



Professionalism, Leadership & Ethics Sessions

The Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 23-25, 2026 | Kalahari Resort | Sandusky, OH

Thursday, April 23, 2026

8:30 am – 10:00 am

LEADERSHIP RETREAT- Supervise with Confidence: Using Your Teacher Skills to Guide Adults (Part 1)

Gigi Schweikert, CEO, Lightbridge Holdings Group

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Strengthen Your Work: Using NAEYC's Revised Code of Ethics for Early Childhood Educators

Dr. Meghan Salas Atwell, Senior Director, Applied Research, National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

LEADERSHIP RETREAT- Good Enough Never Is: The Benefits and Challenges of Change (Part 2)

Gigi Schweikert, CEO, Lightbridge Holdings Group

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Beyond Buzzwords: Leading with Belonging, Consistency, and Coherence

Melissa Adipietro, Early Childhood Specialist, Educational Services Center of Northeast Ohio

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

The Communication L.A.B: Strengthening Co-Teacher Partnerships

Emily Gessner, Early Childhood Educator, Mom's House Toledo

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

From Stress to Strength: Functional Tapping for Early Childhood Professionals

Tijana Coso, Founder & Educator, The Tapping Project

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

LEADERSHIP RETREAT- 10 Steps to a Winning Team: Positive Staff Relations (Part 3)

Gigi Schweikert, CEO, Lightbridge Holdings Group

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

From Policy to Practice: Empowering Early Childhood Professionals to Advocate for Children, Families, and Themselves

Malissa Harris, Policy Associate & Brittany Boulton, Vice President, Groundwork Ohio

BONUS

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Battling Burnout!

Anisha Angella, CEO & Founder, The Early Childhood Coach

Friday, April 24, 2026

8:00 am – 10:00 am

From Rules to Relationships: Emotional Intelligence and Compliance for Child Care Leaders

Garri Davis, CEO, Garri Davis Agency

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Learning to Lean In: A Conversation in Rethinking Taking Care of Ourselves and Others

Patrick McKelvey, Clinical Lead Supervisor – IECMH Consultation and Training, Nationwide Children's Hospital

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Family Child Care: A Vehicle for Economic Mobility

Jerletha McDonald, Founder & CEO, ADFW Family Child Care Network

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Inspiring Generations: Cultivating Your Legacy in Early Childhood

Anisha Angella, CEO & Founder, The Early Childhood Coach

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Leveraging Social Media & AI for Marketing: Boost Enrollment & Community Engagement for Family Child Care

Jerletha McDonald, Founder & CEO, ADFW Family Child Care Network

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

The H.O.P.E (Healthy, Opportunities, Partnerships, Empowerment) of Family Engagement

Pamela Perrino, Early Childhood Advocate & Educational Consultant, Perrino Consulting

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

(Not) Waiting to Exhale: Emotional Management Skills for Leaders

Patrick McKelvey, Clinical Lead Supervisor – IECMH Consultation and Training, Nationwide Children's Hospital

Saturday, April 25, 2026

8:30 am – 10:00 am

It Starts with Us: The Leadership Key to Teacher Retention

Jennifer Sprafka, Navigator of Leadership Development & Program Elevation, Crayons to Clipboards & Ellen Plesotis, Director of Educational Excellence, Small Hands Big Dreams Learning Centers

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Supporting Curriculum Implementation through a Comprehensive Approach

Lisa Baker, Account Executive, Frog Street

8:30 am – 10:00 am

You Were Chosen for This MISSION: Rise to the Challenge with Perseverance and Grit (Conscious Discipline®)

Tanyelle Hannah, Conscious Discipline Certified Instructor, Hannah's Heart

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Working with Multilingual Families

Jessica Burchett, Teacher, Marion Harding High School

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

JOY in the Journey: How to Keep My Heart in it When it's HARD (Conscious Discipline®)

Tanyelle Hannah, Conscious Discipline Certified Instructor, Hannah's Heart

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

"Let's Play Principal..." (Still Teaching in the 'Key of Life')

Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld, Early Childhood Author, Consultant & Advocate

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Make Your Classroom Work for You: If You Do Nothing Else, Do THIS

Leah Anastasakis, Child Care Manager, University Hospitals Parma Child Care