

Ohio Early Childhood Conference | April 23-25 | Sandusky, OH Friday, April 24th

Sessions Supporting Children with Special Needs

7:30 – 10:30 AM, 1:00 – 2:30 PM & 3:00 – 4:30 PM- (FULL DAY - 6 hours)

Trauma Informed Care in Early Childhood

Understanding the role of trauma informed care in early childhood is vital to children and families. By becoming “trauma-informed” professionals will recognize that people have often experienced many different types of trauma. Those who have been traumatized benefit from support and understanding from those around them. This professional development opportunity is focused on educating communities and professionals about the long-lasting impact of trauma.

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Building Resiliency with Joy: Evidence Based Training to Address ACEs in Early Childhood Care & Education

Joy experienced through play can lead to increased resiliency and insulation against long-term effects of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma and toxic stress. Equipping early childhood educators and caregivers with tools to incorporate joyful play into daily routines can reduce caregiver and child stress, improve caregiver-child relationships, and support optimal social-emotional development and learning. Frequent interpersonal experiences of joy and play between an adult caregiver and child bolster protective factors which leads to enhanced childhood resiliency. This presentation will include an overview of the science behind attachment and play, and its ability to prevent the negative effects of childhood adversity and toxic stress. Participants will have opportunities to view and model joyful play applications as they are provided with evidence-based strategies to increase resiliency in early care environments. Participants will leave the session with an individualized joyful plan for infants, toddlers and preschool children to embed into their curriculum planning.

Diversity: It's Not Black and White Featured Speaker

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.

Dual Language Learners: Support Strategies for Birth to 5

Using the Planned Language Approach Model, participants will learn about evidence-based strategies that support Birth to five dual language learners and debunk myths related to DLL. Participants will acquire and apply new knowledge on how to transfer instructional strategies for Birth to 5 DLL children.

Essential Elements for Successful Inclusion

Have you ever struggled to include a child into the everyday routines of your classroom? To truly create an inclusive environment, a classroom must embrace children of varying abilities, delays, or who are medically fragile. Ingredients for a successful recipe include exploring your attitude, defining what true inclusion involves, resolving myths, and the realistic expectations regarding people with disabilities.

This Child, Each Child Will Grow and Learn

Gaps in development tend to appear in children before the age of two which means as early childhood educators, we can influence positive outcomes for children. This session is designed to help attendees understand the importance of early identification through monitoring and screening which leads to connecting families with local, state, and national resources. Participants will be provided an overview of developmental milestones and evidence-based approaches to communicate with families and professionals about concerns that may arise.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Advancing Equity in ECE: Words Into Action

Featured Speaker

"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.

Essential Elements for Family Conversations

Featured Speaker

Participants will explore and reflect on having quality conversations with families when there is a suspected delay or disability. Strategies on how to prepare for a difficult conversation and techniques to use to strengthen and support successful collaboration, without judgement of the families' various reactions or decisions will be provided. Participants will also be given tips to work with families and consider all cultures, backgrounds, and types of families.

3:00 PM -4:30 PM

"Creating The World You Want To Live In"- The Importance of Creating a School Family through the Use of 7 Skills, Powers and Structures! (Toddler through Preschool)

During this session participants will be introduced to the social-emotional curriculum of Conscious Discipline© using the seven brain smart skills, powers and structures.

Let's Say it In Song! Adding Rhythm to Your Routine

Featured Speaker

This session is for everyone, both the talented and the "vocally challenged"! Our FIRST objective is to build your confidence and help you to believe in your ability to engage the children in learning through music. By the conclusion, we will have paved the way for everyone to return to the classroom with simple, tried and true, effective learning tools to use immediately based on rhythm, movement and singing. We will sing, clap and move throughout the session, and learn how, when and where to use the

new ideas during your work day... in circle, transitions, clean up, hello/goodbye, special days, cheers and affirmations, and intentional times of learning.