

Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 25-27 | Sandusky, OH

Thursday April 23rd – Early Childhood Higher Ed Sessions of Interest

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Early Childhood State and Federal Policy Update 2020

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.

NAEYC Accreditation and QRIS: Better Together

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.

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

State of Babies Yearbook 2020: Where do Ohio's 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 America's babies is critical – it's when we lay the foundation for our future workforce. When babies and families have the supports they need, we create innovators, thinkers, and stronger communities. Our shared vision of a prosperous future will be realized only if there is a robust quality of life for babies today.*

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Ohio Early Childhood Race & Rural Equity 2020

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.

Peak Professionalism and Peace Only a TAP Away!

Ok, so you're probably wondering what these things have to do with each other. Researchers have discovered that how you show up at work, home or in life has much to do with your unconscious stressors and that these stressors, not only cause physical ailments, but they also hinder your performance at work. In this session you will learn Emotional Freedom Technique (Tapping) which will uncover unconscious stressors that create our personal biases and societal stereotypes that may adversely impact engagement with staff, children and families. Once stressors are identified you will further use Tapping to lower your stress and rewire your brain and body to not be triggered again by these issues.

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.

Friday April 24th - Early Childhood Advocacy/Leadership Sessions

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Diversity: It's Not Black and White

Learn to enhance your multicultural communication skills by examining your view of the world, your classroom, your students, and families. Participants will take a journey into the world of diversity and realize it's not just black and white.

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Advancing Equity in ECE: Words into Action

"All children have the right to equitable learning opportunities that help them achieve their full potential as engaged learners and valued members of society. Thus, all early childhood educators have a professional obligation to advance equity." This newly released NAEYC position statement challenges all early childhood educators to look at their daily practices with children and their families. This session will give early childhood educators the opportunity to review the development of this relevant position statement and reflect on the implications it has on their work with young children and their families. Using the "Equity and Inclusion Reflection tool," attendees will have an opportunity to reflect on their daily practices and apply it to the recommendations set forth for the field through the position statement. As we consider how to implement the recommendations, we will discuss the assets we bring, the opportunities that exist, and potential obstacles that may hinder efforts. This session will bolster each teacher's desire to support every child and family who enters their classroom community and give them tools and resources to do so.

45 Years of the CDA: Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, Shaping the Future

This session will highlight the Council for Professional Recognition's new innovations and updates,

including the impact of the CDA credential over the last 45 years. Discover the exciting online resources, tutorials and new credentials on the horizon. Learn about best practice stories on how the CDA has supported Ohio early childhood educators, PD specialists, and advocacy organizations to increase quality in early childhood programs across the state.

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conflict Resolution: It's not Personal It's Personality

Many times we believe that conflict is personal, but it is really a personality clash. By using the DISC Profile, we will identify and build on individual strengths and explore ways to improve communication skills.

Saturday April 25th - Early Childhood Advocacy/Leadership Sessions

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Advancing Quality Early Learning in Ohio: Communications and Advocacy Training 2020

Want to elevate your voice for young children in Ohio? The families you serve? The early education workforce? Join us for an interactive session to learn how you can advocate for improvements in Ohio's quality early learning system.

Team: Create a Healthy One

Let's talk about teams! How do we create them in early childhood organizations, centers, classrooms, and our own families? This session will investigate the essential aspects of a team and provide guidance to developing healthy teams in your personal and professional lives.

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Mindset Matters: How Mindset Impacts Our Work in Early Education

This session will provide an overview of a fixed versus growth mindset and how our mindsets affect our work with children and families in early education. Participants will identify characteristics of their own mindsets, identify the differences between mindsets and learn new strategies for using a growth mindset in the early childhood program.

Retaining Staff through Quality Improvement (NAEYC Accreditation)

Learn how placing more emphasis on developing and supporting staff through quality improvement leads to increased staff morale, greater retention and an overall more positive, energetic work atmosphere. In this session, you will examine the characteristics, competencies and the types of professional development opportunities that should be included in your Program Professional Development Plan.

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

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.