

Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 23-25 | Sandusky, OH Thursday, April 23rd

Note: Directors, administrators & principals are the target audience for sessions indicated by an asterisk * in the title.

Sessions of Interest for Directors, Administrators & Principals

7:30 – 10:30 AM, 1:00 – 2:30 PM & 3:00 – 4:45 PM- (FULL DAY - 6.5 hours)

FLIP IT! Overview and Four Steps Strategy

FLIP IT is a four-step behavior strategy rooted in developing emotional awareness in order to increase emotional control. This strategy works to reduce challenging behaviors in children ages 3-8. FLIP IT can be used with multiple children at the same time during minor challenges throughout a day or used as a targeted intervention that can support the emotional growth of a child displaying specific behavior concerns.

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Building Systems for Successful for Childcare Programs*

Participants in this session will be introduced to the P.L.A.N. framework and discuss the influence that processes and systems have on the ability to operate a high-quality childcare business. We will explore how to develop and organize processes in order to streamline the operations of your childcare business. Discover how to build a systemization action plan to support successful program operations.

CQ CommUNITY CQ=Cultural Intelligence an Ongoing Journey of Growth

This session looks at the journey of a district team as they commit to increasing the cultural intelligence (CQ) and equitable practices of the district staff, students and community. The CQ CommUNITY engages in ongoing work to ensure that all students' diverse experiences, backgrounds and talents are supported, valued and respected. During this session attendees will have the opportunity to engage in activities to reflect on their own cultural intelligence to consider areas for further exploration to support the children and families they work with in the early childhood setting.

Early Childhood State and Federal Policy Update 2020

Featured Strand

Explore resources to ensure you stay up-to-date on the latest early childhood policy news to best advocate for state and federal investments and policies that impact those working in Ohio's child-serving systems and the families and children impacted by those systems.

Five Habits of Highly Effective Early Childhood Leaders*

In this interactive session we will discuss the five habits that highly effective early childhood education leaders exhibit that can improve daily operations and practices in an early childhood education business. We will examine the need for a continuous quality improvement plan, constructive versus destructive feedback and completing staff evaluations as a prerequisite for leading high performing teams.

Learn the Signs, Act Early: Supporting Children through Developmental Monitoring using Family Engagement

Learn the Signs, Act Early is an initiative from the Center for Disease Prevention and Control. Educators know from birth to 5 years, children should reach milestones in how they play, learn, speak, act and move. This program aims to improve early identification of children with autism and other developmental disabilities so children and families can get the services and support they need. Tracking

a child's development and acting early if there is a concern are key to early identification. Participants will learn to use these resources in combination with family engagement to utilize developmental monitoring to celebrate milestones and help link children to the support they need.

Measuring Classroom Quality with OCOT: The Ohio Classroom Observation Tool*

What does "quality" look like in the early childhood classroom? What criteria is used to determine developmentally appropriate environment and interactions? In this session, an overview of the Ohio Classroom Observation Tool (OCOT) used in the SUTQ rating process will be provided. A deeper look at the indicators of quality used in the tool and how they are assessed during the onsite visit will be reviewed and discussed. This session will be beneficial for all early childhood program staff regardless of participation in SUTQ.

NAEYC Accreditation and QRIS: Better Together*

Featured Speaker

Should childcare quality be measured on a national level? Join the National Association for the Education of Young Children's Senior Director of Accreditation of Early Learning Programs as she answers this question and many more. Come prepared to learn about the numerous benefits of national accreditation and how it compliments Step Up to Quality.

New Opioid Crisis: How Did We Get Here?

Participants in this session will examine the contributing factors to the current opiate epidemic. Not a day goes by in social media, television reporting or newsprint, which is not peppered by the impact of the opiate epidemic. Participants will be challenged to think about their systems of care and how to approach this issue from a transdisciplinary approach.

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM KEYNOTE

Power and Excellence through Resilience

Deshauna has made it her life goal to encourage, inspire, and strengthen the people around her! She will inspire you never to lose sight of the impact you have on the children in your care. Discover the influence one teacher had on her ability to develop resiliency strategies, tenacity, and to never give up while reaching for her goals. You will leave empowered to focus on developing your resilience to achieve balance in your professional and personal life.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Essential Elements for Designing an Inclusive Classroom

Does your early childhood environment meet the needs of ALL children? Through engaging activities, discussion, and knowledge sharing, participants will explore the various components of a high-quality early learning environment, including characteristics of a high-quality inclusive environment, DAP, the importance of play, Universal Design, Universal Design for learning, and least restrictive environments. Additionally, participants will explore specific strategies and supports to enhance the classroom environment.

Exploring Gender and Gender Expression in Young Children (Part 1)

Participants in this session will explore the definitions and concepts of gender, gender identification and

gender development, while examining the child's perspective in the development of gender identity. The concept of gender identity and expression from the perspective of parents, who may be having difficulty with their child's gender choices will also be addressed. Take back strategies to support children in the classroom in the area of gender identity and development.

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

A total participation celebration of simple and effective ways to magically turn your program or school into a loving community of learning. Like a family! How do administrators shape the climate, mission, and spirit of a program? This session invites administrators of early childhood programs to share (through active experiences) ideas that turn policies into realities. How do you create life-affirming, loving, safe, and joyous environments for our children, staff, families, and communities? The responsibility for such a challenge is in your hands (and in your heart). Be ready to move and be moved!

Self-Care for Teachers: Techniques for Becoming the Best Version of Yourself

The Devereux Center for Resilient Children studies resiliency and protective factors in both young children and adults. This training looks at protective factors for teachers to help prepare them for stressful situations and anything that comes their way. Setting the foundations for good self-care can prevent teachers from experiencing burnout. The work that teachers do is very important and life changing but without taking proper care of themselves it can be draining and lead to stress. To take good care of others one must first take care of themselves.

The Elephant in the Room: Trauma in the Workplace*

Whether from tragic life events, trying to survive on a next-to-nothing salary, or compassion fatigue many early childhood educators are silently suffering from trauma. It doesn't have to be this way! This session equips participants with the tools to identify trauma in adults and create "trauma-informed workplaces", resulting in lower staff turnover and greater job satisfaction.

The State of Babies 2020 Yearbook: Where do Ohio Babies Stand?

Where do babies across the nation and in Ohio stand? The new State of Babies Yearbook 2020, to be released in April by ZERO TO THREE, provides the answer. Expanded indicators of wellbeing and policy provide a richer picture, and new breakouts by subgroup allow an equity lens for how babies and families are faring. State and national profiles provide a starting point for advocates and policymakers. The state of babies is critical – it's when we lay the foundation for our future workforce.

This Could Have Been an Email: How to Create A Staff Meeting Teachers Can't Wait to Attend*

When announcing another staff meeting, do you receive cheers of excitement or eye rolls? Learn tips to plan and organize your staff meeting so your adult learners are just as engaged as the children; through hands on activities that get them out of their seats and critically thinking! This session, for center directors and administrators, will require you to move around the room, actively participate, and even get a little silly. You will leave this session with fun new ways to engage your staff and meet learning standards.

Working Together for Benefit of our Children

This session will provide participants an opportunity to analyze and better understand the value of cultivating empathy for families and children they serve. Techniques to improve communication with

families and promote healthy environments that support acceptance over tolerance will be discussed. Leave with an improved ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

3:00 PM -4:30 PM

Creating A Climate of Composure: Using the Five Steps of Self-Regulations and the Safe Place (Conscious Discipline©)

This session will help participants identify brain states, triggers and how to help children self-regulate using the five steps of self-regulation (I Feel, I Calm, I Choose, I Connect, I Solve) and the Safe Place. Leave with a plan to use these strategies in your classroom, with parents and coworkers.

Exploring Gender and Gender Expression in Young Children (Part 2)

Ohio Early Childhood Race & Rural Equity 2020

Featured Strand

Attendees will be given a briefing on the 2020 Ohio Early Childhood Race and Rural Equity follow-up report, "Drafting a New Blueprint for Success." This will include county-specific data on young children, new statewide data disaggregated by race and geography, and more. Participants will have the opportunity to share personal and community experiences reflected in the data and brainstorm program-level, community, and statewide solutions to address inequities for young children.

Understanding Attachment and the Separation Process

Through role-play and case discussion, participants will explore the crucial role that attachment has in the learning process and how children and parents respond to separation. In addition, participants will identify strategies that they can use to help parents and children remain emotionally connected, especially when preparing children for care in an out-of-home program.

What are the Top 3 Reasons Early Childhood Teachers Leave the Profession in Ohio? *

This is a face to face meeting designed from a qualitative research project to gain perspective on teacher turnover in early childhood educational settings. This training would benefit teachers, administrators, directors, and program coordinators. The atmosphere of this training will be a round table discussion with prompts from recent research completed in Ohio on teacher turnover in ECE classrooms and settings. Participants will be engaged with conversations, brainstorming and leave the training with a new vision for hiring novice teachers and developing individual training programs to meet all new teachers at their level of development and areas of opportunities.

3:00 PM -5:00 PM

Common Ground: A Bridges out of Poverty Workshop

Bridges out of Poverty is a nationally recognized program with the goal of helping agencies fight the long-term effects of poverty in a meaningful way. By building relationships based on understanding the real experiences of people in poverty, agencies can begin to address barriers in a manner that improves outcomes and sustained self-sufficiency. In this workshop, participants will examine how to make connections and build relationships with the families they serve in order to provide the best early care and learning experience possible.

5:00 PM -6:00 PM

Ohio Directors' Network: Working Together to Advance our Work*

Program directors need opportunities to share ideas and find solutions to today's challenges. Come and meet others who walk 10,000 steps daily in your shoes! We will use our time together to engage in open dialogue to support and inspire each other in providing high quality care in our communities. Bring your business card! Make plans to join us at the conference and return to your programs connected to a Directors' Network from across Ohio. Non-Credit

5:00 PM -6:30 PM

Preventing the Extinction of Childhood

Do you remember playing "hide go seek" as a young child? Did you take a class to learn how to play this game? In this session we will identify the benefits of play and discuss why it is disappearing. Come and learn how to play again!