Introduction to Creating a Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive Early Childhood Education Business: This interactive session will include 3 steps to begin creating a culture where diversity, equity, and inclusion of children, families, and staff are intentionally included in improvements in the operations and in the development of financial documents to sustain and grow the ECE business. Participants will explore a Family Engagement Program wherein families are valued for their knowledge and skills in developing an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and respected and the connection to business practices to increase revenue to sustain and grow a vibrant ECE business.

AM11 The Value of Positive Guidance: Using Maryland EXCELS Standards to Support Best Practice: Through the development of policies that support positive guidance in early

childhood, participants will gain a greater understanding of the components of positive guidance and strategies for implementation in the childcare environment. Positive guidance is a framework for children to learn acceptable social practices and ways to express their feelings.

AM12 Situational Awareness in Leadership: Busy days? Constantly putting out fires? What is happening around you daily in your school environment with students, families and staff? This session will explore the importance of leaders' ability to identify, analyze and address what is taking place around them.

AM13 Supporting Children's Social Emotional Development through Family Partnerships: Strategies for supporting infant and young children's social emotional development are needed now more than ever. Further, the way in which childcare providers and families get to know each other and interact has changed during and after the pandemic. In this interactive presentation, we will use The Pyramid Model for Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children (Pyramid Model) to frame a discussion about concrete strategies childcare providers can use to develop relationships with their students' families, as well as how providers can partner with families to encourage the use of Pyramid Model practices with their children at home in order to support children's social emotional development.

AM14 Financial Resiliency 101: Expense Tracking: In this workshop, participants will learn how to use an expense tracker, created specifically for ECE providers, to maintain records, categorize spending and revenue, and highlight spending patterns or one-off events. Participants will also walk away with concrete tools, custom designed specifically for the business aspects of ECE, as well as training videos for the providers to ensure comfort and ease of use.

AM15 Resiliencia Financiera 101: Seguimiento de Gastos (en Español): En este taller, los participantes aprenderán a usar un registro de gastos, creado específicamente para proveedores de ECE, para mantener registros, categorizar gastos e ingresos y resaltar patrones de gastos o eventos únicos. Los participantes también se van con herramientas concretas, diseñadas específicamente para los aspectos comerciales de ECE, así como videos de capacitación para los proveedores para garantizar la comodidad y la facilidad de uso.

AM16 Gracious Gardening in Early Childhood Environments: Let's dig deep to find out why gardening is crucial in early childhood education. Studies have shown that there are many benefits of introducing gardening to young children. Through garden play, children acquire and improve crucial developmental skills all while enjoying a nature-friendly childhood. The much bigger return is how planting a garden can affect not only your child's body but also their brain and soul. Join us for a thought-provoking workshop where we will get our hands dirty and our hearts happy. Each participant will leave with lesson plans and materials for your classroom. Hands on play and planting with seeds and flowers and plants.

AM17 The Beat of Your Own Drum: Learn performing arts strategies designed to enhance the development of social-emotional skills for children with special learning needs. Arts strategies such as call-and-response singing, creative movement with steady beat, guided dramatic play and the exploration of books through music are effective with children with many learning styles. Explore life skills like listening and turn-taking and how to be independent while also being part of a group.

AM18 Signing with Children: Discover basic signs to use with young children in your life. Using power point, discussion, demonstration, and practice, participants will be introduced to the history of American Sign Language (ASL), identify reasons why signing is beneficial for young children, and learn some signs to use with young children and learn some signs to use with them throughout the day.

AM19 Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the Tools to Build Childhood Resilience: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are the most powerful determinant of public health. Come learn how the biological impact of ACEs exceeds the traditional boundaries of health and human service systems and become a part of the first step toward healing. Come gain an understanding of the problem to develop a conscious choice to use the knowledge gained to actively build a better future for our children, grandchildren, and public health.

AM25 How We Grow! Early Arts for Children and Families: Let's take an imaginary journey to see what's growing in the garden! Maria will guide children and families through movement experiences that provide an interactive opportunity to experience children's literature and the world around them. Led by: Maria Tripodi, Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist

AM25 How We Grow! Early Arts for Children and Families (en Español): Let's take an imaginary journey to see what's growing in the garden! Maria will guide children and families through movement experiences that provide an interactive opportunity to experience children's literature and the world around them. Led by: Maria Tripodi, Wolf Trap Master Teaching Artist

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PM09 Arts Based Assessment: Serious Fun and Games: Turn everyday moments into opportunities for assessment! Explore practical approaches designed for the early childhood classroom using drama and music. Through this workshop you will develop your own arts-based assessment experience and expand the imaginative, movement filled, and musical environment of your classroom.

PM10 Creating Dance Experiences in the Early Childhood Classroom: Children move naturally! Learn how dance and movement experiences help children to develop an awareness of their body in space and provide opportunities for flexibility, balance and coordination. Create experiences that facilitate social interaction, cooperation, self-regulation and promote emotional well-being.

PM11 Finding HOPE: Learn how to Support Children's Growth and Development into Healthy, Resilient Adults: This presentation will explain the HOPE (Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences) framework, a paradigm shift in systems of care, communities, and policies to value and actively bolster Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs). HOPE builds on the understanding of the power of relationships within families and communities and between those who provide and receive supportive services. Its goal is to fundamentally transform how we advance health and well-being for our children, families, and communities.

PM12 Creating Vision Boards / Creando un Tablero de Vision: This session will guide providers through the process of creating their vision boards to support the organization of their ideas and setting up a plan to achieve their goals. This is a hands-on activity with the goal of creating a vision board.