

2025 One Goal: Building The Future Together



“Putting Families and Children First”



2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE
ONE GOAL: BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER
“PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST”

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2025 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Creative Center for Childhood Research & Training
Association of Early Learning Coalitions
Child Development Education Alliance
Children's Forum
Division of Early Learning/Florida Department of Education
Florida Alliance of Children's Councils and Trusts
Florida Association for Child Care Management
Florida Association for the Education of Young Children
Florida Department of Children & Families
Florida Department of Health
Florida Family Child Care Home Association
Florida Head Start Association
Florida Kiwanis Foundation
Florida Institute of Education at University of North Florida
South Florida Public Broadcasting System Kidvision Pre-K
The Children's Movement of Florida
The Lucy Project

2025 PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Conference Coordinator

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Division of Early Learning/Florida
Department of Education

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Association of Early Learning Coalitions

Hillary Crow
Florida Department of Children and
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Ted Granger
Early Childhood Consultant

Molly Grant
Association of Early Learning Coalitions

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Children's Forum

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Children's Forum

2025 Summer Conference

One Goal: Building The Future Together

“Putting Families And Children First”



Hilton Tampa Downtown • Tampa, Florida
July 16-18, 2025

2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. | EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES EXHIBITS | Bayshore I |
| 12:00 NOON-12:45 P.M. | FIRST TIMERS' ORIENTATION SESSION | Palma Ceia II |
| 1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M. | OPENING GENERAL SESSION Keynote Speaker: Dr. Melissa L. Baralt | Bayshore II |
| 3:15 P.M.-4:45 P.M. | CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS | |
| 1. Brain-Body Movements For Learning | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore V |
| 2. Teach, Tackle/Transform: Master Age-Appropriate Curriculum/Challenging Behaviors | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Bayshore VI |
| 3. From Play To Problem Solving: Supporting Young Children's Executive Functions | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore VII |
| 4. The Federal Landscape: Assessing The Opportunities For Early Care & Education | Public Policy & Advocacy | Palma Ceia II |
| 5. Child Care Resource & Referral: First Step For Families & Providers | Family Engagement | Palma Ceia III |
| 6. Supporting Instructional Coaching For Teacher Growth | Management & Leadership | Palma Ceia IV |
| 7. Decoding The Unspoken: Understanding Nonverbal Cues/Actions Infant-Toddler | Child Growth/Infant & Toddler | Esplanade I |
| 8. Compliance Made Easy: Tackling The Top 10 Child Care Licensing Challenges | Health, Safety & Nutrition | Esplanade II |
| 9. Lights, Camera, Strategies! Fostering Neurodiversity/Celebrating The Learner | Special Needs | Esplanade III |
| 10. Take Back Your Classroom | Mental Health/Behaviors | Garrison |
| 5:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. | “REDISCOVERING YOUR CHILD” | Bayshore II |

2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Thursday, July 17, 2025

8:00 A.M.-10:15 A.M.

COFFEE BREAK

Sponsored by WELS Systems Foundation

Bayshore I

8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS

Bayshore I

8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 11. Teamwork In Motion: A Collaborative Planning Approach | Management & Leadership | Bayshore V |
| 12. Let's Take It Outside: Exploring (FELDS) Through Nature | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Bayshore VI |
| 13. Toddlers & Autism: The Importance Of Early Social Communication | Child Growth/Special Needs/Infant | Bayshore VII |
| 14. Understanding The Development From Symbol To Sign - The Foundation | Child Growth & Development | Palma Ceia II |
| 15. Setting Goals & Making Plans | Management & Leadership | Palma Ceia III |
| 16. Empowering Child Care Professionals: Training & Certifications | Health, Safety & Nutrition | Palma Ceia IV |
| 17. Aprendizaje Activo Con Lego® Six Bricks: Estrategias | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Esplanade I |
| 18. Intentional Interactions: Promoting Learning & Persistence Through Play | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Esplanade II |
| 19. The Power Of Your Story: Parents & Educators As Strong Advocates For Progress | Public Policy & Advocacy | Esplanade III |
| 20. Emotional Intelligence Strategies For Teachers | Child Growth & Development | Garrison |

10:15 A.M.-11:45 A.M.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| 21. Provoking Wonderment: Igniting Children's Natural Curiosity Thru Everyday Science | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Bayshore V |
| 22. Sensory Processing: How It All Works! | Child Growth/Special Needs | Bayshore VI |
| 23. NDBIs & Autism: Empowering Parents, Impacting Families | Child Growth/Special Needs | Bayshore VII |
| 24. 2025 State & Federal Legislative Review | Public Policy & Advocacy | Palma Ceia II |
| 25. Success Starts With You: Tools To Thrive In Early Childhood Education | Management & Leadership | Palma Ceia III |
| 26. Positive Social Skills & Emotional Competencies Supporting Prekindergarten | Special Needs | Palma Ceia IV |
| 27. Active Learning With Six Bricks: Strategies To Enhance Early Childhood Dev | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Esplanade I |
| 28. Designing Weather For All: Using AI & UDL In Early Childhood Learning | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Esplanade II |
| 29. VPK Accountability, Improvement Plan, & Curriculum Requirements | Public Policy & Advocacy | Esplanade III |
| 30. Creating Confident, Capable Children With Music | Child Growth & Development | Garrison |

12:00 NOON-1:15 P.M.

RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Keynote Speaker: Barbara Papantoakis

Bayshore II

2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Thursday, July 17, 2025

1:30 P.M.-2:30 P.M.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 31. All Behavior Is Communication: Understanding/Responding Infant/Toddler Behavior | Mental Health/Infant & Toddler | Bayshore V |
| 32. Mindfulness Matters: Caring With Presence | Management & Leadership | Bayshore VI |
| 33. Enhancing Teaching Practices Thru Executive Function: Modeling/Implementation | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore VII |
| 34. Early Steps: Partnering With Early Educators To Support The Dev Of Children | Special Needs | Palma Ceia I |
| 35. Emphasizing Regard For Children's Perspectives In PreK/Toddler Classrooms | Child Growth & Development | Palma Ceia II |
| 36. To Screen & Assess Children Or Not? | Screenings/Assessments/Eval | Palma Ceia III |
| 37. Acquisition & Use Of Knowledge & Skills In Prekindergarten | Special Needs | Palma Ceia IV |
| 38. Embracing The Science Of Reading In Early Childhood Classrooms | Child Growth & Development | Esplanade I |
| 39. Talking To Toddlers - Building Blocks For Reading Success | Child Growth/Infant & Toddler | Esplanade II |
| 40. Enhancing Instruction & Interactions In Early Childhood | Child Growth & Development | Esplanade III |
| 41. Unlocking PreK Potential: The Science Of Reading Drives Early Reading Success | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Garrison |

2:45 P.M.-3:45 P.M.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 42. Laugh For The (Mental) Health: Laughter & Laughter Yoga Support Pyramid Model | Mental Health/Behaviors | Bayshore II |
| 43. Calm The Chaos: Tips For Smooth Transitions | Mental Health/Behaviors | Bayshore V |
| 44. Power Of Communication | Management & Leadership | Bayshore VI |
| 45. Teaching With Child Development In Mind | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore VII |
| 46. Elevating Quality Of Feedback In Prekindergarten/Toddler Classrooms: Strategies | Child Growth & Development | Palma Ceia I |
| 47. Asking Effective Questions For Instructional Support CLASS™ Scoring System | Child Growth & Development | Palma Ceia II |
| 48. School Readiness Developmental Screening | Screenings/Assessments/Eval | Palma Ceia III |
| 49. Use Of Appropriate Behaviors To Meet Needs In Prekindergarten | Special Needs | Palma Ceia IV |
| 50. Come On In! Powering Your Partnerships With Families | Family Engagement | Esplanade I |
| 51. Using FELDS To Build Resiliency In Our Youngest Learners | Child Growth & Development | Esplanade II |
| 52. First To See/Support: Child Care Educators Leading Way In Early Intervention | Screenings/Assessments/Eval | Esplanade III |
| 53. Play, Pixels, & Proficiency: Integrating Science Of Reading For Generation Alpha | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Garrison |

4:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 54. Jump, Skip, Let's Get Moving | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore II |
| 55. Play, CLASS™ & Standards: The Three Crosswords For Success | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore V |
| 56. Reach For The Stars Using FAST Star Early Literacy Data | Screenings/Assessments/Eval | Bayshore VI |
| 57. Creating Confident Writers: Strategies To Make Early Writing Enjoyable | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Bayshore VII |
| 58. Assistive Technology Tools For Tomorrow: Creating Classrooms Today For Children | Special Needs | Palma Ceia I |
| 59. Fostering Positive Behaviors In Children Of All Abilities Through CLASS™ | Child Growth & Development | Palma Ceia II |
| 60. Supporting Family Engagement With Early Literacy Resources & Training | Family Engagement | Palma Ceia III |
| 61. Individualizing With Ease | Special Needs | Palma Ceia IV |
| 62. Empowering Early Learning Directors: A Fellowship Initiative | Management & Leadership | Esplanade I |
| 63. Every Interaction Counts: Improving Language Environments In Early Childhood Ed | Child Growth & Development | Esplanade II |
| 64. Fostering Positive Classroom Interactions In Child Development Centers | Child Growth & Development | Garrison |

7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

“COME ALIVE WITH MUSIC AND KARAKOKE/LIP SYNC PARTY”

Bayshore II

2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE

Friday, July 18, 2025

8:00 A.M.-10:15 A.M. COFFEE BREAK Bayshore I

8:00 A.M.-11:45 A.M. COMMERCIAL EXHIBITS Bayshore I

8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M. CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 65. Understanding Behavior - Teaching Rather Than Punishing | Mental Health/Behaviors | Bayshore II |
| 66. Four Essential EQ Competencies For Educational Leaders: Keeping Your Head | Management & Leadership | Bayshore V |
| 67. Let's Meet Them Where They Are! (The Whole Child Approach) | Child Growth & Development | Bayshore VI |
| 68. Beyond Handprints & Footprints - Promoting Creative Expressions Infants/Toddlers | Child Growth/Infant & Toddler | Bayshore VII |
| 69. Reteniendo La Excelencia: Avanzando Educadorespar Con TEACH E INCENTIVES | Collaboration | Palma Ceia I |
| 70. STEM & Literacy: Discover, Explore, & Learn | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Palma Ceia II |
| 71. What If We Got It Right From The Start? A Dyslexia-Informed Approach For All | Special Needs | Palma Ceia III |
| 72. Jeopardy: Florida's Early Learning Roadmap Edition | Public Policy & Advocacy | Palma Ceia IV |
| 73. Collaborative Strategies For Reducing Challenging Behaviors In Preschoolers | Mental Health/Behaviors | Esplanade I |
| 74. Blooming Empathetic Leadership In Early Childhood | Management & Leadership | Esplanade II |
| 75. Beyond The Checkmark: Digital Portfolios For Authentic Assessment | Screenings/Assessments/Eval | Esplanade III |
| 76. Intentional Integration For READY Children | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Garrison |

10:15 A.M.-11:45 A.M. CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 77. The Second Year: Helping Young Toddlers Develop Socially & Emotionally | Child Growth/Infant & Toddler | Bayshore V |
| 78. The Importance Of Sensory Play & YOU! | Child Growth/Special Needs | Bayshore VI |
| 79. Once Upon A Story: Supporting Young Children's Literacy Dev Thru Dramatic Play | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Bayshore VII |
| 80. Retaining Excellence: Advancing ECE Educators Through TEACH & INCENTIVES. | Collaboration | Palma Ceia I |
| 81. Nature-Based Learning In The Outdoor Classroom | Dev Appropriate Curriculum | Palma Ceia II |
| 82. Build A Toolbox For Emotional Intelligence | Mental Health/Behaviors | Palma Ceia III |
| 83. Receta, No Un Menú: Mapa De Ruta Para El Futuro De La Educación Temprana | Public Policy & Advocacy | Palma Ceia IV |
| 84. It Takes A Village: Cultivating Family Engagement | Family Engagement | Esplanade I |
| 85. Understanding...Caring...Compassion For Every Child | Mental Health/Behaviors | Esplanade II |
| 86. Leveraging Data Types For Continuous Improvement | Management & Leadership | Esplanade III |
| 87. Music Starts With The Heartbeat! | Child Growth/Infant & Toddler | Garrison |

12:00 NOON-1:30 P.M. CLOSING GENERAL SESSION Bayshore II
 Keynote Speaker: Holly Elissa Bruno

PROGRAM TRACKS AT-A-GLANCE

July 16,17,18 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| Child Growth and Development | Wednesday-1 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Bayshore V | Brain-Body Movements For Learning |
| Child Growth and Development | Wednesday-3 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Bayshore VII | From Play To Problem Solving: Supporting Young Children's Executive Functions |
| Child Growth and Development | Wednesday-7 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Esplanade I | Decoding The Unspoken: Understanding Nonverbal Cues And Actions In Infant-Toddler Behavior To Cultivate Nurturing Relationships And Language Skills |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-13 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VII | Toddlers And Autism: The Importance Of Early Social Communication |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-14 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia II | Understanding The Development From Symbol To Sign - The Foundation For Later School Success |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-20 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Garrison | Emotional Intelligence Strategies For Teachers |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-22 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VI | Sensory Processing: How It All Works! |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-23 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VII | NDBIs And Autism: Empowering Parents, Impacting Families |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-30 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Garrison | Creating Confident, Capable Children With Music |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-33 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Bayshore VII | Enhancing Teaching Practices Through Executive Function: Modeling And Implementation For Young Learners |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-35 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Palma Ceia II | Emphasizing Regard For Children's Perspectives In Prekindergarten And Toddler Classrooms: Strategies For Meaningful Engagement Within The CLASS™ Framework |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-38 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Esplanade I | Embracing The Science Of Reading In Early Childhood Classrooms |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-39 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Esplanade II | Talking To Toddlers - Building Blocks For Reading Success |

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-40 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Esplanade III | Enhancing Instruction And Interactions In Early Childhood |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-45 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Bayshore VII | Teaching With Child Development In Mind |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-46 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia I | Elevating Quality Of Feedback In Prekindergarten And Toddler Classrooms: Strategies For Frequency, Depth, And Duration Within The CLASS™ Framework |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-47 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia II | Asking Effective Questions For Instructional Support Within The CLASS™ Scoring System |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-51 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Esplanade II | Using The Florida Early Learning And Developmental Standards (FELDS) To Build Resiliency In Our Youngest Learners |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-54 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Bayshore II | Jump, Skip, Let's Get Moving |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-55 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Bayshore V | Play, CLASS™ And Standards: The Three Crosswords For Success |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-59 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Palma Ceia II | Fostering Positive Behaviors In Children Of All Abilities Through CLASS™- Aligned Interactions |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-63 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Esplanade II | Every Interaction Counts: Improving Language Environments In Early Childhood Education |
| Child Growth and Development | Thursday-64 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Garrison | Fostering Positive Classroom Interactions In Child Development Centers |
| Child Growth and Development | Friday-67 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VI | Let's Meet Them Where They Are! (The Whole Child Approach) |
| Child Growth and Development | Friday-68 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VII | Beyond Handprints And Footprints - Promoting Creative Expressions With Infants And Toddlers |
| Child Growth and Development | Friday-77 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore V | The Second Year: Helping Young Toddlers Develop Socially And Emotionally |
| Child Growth and Development | Friday-78 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VI | The Importance Of Sensory Play And YOU! |
| Child Growth and Development | Friday-87 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Garrison | Music Starts With The Heartbeat! |

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| Collaboration | Friday-69 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia I | Reteniendo La Excelencia: Avanzando A Educadorespar En Una Mayor Compensacion, Edicaci3n Superior Y El Desarrollo Profesional Con TEACH E INCENTIVE\$ |
| Collaboration | Friday-80 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia I | Retaining Excellence: Advancing ECE Educators Through Higher Education, Professional Development, And Achieving Higher Wages With TEACH And INCENTIVE\$ Florida |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Wednesday-2 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Bayshore VI | Teach, Tackle, And Transform: Mastering Age-Appropriate Curriculum And Challenging Behaviors |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-12 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VI | Let's Take It Outside: Exploring The Florida Early Learning And Developmental Standards (FELDS) Through Nature |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-17 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Esplanade I | Aprendizaje Activo Con Lego® Six Bricks: Estrategias Para Mejorar El Desarrollo Infantil Temprano |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-18 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Esplanade II | Intentional Interactions: Promoting Learning And Persistence Through Play |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-21 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore V | Provoking Wonderment: Igniting Children's Natural Curiosity Through Everyday Science |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-27 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Esplanade I | Active Learning With Six Bricks: Strategies To Enhance Early Childhood Development |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-28 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Esplanade II | Designing Weather For All: Using AI And UDL In Early Childhood Learning |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-41 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Garrison | Unlocking Prekindergarten Potential: How The Science Of Reading Drives Early Reading Success |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-53 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Garrison | Play, Pixels, And Proficiency: Integrating The Science Of Reading For Generation Alpha |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Thursday-57 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Bayshore VII | Creating Confident Writers: Strategies To Make Early Writing Enjoyable |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Friday-70 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia II | STEM And Literacy: Discover, Explore, And Learn |

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---|
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Friday-76 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Garrison | Intentional Integration For READY Children |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Friday-79 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VII | Once Upon A Story: Supporting Young Children's Literacy Development Through Dramatic Play |
| Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum | Friday-81 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia II | Nature-Based Learning In The Outdoor Classroom |
| Family Engagement | Wednesday-5 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia III | Child Care Resource & Referral: First Step For Families And Providers |
| Family Engagement | Thursday-50 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Esplanade I | Come On In! Powering Your Partnerships With Families |
| Family Engagement | Thursday-60 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Palma Ceia III | Supporting Family Engagement With Early Literacy Resources And Training |
| Family Engagement | Friday-84 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Esplanade I | It Takes A Village: Cultivating Family Engagement |
| Health, Safety and Nutrition | Wednesday-8 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Esplanade II | Compliance Made Easy: Tackling The Top 10 Child Care Licensing Challenges |
| Health, Safety and Nutrition | Thursday-16 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Empowering Child Care Professionals: Training And Certifications |
| Infant and Toddler | Wednesday-7 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Esplanade I | Decoding The Unspoken: Understanding Nonverbal Cues And Actions In Infant-Toddler Behavior To Cultivate Nurturing Relationships And Language Skills |
| Infant and Toddler | Thursday-13 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VII | Toddlers And Autism: The Importance Of Early Social Communication |
| Infant and Toddler | Thursday-31 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Bayshore V | All Behavior Is Communication: Understanding And Responding To Infant And Toddler Behavior |
| Infant and Toddler | Thursday-39 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Esplanade II | Talking To Toddlers - Building Blocks For Reading Success |
| Infant and Toddler | Friday-68 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VII | Beyond Handprints And Footprints - Promoting Creative Expressions With Infants And Toddlers |
| Infant and Toddler | Friday-77 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore V | The Second Year: Helping Young Toddlers Develop Socially And Emotionally |
| Infant and Toddler | Friday-87 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Garrison | Music Starts With The Heartbeat! |

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---|
| Management and Leadership | Wednesday-6 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Supporting Instructional Coaching For Teacher Growth |
| Management and Leadership | Thursday-11 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore V | Teamwork In Motion: A Collaborative Planning Approach |
| Management and Leadership | Thursday-15 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia III | Setting Goals And Crafting Plans |
| Management and Leadership | Thursday-25 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia III | Success Starts With You: Tools To Thrive In Early Childhood Education |
| Management and Leadership | Thursday-32 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Bayshore VI | Mindfulness Matters: Caring With Presence |
| Management and Leadership | Thursday-44 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Bayshore VI | Power Of Communication |
| Management and Leadership | Thursday-62 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Esplanade I | Empowering Early Learning Directors: A Fellowship Initiative |
| Management and Leadership | Friday-66 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore V | Four Essential EQ Competencies For Educational Leaders: Keeping Your Head When All About You Are Losing Theirs |
| Management and Leadership | Friday-74 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Esplanade II | Blooming Empathetic Leadership In Early Childhood |
| Management and Leadership | Friday-86 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Esplanade III | Leveraging Data Types For Continuous Improvement |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Wednesday-10 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Garrison | Take Back Your Classroom |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Thursday-31 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Bayshore V | All Behavior Is Communication: Understanding And Responding To Infant And Toddler Behavior |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Thursday-42 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Bayshore II | Laugh For The (Mental) Health Of It: How Laughter And Laughter Yoga Support The Pyramid Model |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Thursday-43 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Bayshore V | Calm The Chaos: Tips For Smooth Transitions |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Friday-65 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore II | Understanding Behavior - Teaching Rather Than Punishing |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Friday-73 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Esplanade I | Collaborative Strategies For Reducing Challenging Behaviors In Preschoolers: The Program-Wide Positive Behavior Support Process |
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Friday-82 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia III | Build A Toolbox For Emotional Intelligence |

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---|
| Mental Health/ Managing Behaviors | Friday-85 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Esplanade II | Understanding...Caring... Compassion For Every Child |
| Public Policy and Advocacy | Wednesday-4 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia II | The Federal Landscape: Assessing The Opportunities For Early Care And Education |
| Public Policy and Advocacy | Thursday-19 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Esplanade III | The Power Of Your Story: Parents And Educators As Strong Advocates For Progress |
| Public Policy and Advocacy | Thursday-24 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia II | 2025 State And Federal Legislative Review |
| Public Policy and Advocacy | Thursday-29 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Esplanade III | VPK Accountability, Improvement Plan, And Curriculum Requirements |
| Public Policy and Advocacy | Friday-72 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Jeopardy: Florida's Early Learning Roadmap Edition |
| Public Policy and Advocacy | Friday-83 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Una Receta, No Un Menú: Mapa De Ruta Para El Futuro De La Educación Temprana En Florida |
| Screenings/ Assessments/ Evaluations | Thursday-36 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Palma Ceia III | To Screen And Assess Children Or Not? |
| Screenings/ Assessments/ Evaluations | Thursday-48 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia III | School Readiness Developmental Screening |
| Screenings/ Assessments/ Evaluations | Thursday-52 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Esplanade III | First To See, First To Support: Child Care Educators Leading The Way In Early Intervention And Early Steps Referrals |
| Screenings/ Assessments/ Evaluations | Thursday-56 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Bayshore VI | Reach For The Stars Using FAST Star Early Literacy Data |
| Screenings/ Assessments/ Evaluations | Friday-75 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Esplanade III | Beyond The Checkmark: Digital Portfolios For Authentic Assessment |
| Special Needs | Wednesday-9 | 3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. | Esplanade III | Lights, Camera, Strategies! Fostering Neurodiversity And Celebrating The Learner In Early Childhood Years |
| Special Needs | Thursday-13 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Bayshore VII | Toddlers And Autism: The Importance Of Early Social Communication |
| Special Needs | Thursday-22 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VI | Sensory Processing: How It All Works! |
| Special Needs | Thursday-23 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VII | NDBIs And Autism: Empowering Parents, Impacting Families |

| Program Track | Day-Session Number | Time | Room | Program Title |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| Special Needs | Thursday-26 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Positive Social Skills And Emotional Competencies Supporting Prekindergarten |
| Special Needs | Thursday-34 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Palma Ceia I | Early Steps: Partnering With Early Educators To Support The Development Of Children With Developmental Delays - One Early Step At A Time |
| Special Needs | Thursday-37 | 1:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Acquisition And Use Of Knowledge And Skills In Prekindergarten |
| Special Needs | Thursday-49 | 2:45 p.m.- 3:45 p.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Use Of Appropriate Behaviors To Meet Needs In Prekindergarten |
| Special Needs | Thursday-58 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Palma Ceia I | Assistive Technology Tools For Tomorrow: Creating Classrooms Today For All Children |
| Special Needs | Thursday-61 | 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. | Palma Ceia IV | Individualizing With Ease |
| Special Needs | Friday,-71 | 8:30 a.m.- 10:00 a.m. | Palma Ceia III | What If We Got It Right From The Start? A Dyslexia-Informed Approach To Early Literacy For All |
| Special Needs | Friday-78 | 10:15 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. | Bayshore VI | The Importance Of Sensory Play And YOU! |

Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award

Nancy Duran Thomas was a lifelong educator, a preschool teacher, a county curriculum consultant, coordinator of exceptional student education, and Director of the Office of Early Intervention, Florida Department of Education. She was the driving force behind many collaborative efforts to ensure high quality programs for all young children and their families. This conference was Nancy's vision, and she made it a reality in 1987. Although she passed away in 2000, her memory lives on in this conference. In 2000, the One Goal Summer Conference Planning Committee wanted to recognize Nancy for her many collaborative achievements, so they established the Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award. The award is presented to individuals for their statewide efforts to foster and maintain collaboration among programs and services for all children and their families in the State of Florida. The One Goal Summer Conference Planning Committee would like to recognize those individuals who have received the Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award.



2000
Nancy D. Thomas



2001
Marilyn "Mickey" Segal



2002
Bebe Fearnside



2003
Williams S. Fillmore, Jr.



2004
Ann K. Levy



2005
Carole Fox Abbott



2006
Barbara Mainster



2007
Mary E. Bryant



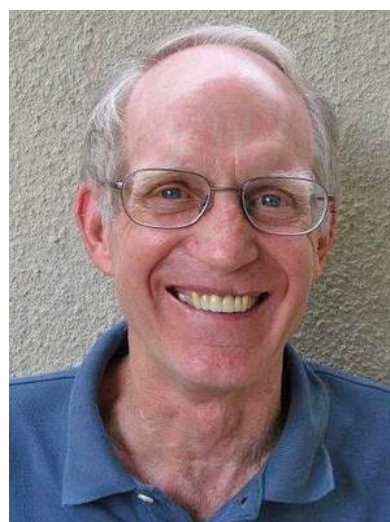
2008
Wil Blechman



2009
Landis Stetler



2010
Samuel P. Bell, III



2013
Ed Feaver



2018
Pamela C. Phelps



2019
Theodore Granger



2022
Phyllis Kalifeh

Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards

To help you in selecting workshops, we have included the Domains for the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards (FELDS):

Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Florida Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Practitioners

To help you in selecting workshops, we have included the Core Knowledge Areas for the Core Competencies for Practitioners:

Health, Safety, and Nutrition
Child Development and Learning
Building Family and Community Relationships
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions
Curriculum
Observing, Documenting, Screening, and Assessing to Support Young Children and Their Families
Professionalism

Preschool Child Development Associate Competency Standards

To help you in selecting workshops, we have included the Child Development Associate Competency Standards (CDA):

- I. To Establish and Maintain a Safe, Healthy Learning Environment
- II. To Advance Physical and Intellectual Competence
- III. To Support Social and Emotional Development and to Provide Positive Guidance
- IV. To Establish Positive and Productive Relationships with Families
- V. To Ensure a Well-Run, Purposeful Program that is Responsive to Participant Needs
- VI. To Maintain a Commitment to Professionalism

Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five Developmental Domains

To help you in selecting workshops, we have included the Central Developmental Domains for the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF):

Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

SPOTLIGHTING THE EXHIBITS!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

Educational Programs & Services Exhibits

Bayshore I

Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Exhibits will spotlight various educational programs and services available.

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025 and FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

Commercial Exhibits

Bayshore I

Thursday, July 17, 2025, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday, 18, 2025, 8:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

The sales reps purchase the items they have on display, so please support their efforts by visiting the exhibitor booths.

We would like to thank the following exhibitors for their sponsorship:

Child's Play, Inc. – Co-Sponsor Research Presentation Luncheon

Kaplan Early Learning Company – Co-Sponsor Conference Bags

Lakeshore Learning Materials – Co-Sponsor “Come Alive With Music Party”

WELS Systems Foundation – Sponsor Thursday Coffee Break

FIRST TIMERS' ORIENTATION SESSION WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

12:00 NOON-12:45 P.M. One Goal Summer Conference: 101

Palma Ceia II

If this is your first time attending the conference...then this session is for you! We will share information and tips to help you get the most out of the conference. We will not only provide an overview of the conference and conference events, but answer many important questions, such as: Where are the Esplanade meeting rooms? Where do the locals go for lunch? Who are the people in the pink vests? Where do I go, if I need assistance? Come and join us....we want your conference experience to be enjoyable.

Karan Hiester

Florida Family Child Care Home Association
1859 Mango Tree Drive
Edgewater, FL 32141

Phone: 386-689-3046
E-Mail: educate71@hotmail.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

Bayshore II

Presiding:

Pamela C. Phelps, PhD
One Goal Summer Conference
Tallahassee, Florida

Keynote Speaker:

Melissa L. Baralt, PhD
Professor of Applied Psycholinguistics,
Associate Chair, Department of Modern Languages
Florida International University
Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Deuxieme Maison (DM) 499
Miami, FL

Topic:

**The Role Of Caregiver Speech In Child Development:
What Every Educator Should Know**

Caregiver language is so important. Insights will be shared from research on how parent and teacher talk impacts brain development and learning, and strategies to encourage rich language environments for all children.



Melissa L. Baralt, PhD, began her career as a primary school teacher in Maracaibo, Venezuela. She then attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., to study how the brain acquires language and what teachers, caregivers, and parents can do to maximize the language learning process. At Florida International University (FIU), Dr. Baralt serves in two key roles: language teacher educator and psycholinguistics researcher. At the Center for Children and Families, her funded studies explore the relationship between language and health. A primary focus of her research is how bilingualism helps children born prematurely. Dr. Baralt and her team collaborated with FIU's Department of Biomedical Engineering to use functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) to study

the neural recruitment of executive functioning in preterm-born children exposed to different language environments. Dr. Baralt also conducts research on language development in young children, with particular emphasis on bilingual language development. In May 2017, she and her team were announced as winners of the United States Federal Challenge, funded by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). Their free mobile app, Háblame Bebé, coaches parents on how and why to raise their children as bilinguals, promotes Spanish language use, and fosters caregiver pride in Hispanic bilingual identity. She is also involved with Reach Out and Read, collaborating with pediatricians to promote bilingual early literacy and caregiver-child interaction in healthcare settings. Through this partnership, Dr. Baralt helps integrate language development strategies into well-child visits, with a focus on supporting and celebrating minoritized families. Her research and community partnerships aim to ensure that all children are prepared for kindergarten and lifelong learning.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

1. Brain-Body Movements For Learning

Bayshore V

Brain-Body Movements for Learning is a dynamic presentation that empowers educators with movement-based tools to fuel cognitive growth. Discover simple, research-backed techniques to integrate reflexes, enhance coordination, and improve focus, memory, and motor skills - especially for children with physical, cognitive, or behavioral challenges. Walk away with practical strategies you can use immediately to create more successful, joyful learning experiences at school or at home. Good for all ages!

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy
Perceptual, Motor, and Physical Development

Presenter:

Janis Nakagama, Neurodevelopmental Movement Educator

399 Lake Road
Lake Mary, FL 32746

Phone: 407-221-9009
E-Mail: nakagamajanis@gmail.com

2. Teach, Tackle, And Transform: Mastering Age-Appropriate Curriculum And Challenging Behaviors

Bayshore VI

Join us for an engaging and insightful session where we'll dive into the magic of blending curriculum with social-emotional skills! Discover how these two essential elements work hand-in-hand to nurture confident, well-rounded, and happy children. By tailoring learning to meet kids right where they are, we create an environment where they thrive academically and socially. The best part - as their knowledge and social-emotional skills grow, their behavior improves - leading to fewer challenges and more success along the way!

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenters:

Candice Tripi Scott, *Teacher/Coach/Assistant Director*

Nativity Catholic School

705 East Brandon Boulevard

Brandon, FL 33511

Phone: 813-716-6909

E-Mail: prek4ateacher@nativitycatholicschool.org

Shauna Jedinak, *Teacher/Coach*

Nativity Catholic School

705 East Brandon Boulevard

Brandon, FL 33511

Phone: 813-689-3395

E-Mail: prek4bteacher@nativitycatholicschool.org

**3. From Play To Problem Solving: Supporting Young Children's
Executive Functions**

Bayshore VII

Executive Functions are a set of cognitive abilities involved in important tasks such as regulating emotions, controlling impulses, filtering out distractions, following directions, and adjusting to changing demands. This interactive session is designed to introduce these key skills and provide research-based strategies for supporting and scaffolding their development. Participants will be invited to use their own executive functions to complete a number of fun-filled challenges. Additionally, they will receive a list of resources to deepen their content knowledge.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers:
Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Cognition

Presenter:

Suzanne Adinolfi, *PhD, Director of Research and Content Development*

Learning Beyond Paper

871 Squirrel Road

DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433

Phone: 850-419-3445

E-Mail: sadinolfi@learningbeyondpaper.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

4. The Federal Landscape: Assessing The Opportunities For Early Care And Education

Palma Ceia II

This presentation will provide an update on the opportunities and challenges facing the field of early care and education from the federal level. Significant legislation will be discussed, as well as ways that the field can have an impact on conversations, both at home and in Congress. Understanding the windows of opportunity, as well as the budget process, is critical in moving the agenda for young children and their families forward in our country.

Program Track: Public Policy and Advocacy

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Whitney Pesek, JD, Director, Federal Child Care Policy
National Women's Law Center
11 Dupont Circle, NW, #800
Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 202-588-5180
E-Mail: wpesek@nwlc.org



Whitney Pesek is the Director of Federal Child Care Policy at the National Women's Law Center. Previously, she has led federal legislative strategy on work and family issues at Paid Leave for the United States (PL+US) and ZERO TO THREE. Pesek has also led legislative oversight of Ohio's incarcerated youth and other vulnerable populations. She served in AmeriCorps and has experience as an Early Head Start Teacher. She holds a JD from Georgetown University Law Center, and a BA in Sociology from Ohio University.

5. Child Care Resource & Referral: First Step For Families And Providers

Palma Ceia III

The presenters will provide an overview of Florida's Child Care Resource and Referral program and the support offered to families and child care providers.

Program Track: Family Engagement

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Building Family and Community Relationships

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

Presenters:

Audia Bradwell, *CCR&R State TA Coordinator/Trainer*
Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8596
E-Mail: Audia.Bradwell@del.fldoe.org

Andrea Ward, *Child Care Resource and Referral Program Manager*
Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8609
E-Mail: Andrea.Ward@del.fldoe.org

6. Supporting Instructional Coaching For Teacher Growth

Palma Ceia IV

This session will focus on systems of support that empower instructional coaches to impact teacher growth that leads to improved child outcomes. The presenters have a combined thirty years of experience in coaching, mentoring coaches, leading teams of instructional coaches, and providing professional development to coaches in Head Start, School Readiness, and Quality Improvement grants and initiatives. Those who coach, train coaches, or lead coaches will walk away with concrete ways to improve the implementation of the coaching process.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Leaders of Instructional Coaches

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenters:

Melanie Clough, *PhD, AVP Early Childhood Education*
Episcopal Children's Services, ECS4Kids
8649 Baypine Road, Building 7, Suite 300
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Phone: 904-726-1500
E-Mail: melanie.clough@ecs4kids.org

Lauren Berk, *Director of Professional Development*
Episcopal Children's Services, ECS4Kids
8649 Baypine Road, Building 7, Suite 300
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Phone: 904-726-1500
E-Mail: lauren.berk@ecs4kids.org

**7. Decoding The Unspoken: Understanding Nonverbal Cues
And Actions In Infant-Toddler Behavior To Cultivate Nurturing
Relationships And Language Skills**

Esplanade I

Before children speak, they communicate through gestures, expressions, and movement. This engaging session explores how tuning into these nonverbal cues can build trust, emotional security, and support early language development. Through interactive activities like video analysis and role-playing, participants will learn to "listen" with their eyes and respond in nurturing, language-rich

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

ways. Attendees will leave with practical tools to strengthen communication and foster meaningful relationships with infants and toddlers - ensuring every child feels seen and understood.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Program Track: | Child Growth and Development Infant and Toddler |
| Target Audience: | Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced |
| FELDS Domains: | Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy |
| Core Competencies: | Child Development and Learning |
| CDA Standards: | Physical and Intellectual Competence Social and Emotional Development |
| HSELOF Domains: | Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy |

Presenter:

Juelie Perry, *Keynote/Storyteller/Trainer*
Inspire to Impact ECE Training and Consulting
5145 Sapphire Lane SW
Vero Beach, FL 32968

Phone: 772-473-4994
E-Mail: info@inspiretoimpact.net

**8. Compliance Made Easy: Tackling The Top 10 Child Care
Licensing Challenges**

Esplanade II

In this presentation, the Office of Licensing will delve into the top ten most common licensing violations found in child care facilities across the state. We will examine the specific requirements related to these violations, and provide practical solutions and strategies to help providers achieve and maintain compliance. Attendees will gain valuable insights into regulatory standards and learn how to create safer, more effective environments for the children in their care. This session is essential for anyone involved in child care operations, aiming to enhance their understanding and application of licensing requirements.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Program Track: | Health, Safety and Nutrition |
| Target Audience: | Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff |
| Core Competencies: | Professionalism |
| CDA Standards: | Well-Run, Purposeful Program Professionalism |

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

Presenter:

Hannah McGlothlin, *Operations Review Specialist*

Florida Department of Children and Families

3722 Marianna Road

Jacksonville, FL 32217

Phone: 904-651-4898

E-Mail: hannah.mcglathlin@myflfamilies.com

**9. Lights, Camera, Strategies! Fostering Neurodiversity And
Celebrating The Learner In Early Childhood Years**

Esplanade III

This presentation will explore practical and realistic strategies to address neurodiversity using appropriate language and sensitive approaches. We'll discuss the prevalence of neurodiverse learners in early childhood settings, best practices for supporting families and educators, and approaches to fostering understanding in underserved communities. This presentation will empower participants with the confidence and knowledge to understand the neurodiversity of learners, using a developmental framework to guide meaningful conversations. When teachers and families feel more confident in communicating sensitive information, children who need extra support are more likely to receive the help they need.

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenters:

Sandra "Sandy" Ampudia, *Director of Professional Development*

The Discovery Source

1006 NW 87th Avenue, #206

Miami, FL 33172

Phone: 786-355-5881

E-Mail: sandy@thediscoverysource.com

Janice Garcia De Osuna, *Regional Manager*

The Discovery Source

1006 NW 87th Avenue, #206

Miami, FL 33172

E-Mail: janice@thediscoverysource.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

3:15 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.

10. Take Back Your Classroom

Garrison

Are your children running your classroom? Do you cry silently at your desk counting the seconds until you can go home? LOL Then this is the presentation for you! Join us for this hilarious, interactive, hands-on learning experience. Our Play Professors will show you how to take back your power and your classroom!

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development
Well-Run, Purposeful Program

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenter:

Kristy Pink, CEO/ Founder
Play University Inc
613 Lantana Street
Harker Heights, TX 76548

Phone: 254-265-8195
E-Mail: kristypinkney@gmail.com

5:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

“REDISCOVERING YOUR CHILD”

Bayshore II

This is an excellent opportunity to network with speakers and colleagues. Snacks and punch (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) provided compliments of the Hilton Tampa Downtown.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

11. Teamwork In Motion: A Collaborative Planning Approach

Bayshore V

Collaboration is the foundation of a thriving child care environment. When teamwork is in motion, staff actively contribute ideas, transforming plans into an engaging process. By fostering a structured and supportive space for idea-sharing, we cultivate a motivated team that enhances job satisfaction, retention, and the learning experience for children. This session provides tools to spark creativity, strengthen communication, and empower teachers not just to own their classrooms but to celebrate their contributions. Together, we overcome challenges and build innovative strategies. Just as children learn through play, educators thrive through brainstorming, open dialogue, and shared problem-solving.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Cynthia Krosky, President

Achieving Corporate Excellence, Inc.

P.O. Box 2768

Oldsmar, FL 34677

Phone: 772-461-8313

E-Mail: achieve@achievingcorporateexcellence.com

12. Let's Take It Outside: Exploring The Florida Early Learning And Developmental Standards (FELDS) Through Nature

Bayshore VI

This interactive session is designed to inspire preschool educators to use both natural materials and nature-based experiences to promote language and vocabulary development, along with observation and problem-solving skills, while developing a sense of curiosity and creativity within young learners. Participants will be introduced to the many benefits of nature-based inquiry and receive practical strategies for addressing the Language and Literacy domain of the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards (FELDS) through interactions with the natural world.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains:

- Physical Development
- Approaches to Learning
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language and Literacy
- Mathematical Thinking
- Scientific Inquiry
- Social Studies
- Creative Expression Through the Arts

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions
Curriculum
Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development
Well-Run, Purposeful Program

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenters:

Kathy Moss, *West Central VPK Regional Facilitator*
Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
1893 Clearbrooke Drive
Clearwater, FL 33760

Phone: 727-460-0442
E-Mail: kathy.moss@del.fldoe.org

Lexi Langieri, *Northeast VPK Regional Facilitator*
Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
1941 NW 33rd Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32605

Phone: 352-872-1189
E-Mail: lexi.langieri@del.fldoe.org

13. Toddlers And Autism: The Importance Of Early Social Communication

Bayshore VII

"Failure to orient to social stimuli represents one of the earliest and most basic impairments in autism." Research indicates that autism intervention for the very young child with or suspected of autism should focus on developing early social communication skills that lead to attunement. Early social communication skills are skills that a baby learns to use long before they start to use words. These early communication skills should be considered an essential prerequisite, and are necessary for the development of social attunement and verbal communication.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New,
Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenters:

Renee Hoffman, LPC, BCBA
Pathways Early Autism Intervention
255 Anglers Ridge
Bluff Dale, TX 76087

Phone: 817-408-6236
E-Mail: rhoffman@pathwaysndbi.com

Melissa Looney, Lead Trainer
Pathways Early Autism Intervention
255 Anglers Ridge
Bluff Dale, TX 76087

Phone: 817-408-8395
E-Mail: mlooney@pathwaysndbi.com

**14. Understanding The Development From Symbol To Sign -
The Foundation For Later School Success**

Palma Ceia II

Many programs struggle to teach children reading, writing, and math concepts before they are ready. This presentation will provide teachers and parents with information that will help them understand the developmental path that children move through as they progress towards being able to read, write, and engage in high level math and science experiences. When adults understand the developmental process, they can make positive decisions for their teaching that will ensure each child's successful progress towards school readiness.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Pamela C. Phelps, PhD, Owner/Director of the Creative Pre-School, Vice Chair
The Creative Center for Childhood Research & Training, Inc.
2746 West Tharpe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-422-1080
E-Mail: cccrt@comcast.net

15. Setting Goals And Crafting Plans

Palma Ceia III

Setting goals and crafting plans are essential when envisioning our future steps. Emphasizing the value of variety, options, and choices, this interactive session aims to tap into our unique experiences and perspectives. By engaging with others, the goal is to foster mutual learning, providing a platform to both learn from others, and share our own valuable experiences.

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Pam Kissoondyal, *Family Engagement Coordinator*

Florida and Virgin Islands Deafblind Collaborative

University of Florida College of Medicine

3430 NW 60th Lane

Gainesville, FL 32653

Phone: 352-672-4598

E-Mail: pamsk@ufl.edu

16. Empowering Child Care Professionals: Training And Certifications Palma Ceia IV

This presentation will clarify the training timeline for child care professionals, detailing required deadlines at 30 days, 90 days, and within the first year of employment. It will also cover credentialing requirements for both staff and directors, highlighting key compliance factors. Additionally, common provider violations related to introductory training, CPR/First Aid ratios, and annual in-service requirements will be addressed, along with frequently asked questions received through the Child Care Training Information Center.

Program Track: Health, Safety and Nutrition

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenters:

Lina Avila, *Statewide Training Specialist*

Florida Department of Children and Families - Office of Licensing

2415 North Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-717-4369

E-Mail: lina.avila@myflfamilies.com

Gabriela Martinez, *CCTIC Lead Operator*

Florida Department of Children and Families - Office of Licensing

2415 North Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-717-4708

E-Mail: gabriela.martinez@myflfamilies.com

Jose Colon, *Credentialing Specialist*

Florida Department of Children and Families - Office of Licensing

2415 North Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-717-4359

E-Mail: Jose.colon@myflfamilies.com

17. **Aprendizaje Activo Con Lego® Six Bricks: Estrategias Para Mejorar El Desarrollo Infantil Temprano**

Esplanade I

Esta sesión atractiva e interactiva presentará a los participantes la Pedagogía de Lego® Six Bricks, un enfoque de aprendizaje práctico diseñado para estimular el desarrollo cognitivo, social y emocional en la niñez temprana. Los participantes explorarán cómo esta metodología se alinea con el Marco de Resultados del Aprendizaje Temprano (ELOF, por sus siglas en inglés) de Head Start, los Estándares de Desarrollo del Aprendizaje Temprano de Florida (FELDS, por sus siglas en inglés) y el CLASS™ (Sistema de Puntuación de la Evaluación en el Aula), destacando el papel del aprendizaje interactivo en el desarrollo de habilidades esenciales como la resolución de problemas, la función ejecutiva y el crecimiento socioemocional. Mediante actividades y aplicaciones prácticas, los educadores adquirirán estrategias prácticas para integrar Lego® Six Bricks en sus aulas, mejorando las experiencias de aprendizaje y cumpliendo con los estándares educativos. Esta sesión también destacará la base neurocientífica del aprendizaje activo basado en el juego y cómo este apoya el desarrollo cerebral de los niños pequeños.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions Curriculum

CDA Standards: Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenter:

Suzette Mirabal, Ed.D., Licensed Professional Counselor

Brain Connections Corp.

5566 NW 112 Path

Miami, FL 33178

Phone: 787-220-7564

E-Mail: smirabal@brainconnections.co

18. **Intentional Interactions: Promoting Learning And Persistence Through Play**

Esplanade II

During this session, we will learn how to focus our teacher-child interactions on the learning process by supporting children in explaining their thoughts, asking impactful follow-up questions, providing specific feedback, and encouragement. Truly effective educators can utilize these strategies seamlessly during teacher-led and child-led activities, routines, and play so that children remain highly engaged and motivated. We will explore how to implement these feedback strategies authentically in our learning environments to promote learning and persistence.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Safe, Healthy Learning Environment
Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenter:

Ronald Mohl, *Professional Development Specialist*
Lakeshore Learning Materials
2695 East Dominquez Street
Carson, CA 90895

Phone: 561-727-9089
E-Mail: Rmohl@lakeshorelearning.com

**19. The Power Of Your Story: Parents And Educators As Strong
Advocates For Progress**

Esplanade III

Florida's Early Learning Roadmap includes actionable recommendations for policy makers, community members, and business leaders to get to the early learning future we want for our state. It came together in collaboration with more than 1,000 Floridians - 70% of whom are parents and educators. Learn more from some of the educators continuing to lead this work about how this work has made the policy process more approachable for them, and how their relationships with and perceptions of state leaders have changed. Get inspired for the impact you can make when you share your story.

Program Track: Public Policy and Advocacy

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support,
Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Madeleine Thakur, *President & CEO*
The Children's Movement of Florida
3250 SW Third Avenue
Miami, FL 33129

Phone: 305-646-7230
E-Mail: madeleine.thakur@childrensmovementflorida.org

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

20. Emotional Intelligence Strategies For Teachers

Garrison

Emotional Intelligence (EI) plays a crucial role in early childhood education, shaping teacher-child relationships and fostering a supportive learning environment. This presentation will equip educators with practical strategies to enhance their EI skills, including self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills. Attendees will explore real-life scenarios, interactive exercises, and actionable techniques to integrate EI practices into their daily teaching. By strengthening Emotional Intelligence, teachers can create more positive classroom dynamics, support children's emotional growth, and improve overall academic and social outcomes.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenter:

Laura Mejia, *Instructional Designer*
Procure Solutions
2500 Missouri Avenue
South Gate, CA 90280

Phone: 213-448-3659
E-Mail: lamejia@procaresoftware.com

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

21. **Provoking Wonderment: Igniting Children's Natural Curiosity Through Everyday Science**

Bayshore V

Children are natural scientists, full of curiosity about the world around them. This interactive session will explore how early childhood educators can intentionally provoke wonderment and foster science learning through everyday experiences. Participants will be introduced to The Early Science Framework, a developmental adaptation of the three-dimensional Framework for K-12 Science Education, which emphasizes learning science by doing and thinking. Through hands-on examples, teachers will discover how to design meaningful provocations that engage young learners in scientific practices and crosscutting concepts like Cause and Effect and Structure and Function. Join us to learn practical strategies for transforming ordinary moments into rich opportunities for scientific discovery.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Scientific Inquiry

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Cognition

Presenters:

Daryl Greenfield, PhD, Professor of Psychology and Pediatrics
University of Miami
5665 Ponce de Leon Boulevard
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Phone: 305-284-9181
E-Mail: dgreenfield@miami.edu

Cynthia Parker, Education Consultant and Coach
University of Miami
5665 Ponce de Leon Boulevard
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Phone: 305-284-9181
E-Mail: cyn.parker73@gmail.com

22. **Sensory Processing: How It All Works!**

Bayshore VI

Every child develops sensory processing skills as they grow. This presentation will share the latest in neuroscience research on how children develop their sensory processing skills as they grow and play in your child care setting. We will explore each of the sensory systems, and how engaging children in sensory play helps develop their self-regulation.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition

Presenter:

Ingrid M. Kanics, *Occupational Therapist Registered/Licensed (OTR/L)*

Kanics Inclusive Design Services, LLC

506 Hilltop Drive

Swansboro, NC 28584

Phone: 412-563-6474

E-Mail: imkanics@mindspring.com



Ingrid M. Kanics, OTR/L, is an Occupational Therapist who has worked for years helping communities create and run amazing places where all children can play together. She was senior consultant on the national advisory team for the Center for Creative Play, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. During that time, she worked with numerous communities and children's museums, helping them expand their understanding of Universal Design and the importance of Sensory Play in every child's development. Kanics continued this work as Therapy Director at Hattie Larlham, Mantua, Ohio, where she oversaw therapy and recreation programs for children of varying abilities. She now owns her own consulting business, focusing on creating great play spaces in communities. Kanics has presented at local, state, and national conferences on the topics play, sensory integration, and Universal Design. Conferences include the Association of Children's Museums, American Occupational Therapy Association, Parents As Teachers, and National Association of the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC).

23. NDBIs And Autism: Empowering Parents, Impacting Families

Bayshore VII

Early childhood agencies are actively seeking ways to build capacity to provide effective intervention for toddlers with autism. Leaders are tasked with ensuring their practitioners have the knowledge, skills, and training to provide evidence-based intervention to this unique population. According to current research, Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Interventions (NDBIs) are considered highly effective intervention programs for young children with autism. The presenters will explore this empirically supported autism intervention that can be delivered by IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) Part C and Early Learning Coalition practitioners, coaching parents to implement effective intervention in the natural environment, increasing both quantity and quality of learning experiences.

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Building Family and Community Relationships

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families

Presenters:

Melissa Looney, Lead Trainer

Pathways Early Autism Intervention
255 Anglers Ridge
Bluff Dale, TX 76087

Phone: 817-408-8395
E-Mail: mlooney@pathwaysndbi.com

Renee Hoffman, LPC, BCBA

Pathways Early Autism Intervention
255 Anglers Ridge
Bluff Dale, TX 76087

Phone: 817-408-6236
E-Mail: rhoffman@pathwaysndbi.com

24. 2025 State And Federal Legislative Review

Palma Ceia II

The 2025 State and Federal Legislative Review Panel is comprised of representatives from public and private sector organizations that are involved in the early care and education area. Each panelist will provide a brief overview of budget and substantive issues addressed by the 2025 Florida Legislature and Congress impacting their particular organization/state agency, and associated rules and regulations that may be developed or impacted. Questions from the audience will be addressed by panelists following the overviews.

Program Track: Public Policy and Advocacy

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Facilitators:

Ted Granger, Early Childhood Consultant

Tallahassee, FL 32309-9576

Phone: 850-556-5082
E-Mail: tgranger44@outlook.com

Phyllis Kalifeh, Ed.D., Early Childhood Consultant

Tallahassee, FL 32308

Phone: 850-681-7002
E-Mail: pkalifeh@thechildrensforum.com

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Panelists:

Tripp Crouch, *Board President*

Florida Association of Child Care Management
Children's Nest Day Schools
Tampa, FL

Phone: 813-876-1763

Molly Grant, *Executive Director*

Association of Early Learning Coalitions
206-B South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: 229-413-2616
E-Mail: mgrant@aelcfl.org

Katerina Koikos Maroney, *Deputy Director, Programs and Policy*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8550
E-Mail: katerina.maroney@del.fldoe.org

Wanda Minick, *Executive Director*

Florida Head Start Association
111 North Gadsden Street, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-694-6477
E-Mail: wanda@flheadstart.org

Erin Smeltzer, *President and CEO*

Children's Forum
1211 Governors Square Boulevard, Suite 200
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Phone: 850-681-7002
E-Mail: esmeltzer@thechildrensforum.org

Courtney Smith, *Interim Director, Policy and Programs*

Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing
2415 North Monroe Street, Suite 400, Room N216
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-487-1111
E-Mail: courtney.smith@myflfamilies.com

Madeleine K. Thakur, *President and CEO*

The Children's Movement of Florida
3250 SW Third Avenue
Miami, FL 33129

Phone: 305-646-7230
E-Mail: madeleine.thakur@childrensmovementflorida.org

Dana Trubulsky, *State Representative District 84*

Capitol Office
402 South Monroe Street, 313 House Office Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-5084

25. Success Starts With You: Tools To Thrive In Early Childhood Education

Palma Ceia III

This energizing session brings the power of Success Principles to the field of early childhood education. Participants will learn how to lead with purpose, communicate with clarity, and stay grounded amidst daily challenges. Whether you're in the classroom, managing a program, providing support services, or running a child care home, you'll gain practical tools to boost resilience, confidence, and impact - both personally and professionally.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Pam Kissoondyal, *Family Engagement Coordinator*

Florida and Virgin Islands Deafblind Collaborative

University of Florida College of Medicine

3430 NW 60th Lane

Gainesville, FL 32653

Phone: 352-672-4598

E-Mail: pamsk@ufl.edu

26. Positive Social Skills And Emotional Competencies Supporting Prekindergarten

Palma Ceia IV

In this session, we will review the breadth of the child outcomes and the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards, identify supports for children with disabilities, and plan and implement lessons to promote positive social skills and emotional competencies. Early childhood educators will identify ways to embed skills and standards across everyday settings, participate in social games and communicate with others, follow social norms and adapt to change in routines, and express their own emotions and respond to the emotions of others.

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Presenter:

Melissa Gilliland, *Northeast Regional Facilitator*
Technical Assistance & Training System (TATS)
4471 NE 29th Street
Ocala, FL 34470

Phone: 407-823-3058
E-Mail: tats-unf@ucf.edu

27. Active Learning With Six Bricks: Strategies To Enhance Early Childhood Development

Esplanade I

This engaging and interactive session will introduce participants to Six Bricks Pedagogy, a hands-on learning approach designed to stimulate cognitive, social, and emotional development in early childhood. Participants will explore how this methodology aligns with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF), the Florida Early Learning Developmental Standards (FELDS), and the CLASS™ (Classroom Assessment Scoring System), emphasizing the role of interactive learning in fostering essential skills such as problem-solving, executive functioning, and social-emotional growth. Educators will gain practical strategies to integrate Six Bricks into their classrooms, enhancing learning experiences while meeting educational standards. This session will also highlight the neuroscientific basis of active, play-based learning, and how it supports brain development in young learners.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions
Curriculum

CDA Standards: Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenter:

Suzette Mirabal, *Ed.D., Licensed Professional Counselor*
Brain Connections Corp.
5566 NW 112 Path
Miami, FL 33178

Phone: 787-220-7564
E-Mail: smirabal@brainconnections.co

28. Designing Weather For All: Using AI And UDL In Early Childhood Learning

Esplanade II

Discover how ChatGPT and Magic School can transform early childhood curriculum design through the lens of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Using a dynamic Prekindergarten weather unit as our example, we'll explore how to co-create engaging, accessible lessons with built-in supports. Get hands-on with tools like DoInk for green-screen video creation, and leave with adaptable strategies and tech-infused ideas to make every learner shine. Come for the AI, stay for the learning, and leave ready to forecast sunshine in every child's journey!

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Scientific Inquiry

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning
Curriculum

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Cognition

Presenters:

Dana Fredebaugh, PhD, Associate Professor
Nova Southeastern University
11000 SW 13th Street
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

Phone: 954-850-4473
E-Mail: danaf@nova.edu

Jennifer Berne, PhD, Assistant Professor
Nova Southeastern University
2409 NE 12th Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Phone: 561-715-7928
E-Mail: jberne@nova.edu

29. VPK Accountability, Improvement Plan, And Curriculum Requirements

Esplanade III

Participants will receive current Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) accountability information and requirements pertaining to the performance metric and designation, providers on probation, and the implementation of an approved curriculum and staff development plan.

Program Track: Public Policy and Advocacy

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Curriculum

CDA Standards: Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenters:

Cassandra Jackson, Early Learning Program Manager
Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8583
E-Mail: cassandra.jackson@del.fldoe.org

Kristine Parker, Systems Project Coordinator
Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8551
E-Mail: kristine.parker@del.fldoe.org

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

30. Creating Confident, Capable Children With Music

Garrison

Too often children already have a list of things they think they are not good at. Teachers are so stressed about cognitive abilities, they neglect to get the TOTAL child ready for school/life in general, to include not only exposure to multi-languages, math or science skills, but social skills as well. Music is the best and easiest way to do that. Through the use of well-thought out music and movement activities (including child-directed activities, listening games, and use of various languages), children will have a list of things they feel capable of doing.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Maryann Harman, *Founder*
Music with Mar., LLC
149 Garland Circle
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Phone: 727-781-4627
E-Mail: mar@musicwithmar.com

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

12:00 NOON – 1:30 P.M.

RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Bayshore II

Presiding

Phyllis Kalifeh, EdD
One Goal Summer Conference
Tallahassee, Florida

Research:

Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County research through participation in the LENA program, particularly in both CLASS™ and TS GOLD assessments. The results have been very promising, and they are thrilled with the impact it's having on early childhood development.

Keynote Speaker:

Barbara Papantonakis
Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County
1750 17th Street, Building L
Sarasota, Florida



Barbara Papantonakis has been in the field of early education for over twenty-seven years. Her journey started as a Preschool Assistant Teacher and has evolved over years of experience providing an example of the vast opportunities available in the field of early childhood education. Papantonakis holds a bachelor's and master's from the University of South Florida. She has been a teacher in preschool and infant classrooms, as well as an Assistant Director. For 11 years, Papantonakis was an Instructor in the Early Education Department of Suncoast Technical College. For the last six years, she has been working for the Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County as a coach, trainer, and CLASS™ assessor. In 2023,

Papantonakis added the Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC) and Apprenticeship Programs Facilitator through the Early Learning Coalition of Sarasota County. She was part of the research team which participated in the LENA program and is excited to share their results.

Research Presentation Luncheon co-sponsored with Child Play, Inc.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

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1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

31. All Behavior Is Communication: Understanding And Responding To Infant And Toddler Behavior

Bayshore V

Understanding that all infant and toddler behaviors have meaning is crucial for effective caregiving and promoting healthy development. Infants and toddlers communicate their needs, feelings, and experiences through their behaviors. In this session, participants will learn the reasons why infants and toddlers may engage in challenging situations, and strategies for addressing and supporting challenging situations.

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors
Infant and Toddler

Target Audience: Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced,
Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenters:

Jennifer Kelly, *Facilitator of Learning and Development*

University of South Florida Program Wide Positive Behavior Support
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, MHC 2113A
Tampa, FL 33612

Phone: 813-974-8205
E-Mail: jenniferkell@usf.edu

Jennifer Nolan, *M.S., Facilitator of Learning and Development*

University of South Florida Program Wide Positive Behavior Support
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, MHC 2113A
Tampa, FL 33612

Phone: 813-974-0688
E-Mail: jklue@usf.edu

32. Mindfulness Matters: Caring With Presence

Bayshore VI

In the ever-evolving world of child care, staying present and centered is essential for both caregivers and the children they support. This session explores the power of mindfulness in the workplace, offering practical techniques to reduce stress, enhance focus, and cultivate a more peaceful, responsive caregiving environment. By learning to be fully present in each moment, child care professionals can strengthen connections with children, foster emotional resilience, and create a calmer, more supportive atmosphere. Whether you're navigating daily challenges or looking to improve overall well-being, this session provides valuable tools to bring mindfulness into your work and care with greater intention.

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1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Cynthia Krosky, *President*

Achieving Corporate Excellence, Inc.

P.O. Box 2768

Oldsmar, FL 34677

Phone: 772-461-8313

E-Mail: achieve@achievingcorporateexcellence.com

**33. Enhancing Teaching Practices Through Executive Function:
Modeling And Implementation For Young Learners**

Bayshore VII

This presentation explores how teachers can harness executive function skills to enhance their teaching practice and serve as role models for their young children. Executive function is crucial for both teachers and children. By embedding these skills into daily routines and interactions, teachers can create a more structured, engaging, and supportive learning environment.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

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1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Presenters:

Jamie Harmon, *Early Learning Course Implementation Support Specialist*

University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning

4928 Elon Crescent

Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: 301-752-3175

E-Mail: jamieharmon@coe.ufl.edu

Rachel Chastain-Gross, *Early Learning Content Development Senior Specialist*

University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning

6427 SW 37th Way

Gainesville, FL 32608

Phone: 904-860-4793

E-Mail: rcg@coe.ufl.edu

**34. Early Steps: Partnering With Early Educators To Support
The Development Of Children With Developmental Delays -
One Early Step At A Time**

Palma Ceia I

This session will provide early childhood educators with an overview of Florida's Early Steps program and its vital role in supporting young children with developmental delays and special needs. Participants will learn about the referral process, the benefits of early intervention, and how collaboration with Early Steps can foster developmentally supportive environments. The presentation will highlight how educators and Early Steps can work together to ensure every child receives individualized support to thrive socially and academically during the critical early years of development.

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Building Family and Community Relationships
Professionalism

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families
Professionalism

Presenter:

Maria Cadigan, *LVN, Child Find Coordinator & Family Involvement Team Leader*

Gulf Central & Southwest Florida Early Steps

14116 22nd Terr East

Bradenton, FL 34212

Phone: 941-957-8864

E-Mail: mariacadigan@hpcswf.com

**35. Emphasizing Regard For Children's Perspectives In Prekindergarten
And Toddler Classrooms: Strategies For Meaningful Engagement
Within The CLASS™ Framework**

Palma Ceia II

Participants will explore effective techniques to enhance their Regard for Children's Perspectives within routines and lessons. This session will include activities and discussions about understanding the importance of this dimension by recognizing the role of child autonomy,

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1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

leadership, and choice in fostering a supportive learning environment; encouraging meaningful participation by providing structured and unstructured opportunities for children to express their ideas, lead their play, and contribute to decision-making; and supporting flexibility by accommodating activities to individual needs and interests.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenters:

Myriana Rodriguez, *Assessment Specialist*

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-927-6752

E-Mail: Myriana.Rodriguez@elcpalmbeach.org

Hellen Rivas, *Assessment Specialist*

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-231-5868

E-Mail: Hellen.Rivas@elcpalmbeach.org

36. To Screen And Assess Children Or Not?

Palma Ceia III

This presentation will provide an overview of screening and assessment, and how they provide valuable information about each child's interests, strengths, and needs. Screening gives a snapshot of whether the child's development is on track. Assessment is an ongoing process that includes observation, and provides information about development over time. Systematic, ongoing child assessment provides information on children's development and learning. It helps inform curriculum planning, teaching, and individualizing for each child across all Early Learning Outcomes and developmental domains.

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Program Track: Screenings/Assessments/Evaluations

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

Presenters:

Carrie Russie, *DEL Program Specialist*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street, 544
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8586
E-Mail: carrie.russie@del.fldoe.org

Lisette Levy, *PhD, DEL Program Analyst*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street, 544
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8657
E-Mail: lisettelevy@del.fldoe.org

37. Acquisition And Use Of Knowledge And Skills In Prekindergarten Palma Ceia IV

In this presentation, we will discuss how educators can support all children, particularly children with disabilities, in their acquisition and use of knowledge and skills in pre-academic and early literacy, communication, problem solving, and through play. We will align these skills with the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards and the Breadth of the Three Child Outcomes. Educators will identify ways they can embed these skills into their everyday routines and activities.

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions

CDA Standards: Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenter:

Gina Neuhofer, *South/Southwest Regional Facilitator*
Technical Assistance & Training System (TATS)

Phone: 863-452-7892
E-Mail: tats-ssw@ucf.edu

38. Embracing The Science Of Reading In Early Childhood Classrooms Esplanade I

In this interactive session, discover how the science of reading can best shape practices and policies in your early childhood programs, so that children are primed for success in elementary school. The good news is that many early childhood programs are already laying much of the essential groundwork whose importance is verified by the science of reading. And here's a hint: it's a complex equation that phonics alone cannot solve, but that early childhood educators implementing a comprehensive curriculum can.

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Barbara Whitfield, Senior Educational Consultant

Teaching Strategies LLC

4500 East West Highway, Suite 300

Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 601-842-0376

E-Mail: barbara.whitfield@teachingstrategies.com

39. Talking To Toddlers - Building Blocks For Reading Success

Esplanade II

This session will cover the secrets to setting toddlers up for future reading success. This is NOT about teaching toddlers to read, but about preparing them for later learning. Discussion will include “What Not To Do”, the ways so many miss the mark in building better toddlers, based on understanding littles, and creating an environment that will nurture and strengthen their language development and enhance their later success with reading skills. Instead, participants will work through the preparation and cultivation of a rich environment that improves literacy and language development for ALL children, even non-verbal ones.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development
Infant and Toddler

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Holly Cromer

Childhood Development Education Alliance (CDEA)

7670 Windward Way West

Jacksonville, FL 32256

Phone: 904-233-8762

E-Mail: hcromeroz@gmail.com

40. Enhancing Instruction And Interactions In Early Childhood

Esplanade III

This interactive session, Enhancing Instruction and Interactions in Early Childhood, explores research-based strategies that foster critical thinking, meaningful teacher-child interactions, and integrated learning experiences in Prekindergarten classrooms. Participants will examine approaches to promote higher-order thinking, strengthen language and literacy development, and embed numeracy skills throughout daily activities. Through video analysis, reflection, and discussion, attendees will gain actionable coaching techniques to support educators in creating early learning environments that empower young children to thrive.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Michele LaCoursiere-Ferrer, *Managing Director of Strategic Partnerships*

Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI)

990 Spring Garden Street, Suite 400

Philadelphia, PA 19123

Phone: 352-812-0907

E-Mail: mlacoursiere@cli.org

41. Unlocking Prekindergarten Potential: How The Science Of Reading Drives Early Reading Success

Garrison

What if you could unlock every child's reading potential before they even enter kindergarten? In this dynamic session, we'll explore hands-on strategies designed to meet young learners where they are and set them up for success. Participants will: learn how to recognize and support individual learning differences to boost every child's progress; discover how building strong word recognition and language comprehension early on can transform literacy outcomes; and gain practical insights into choosing adaptive, mastery-based tools that cater to the needs of all early learners. Join us to empower your children with the skills they need for a strong start in reading!

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Sarah DeCotis, *National Literacy Director*
Age of Learning
4334 NW 65th Terrace
Coral Springs, FL 33067

Phone: 954-829-5144
E-Mail: sarah.decotis@aofl.com

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

42. Laugh For The (Mental) Health Of It: How Laughter And Laughter Yoga Support The Pyramid Model

Bayshore II

Laughter is more than just fun - it's a powerful tool for promoting social-emotional competence in young children and fostering a positive, resilient early learning environment. This interactive session will explore how laughter and laughter yoga align with the Pyramid Model to support nurturing relationships, smooth transitions, friendship skills, and emotional regulation. Participants will engage in hands-on laughter exercises, discover practical strategies for integrating playful laughter into classroom routines, and learn how laughter can reduce staff stress, prevent burnout, and improve retention. Walk away with actionable laughter-based techniques to create a joyful and emotionally supportive learning space!

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenter:

Rachael Moshman, *Lead Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant*

Tykes and Teens

787 37th Street

Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: 772-501-6425

E-Mail: rachaelmoshman@gmail.com

43. Calm The Chaos: Tips For Smooth Transitions

Bayshore V

This session will focus on effective strategies to support smooth transitions for children throughout daily routines. Participants will learn techniques for actively engaging children during transitions, including the use of individualized approaches and visual supports. Emphasis will be placed on creating consistent, successful transitions that reduce stress and increase participation. Attendees will leave with practical tools to foster a supportive environment where all children can thrive during routine shifts, promoting a more structured and engaging learning experience.

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

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2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenters:

Jennifer Nolan, M.S., *Learning and Development Facilitator*
University of South Florida Program Wide Positive Behavior Support
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard, 2214B
Tampa, FL 33612

Phone: 813-974-0688
E-Mail: jklue@usf.edu

Dana Peña, M.A., *Learning and Development Facilitator*
University of South Florida Program Wide Positive Behavior Support
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33612

Phone: 813-974-1105
E-Mail: dcpena@usf.edu

44. Power Of Communication

Bayshore VI

Join us for a transformative journey into understanding and harnessing the power of communication. We will explore verbal and nonverbal communication, and equip participants with the tools to connect, convey ideas, foster understanding, and enrich relationships. We will also discuss the importance of balancing emotion and reason to enhance our ability to resolve conflicts, and nurture openness to create a culture of understanding and collaboration in the early childhood education setting.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Mecca Johnson, *Founder and President*
My Joy Speaks
5801 Pebble Beach Drive
Granbury, TX 76049

Phone: 678-458-0811
E-Mail: mecca@myjoyspeaks.com

45. Teaching With Child Development In Mind

Bayshore VII

Understanding child development is essential for early educators to design environments and instructional strategies that align with children's developmental stages. This session will introduce participants to the Foundations of Child Development, which equips educators with the skills to create engaging and developmentally appropriate learning experiences. Using Florida's Early

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2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

Learning Roadmap as a guide, this session will highlight the importance of developmental milestones, competencies, and standards in instructional planning.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Program Track: | Child Growth and Development |
| Target Audience: | Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced |
| FELDS Domains: | Physical Development Approaches to Learning Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy Mathematical Thinking Scientific Inquiry Social Studies Creative Expression Through the Arts |
| Core Competencies: | Child Development and Learning |
| CDA Standards: | Physical and Intellectual Competence Social and Emotional Development |
| HSELOF Domains: | Approaches to Learning Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy Cognition Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development |

Presenters:

Rachel Chastain-Gross, *Early Learning Content Development Senior Specialist*

University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning
6427 SW 37th Way
Gainesville, FL 32608

Phone: 904-860-4793
E-Mail: rcg@coe.ufl.edu

Jamie Harmon, *Early Learning Course Implementation Support Specialist*

University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning
4928 Elon Crescent
Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: 301-752-3175
E-Mail: jamieharmon@coe.ufl.edu

46. Elevating Quality Of Feedback In Prekindergarten And Toddler Classrooms: Strategies For Frequency, Depth, And Duration Within The CLASS™ Framework

Palma Ceia I

Participants will explore practical, real-world techniques to elevate their Quality of Feedback. The session will cover strategies for increasing frequency by embedding feedback into daily classroom routines and spontaneous learning opportunities; enhancing depth by utilizing scaffolding, prompting children to explain their thinking, as well as extending conversations beyond simple affirmations; and prolonging duration by engaging children in sustained exchanges that build on their knowledge and skills.

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| Program Track: | Child Growth and Development |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|

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Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy
Cognition

Presenters:

Hellen Rivas, *Assessment Specialist*

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-231-5868
E-Mail: Hellen.Rivas@elcpalmbeach.org

Melinna Lopez Mata, *Assessment Specialist*

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-563-1039
E-Mail: Melinna.lopez@elcpalmbeach.org

**47. Asking Effective Questions For Instructional Support Within
The CLASS™ Scoring System**

Palma Ceia II

This interactive session will provide educators with concrete techniques to enhance their questioning strategies and maximize instructional support. Through discussions and scenario analysis, participants will examine real classroom scenarios to identify effective questioning approaches that promote meaningful dialogue, problem-solving, and reasoning skills in young children. The session will also highlight how intentional questioning can contribute to better child outcomes. Educators will leave with ready-to-implement strategies that can be seamlessly integrated into their daily interactions with children.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenters:

Nelly Palma, *Assessment Specialist*

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-846-0826
E-Mail: Nelly.Palma@elcpalmbeach.org

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

Myriana Rodriguez, *Assessment Specialist*

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-927-6752
E-Mail: Myriana.Rodriguez@elcpalmbeach.org

48. School Readiness Developmental Screening

Palma Ceia III

This presentation will provide an overview of the compliance requirements for conducting developmental screenings on School Readiness children and discuss frequently asked questions. Participants will also learn about the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) screening tool and the referral process, as well as opportunities for training and technical assistance.

Program Track: Screenings/Assessments/Evaluations

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

Presenters:

Lisette Levy, *PhD, DEL Program Analyst*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street, 544
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-320-0661
E-Mail: Lisette.Levy@del.fldoe.org

Carrie Russie, *Program Specialist*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street, 544
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-320-0661
E-Mail: Carrie.Russie@del.fldoe.org

49. Use Of Appropriate Behaviors To Meet Needs In Prekindergarten

Palma Ceia IV

This presentation focuses on the use of appropriate behaviors to meet needs, aligned with the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards and the Breadth of the Three Child Outcomes. Educators will be provided with an overview of resources to support children with disabilities. Early childhood educators will identify ways to embed skills and standards across everyday settings, activities, and routines to support children in the following areas: moving around and manipulating things to meet needs; eating and drinking with increasing independence; dressing and undressing with increasing independence; toileting and washing with increasing independence; communicating needs; and, showing safety awareness.

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

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2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenter:

Anna Milbert, *West Central Regional Facilitator*
Technical Assistance & Training System (TATS)
13906 Woodbridge Terrace
Bradenton, FL 34211

Phone: 941-961-9410
E-Mail: tats-fgcu@ucf.edu

50. Come On In! Powering Your Partnerships With Families

Esplanade I

Partnerships between educators and families are critical in helping to ensure positive outcomes for children. However, developing these partnerships is sometimes easier said than done. Join us as we explore strategies to cultivate positive educator/family partnerships. During this presentation, educators will begin to understand the difference between family involvement and family engagement. We will define educator and family roles in this process, share our thoughts and feelings when it comes to this process, discuss our ideas for impacting this process, and share stories of successes that we've had over the years to encourage families to "Come on in!"

Program Track: Family Engagement

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Building Family and Community Relationships

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families

Presenter:

Barbara Whitfield, *Senior Educational Consultant*
Teaching Strategies LLC
4500 East West Highway, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814

Phone: 601-842-0376
E-Mail: barbara.whitfield@teachingstrategies.com

51. Using The Florida Early Learning And Developmental Standards (FELDS) To Build Resiliency In Our Youngest Learners

Esplanade II

Throughout this presentation, participants will make connections between the FELDS and the kindergarten resiliency standards. Participants will make connections and reflect on a variety of best practices and strategies for encouraging resiliency development in our preschool learners through language and vocabulary early literacy experiences.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

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2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Presenters:

Kristen Craig, Program Specialist

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-766-8020
E-Mail: kristen.craig@del.fldoe.org

Hope Colle, Government Operations Consultant

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-545-6394
E-Mail: hope.colle@del.fldoe.org

Aurora Rogers, Government Operations Consultant

Florida Department of Children and Families - Office of Licensing
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8601
E-Mail: auroa.rogers@del.fldoe.org

**52. First To See, First To Support: Child Care Educators Leading
The Way In Early Intervention And Early Steps Referrals**

Esplanade III

This presentation supports early childhood educators (ECE) in recognizing developmental concerns and intervening through strong, respectful partnerships with caregivers. Educators will learn how to use tools like milestone checklists, parent surveys, and observation strategies from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) "Learn the Signs. Act Early" to identify when a child might benefit from an Early Steps (ES) referral. A framework grounded in principles like safety, trust, transparency, collaboration, and empowerment is offered to help educators approach caregivers with compassion and confidence. The goal is to ease caregiver concerns, reduce fear of labeling, and highlight how early intervention supports both the child and family.

Program Track: Screenings/Assessments/Evaluations

Core Competencies: Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M.

Presenters:

Amanda Ferris, *Child Find Coordinator*

Northeastern Early Steps
910 North Jefferson Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: 904-506-8102
E-Mail: amanda.ferris@jax.ufl.edu

Jennifer Killingsworth, MA, CCC-SLP, *Florida-Early Prevention and Intervention for Children (EPIC) Provider Coach*

Northeastern Early Steps
910 North Jefferson Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: 904-742-4116
E-Mail: amanda.ferris@jax.ufl.edu

**53. Play, Pixels, And Proficiency: Integrating The Science Of Reading
For Generation Alpha**

Garrison

How can we preserve the joy of play while teaching foundational literacy skills to a generation immersed in technology? Generation Alpha, the first true digital natives, learn best through interactive and engaging experiences. This session dives into how the digital learning programs can merge the science of reading, research their unique learning style, and leverage their natural curiosity, love for play, and affinity for technology.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New,
Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Sarah DeCotis, *National Literacy Director*

Age of Learning
4334 NW 65th Terrace
Coral Springs, FL 33067

Phone: 954-829-5144
E-Mail: sarah.decotis@aofl.com

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

54. Jump, Skip, Let's Get Moving

Bayshore II

Did you ever wonder, "How am I going to get the children engaged in physical activity?" This presentation will focus on the importance of physical activity and the benefits to promote children's well-being. Equipping caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to integrate movement into daily routines ensures that children engage in appropriate levels of physical activity. In addition, participants will acquire activities to bring back to the classroom and how to connect activities to the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Physical Development

Core Competencies: Health, Safety, and Nutrition
Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenters:

Darleen Schaible, *Early Childhood Education Disabilities Specialist*

East Coast Migrant Head Start

600 North Broadway

Bartow, FL 33830

Phone: 813-708-4116

E-Mail: dschaible@ecmhsp.org

Ladiz Alvarez Santiago, *Early Childhood Education Disabilities Specialist*

East Coast Migrant Head Start

600 North Broadway

Bartow, FL 33830

Phone: 863-226-0705

E-Mail: lasantiago@ecmhsp.org

55. Play, CLASS™, And Standards: The Three Crosswords For Success Bayshore V

In this interactive session, preschool educators will explore how intentional, developmentally appropriate play supports children's learning and aligns with the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Four-Year-Olds. Participants will examine the vital role of play-based learning through the lens of the CLASS™ (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) framework, focusing on how emotional support, classroom organization, and instructional support are naturally enhanced through playful interactions.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

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4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Core Competencies: Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions
Curriculum

CDA Standards: Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenters:

Leslie Albrektson, *Manager of Early Learning, CoachJax!*

Episcopal Children's Services

8649 Baypine Road, Building 7, Suite 300

Jacksonville, FL 32256

Phone: 904-535-5307

E-Mail: leslie.albrektson@ecs4kids.org

Joy Henderson, *Education Specialist*

Episcopal Children's Services

8649 Baypine Road, Building 7, Suite 300

Jacksonville, FL 32256

Phone: 904-536-0302

E-Mail: lalbrektson@ecs4kids.org

56. Reach For The Stars Using FAST Star Early Literacy Data

Bayshore VI

This engaging and interactive presentation will support educators in how to use the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Star Early Literacy data to intentionally provide literacy instruction that meets children where they are and help them reach for the stars. The Division of Early Learning will review key reports and show how to connect data, Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards, and existing Division of Early Learning resources to support instruction.

Program Track: Screenings/Assessments/Evaluations

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

Presenters:

Kristine Parker, *Systems Project Coordinator*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning

325 West Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8551

E-Mail: kristine.parker@del.fldoe.org

Olivia Giusti, *Program Specialist IV*

Florida Department of Education, Division of Early Learning

325 West Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone: 850-717-8647

E-Mail: olivia.giusti@del.fldoe.org

57. Creating Confident Writers: Strategies To Make Early Writing Enjoyable

Bayshore VII

This engaging, interactive session will examine realistic strategies to build emergent writing skills and create a love of writing in young children. We will review the importance of keeping writing a positive experience for both the children and the teacher. Participants will analyze the different

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4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

stages of emergent writing and review innovative techniques to support learners at each stage. Finally, we will share free resources to increase family engagement and help parents to support their child's literacy development at home.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Lisa Blume, *Instructional Designer*
Nemours Children's Reading BrightStart!
125 Woodfield Lane
St. Johns, FL 32259

Phone: 407-773-0963
E-Mail: lisa.blume@nemours.org

**58. Assistive Technology Tools For Tomorrow: Creating Classrooms
Today For All Children**

Palma Ceia I

Participants in this session will learn more about the vital role of assistive technology (AT) in creating supportive classrooms for preschool children. Even in the face of mandates such as IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), AT is often underused in preschool settings, leaving many children with disabilities without essential supports. Learn actionable steps for selecting and integrating AT into your classroom, tailored to individual children's needs. We'll explore how AT benefits all children by fostering flexible and engaging learning environments. With free practical tools and web-based resources, this session will prepare you, whether novice or veteran, to teach with the confidence and knowledge around implementing AT to create a supportive classroom for all children.

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions

CDA Standards: Safe, Healthy Learning Environment
Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenters:

Michelle Schladant, *PhD, Assistant Professor*
Mailman Center for Child Development, University of Miami
1601 NW 12th Avenue
Miami, FL 33136

Phone: 786-553-7620
E-Mail: mschladant@med.miami.edu

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4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Austin Garilli, PhD, Program Manager

Mailman Center for Child Development, University of Miami
1601 NW 12th Avenue
Miami, FL 33136

Phone: 305-321-3000
E-Mail: a.rivers@miami.edu

**59. Fostering Positive Behaviors In Children Of All Abilities
Through CLASS™ - Aligned Interactions**

Palma Ceia II

This session will guide educators to develop a proactive approach and apply CLASS™ (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) concepts to promote positive behaviors of children of all abilities. Participants will explore practical strategies that will support building positive relationships, responding to individual needs and interests, and using effective instructional approaches to help children self-regulate, communicate effectively, and engage in learning.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced,
Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Presenters:

Melinna Lopez Mata, Assessment Specialist

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-563-1039
E-Mail: Melinna.lopez@elcpalmbeach.org

Nelly Palma, Assessment Specialist

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-846-0826
E-Mail: Nelly.Palma@elcpalmbeach.org

**60. Supporting Family Engagement With Early Literacy Resources
And Training**

Palma Ceia III

Join us as we share dozens of early literacy resources that have been developed and curated through the Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign for use by Florida families and early educators. Presentation highlights will include our FREE BookSmart digital book platform, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Early Literacy tips sheets, Sound Beginnings B-3 training, Supporting

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Literacy in School-Age (SLSA) K-5th training, and our FGLRC Early Literacy Resource Repository. Resources are easily accessible throughout Florida and most are FREE!

Program Track: Family Engagement

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Building Family and Community Relationships
Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families

Presenter:

Jenn Faber, *Florida Grade Level Reading (GLR) Campaign Director*
Florida Alliance of Children's Councils & Trusts
1203 Governors Square Boulevard, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 239-565-6217
E-Mail: jfaber@facct.com

61. Individualizing With Ease

Palma Ceia IV

This session will explore simple ways to provide individualized support to children in preschool classrooms. By examining common activities and routines within a preschool classroom, participants will discover easy ways to provide individualized cues and prompts to children who need more support. Working smarter, not harder, is the key!

Program Track: Special Needs

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions
Curriculum

CDA Standards: Safe, Healthy Learning Environment
Well-Run, Purposeful Program

Presenter:

Erin Sizemore, *Program-Wide Positive Behavior Support Coach/Trainer*
University of South Florida
13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33612-3807

Phone: 813-335-3963
E-Mail: eesizemore@usf.edu

62. Empowering Early Learning Directors: A Fellowship Initiative

Esplanade I

The Early Learning Fellowship is a transformative one-year program designed to empower child care directors with essential skills and knowledge. Throughout the year, participants develop robust

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business practices, ensuring sustainable and efficient operations. The Fellowship emphasizes enhancing quality initiatives to elevate the standards of child care services. Additionally, directors gain insights into the legislative process, understanding how decisions are made, and how they impact child care programs directly. This comprehensive program aims to create leaders who can drive positive change for the future of early childhood education.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenters:

Chelsea Reinhart, Vice President of Quality Supports

Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County

2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115

Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-600-421

E-Mail: chelsea.reinhart@elcpalmbeach.org

Melissa Mercado, Director of Programs - Projects

Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County

2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 115

Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Phone: 561-231-5873

E-Mail: melissa.mercado@elcpalmbeach.org

**63. Every Interaction Counts: Improving Language Environments
In Early Childhood Education**

Esplanade II

When it comes to assessing quality in early childhood education, there's never been a greater emphasis on educator-child interactions. With new research on more than 24,000 daylong audio recordings, we've likewise never had a clearer picture of what interaction in early childhood education looks like. This research establishes the first ever benchmarks across care settings, revealing a stark picture of inequity between and within classrooms and providing strong evidence for the need to improve supports for the early childhood workforce. Data and case studies will be shared to show how programs incorporating an increased focus on early language have seen not only more equitable interaction in the classroom, but increased job satisfaction and confidence among early educators as well.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New,
Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

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HSELOF Domains: Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Gina Gates, *Regional Partnerships Director*
LENA
2685 Daisy Way
Hollywood, FL 33026

Phone: 954-804-7778
E-Mail: GinaGates@lena.org

64. Fostering Positive Classroom Interactions In Child Development Centers

Garrison

Positive classroom interactions are fundamental to a child's social-emotional and cognitive growth. This session will explore evidence-based strategies to enhance teacher-child and peer relationships in early childhood settings. Attendees will learn how to create a supportive learning environment that fosters respect, communication, and collaboration. Through practical techniques, visuals, and handouts, educators and administrators will gain valuable tools to improve classroom culture, promote emotional intelligence, and support child development. This session is ideal for professionals seeking to strengthen the foundation of positive relationships in their centers.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development
Well-Run, Purposeful Program

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Laura Mejia, *Instructional Designer*
Procare Solutions
2500 Missouri Avenue
South Gate, CA 90280

Phone: 213-448-3659
E-Mail: lamejia@procaresoftware.com

7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M. "COME ALIVE WITH MUSIC AND KARAOKE/LIP SYNC PARTY"

Bayshore II

An evening of music and fun...dancing and karaoke/lip sync. The event is co-sponsored with Lakeshore Learning Materials. Our DJ will provide music for dancing, and the Lakeshore staff will entertain you. Cash bar will be available. Soft drinks are complimentary.

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

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8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

65. Understanding Behavior - Teaching Rather Than Punishing

Bayshore II

The child that causes us the most difficulty is often misunderstood. This presentation will provide information about behavior management models and child development. Most of the time we punish, when we should be teaching.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Program Track: | Mental Health/Managing Behaviors |
| Target Audience: | Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced |
| FELDS Domains: | Approaches to Learning Social and Emotional Development |
| Core Competencies: | Child Development and Learning Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions |
| CDA Standards: | Physical and Intellectual Competence Social and Emotional Development |
| HSELOF Domains: | Approaches to Learning Social and Emotional Development |

Presenter:

Pamela C. Phelps, PhD, Owner/Director of the Creative Pre-School, Vice Chair

The Creative Center for Childhood Research & Training, Inc.

2746 West Tarpe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-422-1080

E-Mail: cccrt@comcast.com

66. Four Essential EQ Competencies For Educational Leaders: Keeping Your Head When All About You Are Losing Theirs

Bayshore V

Do you have the "ability to read people as well as you read books?" Eighty percent of our daily decisions require this capacity. EQ (Emotional Intelligence) requires us to read, be informed by and respond maturely to our own emotions as messengers. Reading others' emotions is crucial, given 93% of how we communicate is non-verbal. The "rub" comes when we get "hooked", overwhelmed by, or misread our feelings or the feelings of others. Although gaining emotional maturity is a lifelong process, we can identify and practice four everyday ways to benefit from rather than be knocked off base (dysregulated) by our informative emotions. Trauma survivors' particular strengths and challenges will be acknowledged. Dealing maturely with narcissistic behaviors will also be noted.

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Program Track: | Management and Leadership |
| Target Audience: | Administrators, Directors |
| Core Competencies: | Professionalism |

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8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Holly Elissa Bruno, *Author, CEO*

Holly Elissa Bruno Keynotes & Team Building
535 South Street, Apt. 22-1
Fitchburg, ME 01420

Phone: 617-823-7288
E-Mail: hollyelissa@comcast.net

67. Let's Meet Them Where They Are! (The Whole Child Approach)

Bayshore VI

This presentation focuses on the importance of the Class™ Domain for Emotional Support in fostering learning and social-emotional development in young scholars. Participants will explore how developing the whole child, rather than just focusing on academics, can lead to a more holistic, supportive learning environment. By providing individualized support, ensuring a safe environment, and fostering community connections, educators can better meet the emotional needs of children and promote their overall well-being.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Presenter:

Devon McTier, *Director of Professional Development*

R'Club Childcare
4140 49th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Phone: 727-698-5130
E-Mail: dmctier@rclub.net

68. Beyond Handprints And Footprints - Promoting Creative Expressions With Infants And Toddlers

Bayshore VII

Supporting Creative Expression is a provision of open-ended activities and experiences to allow infants and toddlers to express themselves throughout the day. It's not about art projects in which every child's end product looks the same, or making cute pictures for families using their child's handprints and footprints, or singing "The Wheels on The Bus." Join us for an interactive session on how to create fun and open-ended activities and experiences with infants and toddlers to foster creative expressions while promoting social, cognitive, and language skills.

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Program Track: Child Growth and Development
Infant and Toddler

Target Audience: Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Cognition

Presenters:

Stephanie DeScalzo, *Quality Specialist*
Early Learning Coalition of Seminole
740 Florida Central Parkway, Suite 2032
Longwood, FL 32750

Phone: 407-960-2473
E-Mail: sdescalzo@seminoleearlylearning.org

Lori Butler, *Director of Quality*
Early Learning Coalition of Seminole
740 Florida Central Parkway, Suite 2032
Longwood, FL 32750

Phone: 407-960-2475
E-Mail: lbutler@seminoleearlylearning.org

**69. Reteniendo La Excelencia: Avanzando A Educadorespar En Una
Mayor Compensacion, Edicaci3n Superior Y El Desarrollo
Profesional Con TEACH E INCENTIVE\$**

Palma Ceia I

En esta sesi3n, exploraremos datos estatales y nacionales que destacan la importancia de retener a educadores bien formados y bien remunerados en el sal3n de clase. Los asistentes aprender3n sobre los numerosos beneficios de apoyar oportunidades de desarrollo profesional que han demostrado conducir a un mayor nivel educativo y a una mayor estabilidad financiera para los educadores de la temprana edad y cuidado infantil en el hogar en nuestro estado. Tambi3n discutiremos c3mo las iniciativas de calidad, incluyendo TEACH e INCENTIVE\$, contribuyen a una fuerza laboral en la educaci3n de la primera infancia m3s s3lida y sostenible, beneficiando en 3ltima instancia tanto a los educadores como a los ni1os peque1os a quienes sirven.

Program Track: Collaboration

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

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8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Presenters:

Martha Grant, Workforce Initiatives Coordinator TEACH

Children's Forum

1650 Summit Lake Drive, Suite 210

Tallahassee, FL 32317

Phone: 850-487-6300

E-Mail: mgrant@thechildrensforum.com

Laura Fiotte, Workforce Initiatives Specialist INCENTIVE\$

Children's Forum

1650 Summit Lake Drive, Suite 210

Tallahassee, FL 32317

Phone: 850-487-6300

E-Mail: lfiotte@thechildrensforum.com

70. STEM And Literacy: Discover, Explore, And Learn

Palma Ceia II

Discover how to seamlessly integrate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) concepts into early literacy instruction to inspire curiosity, critical thinking, and a love for exploration in young learners. This engaging session provides practical strategies, classroom examples, and hands-on demonstrations that align with the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards. Attendees will explore how integrating STEM and literacy fosters positive classroom interactions, as measured by the CLASS™ Instructional Support domain, by promoting concept development, language modeling, and quality feedback. Educators will leave equipped with tools to create inquiry-based, literacy-rich environments that encourage young children to explore, communicate, and develop foundational skills.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies: Health, Safety, and Nurtition
Child Development and Learning
Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions
Curriculum

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Presenter:

Dixie Solano, *Early Childhood Educator, STEM Gems SLC*
Preschool Pathfinders, LLC
481 SW North Quick Circle
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

Phone: 772-237-0633
E-Mail: preschoolpathfinders@gmail.com

71. What If We Got It Right From The Start? A Dyslexia-Informed Approach To Early Literacy For All

Palma Ceia III

What if the very tools we use to help children with dyslexia were the key to unlocking literacy for *all* children, starting at birth? In this powerful session, the presenter will share how a dyslexia-informed approach can transform early literacy practices in homes and early learning settings. Grounded in the Science of Reading, this presentation challenges common assumptions about what's "developmentally appropriate," and makes the case for intentional, playful, and language-rich experiences that prepare every child to thrive. Whether you're a caregiver, educator, or system leader, you'll gain powerful insight into how early experiences can prevent reading struggles, before they begin.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Program Track: | Special Needs |
| Target Audience: | Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced |
| FELDS Domains: | Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy |
| Core Competencies: | Child Development and Learning |
| CDA Standards: | Physical and Intellectual Competence Social and Emotional Development |
| HSELOF Domains: | Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy |

Presenter:

Sandra Bermudez, *CEO/Founder*
The Lucy Project, Inc.
2730 SW 3rd Avenue, Suite 304
Miami, FL 33129

Phone: 786-520-6306
E-Mail: Sandra@lucyproject.org

72. Jeopardy: Florida's Early Learning Roadmap Edition

Palma Ceia IV

What would it mean to you to equip our young learners to ensure they have everything they need to live and lead successful lives? It will take all of us operating at a maximum to achieve this: parents and caregivers, educators and system leaders. Child care providers and educators have a great impact directly or as partners. When we think of our young learners and their future, the stakes are high. Join us for an interactive session that includes a brief overview of Florida's Early Learning Roadmap, followed by a fun game of Jeopardy, where we can reimagine a secure and low-risk future instead.

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Program Track: Public Policy and Advocacy

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Varnessa McCray, *Director of Community Engagement*

The Children's Movement of Florida

205 SW 75th Street, Apartment 50

Gainesville, FL 32607

Phone: 305-781-2646

E-Mail: varnessa.mccray@childrensmovementflorida.org

**73. Collaborative Strategies For Reducing Challenging Behaviors
In Preschoolers: The Program-Wide Positive Behavior
Support Process**

Esplanade I

Challenging behavior frequently arises during early childhood and hinders a child's success in various settings. This presentation will outline a process for creating effective, individualized interventions to be used by family-school teams to assist with the most challenging behavior. Case studies and free resources to assist children will be shared.

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Presenters:

Shelley Clarke, *Research Associate*

University of South Florida

13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard

Tampa, FL 33616

Phone: 813-974-3323

E-Mail: mmc@usf.edu

Anna Winneker, *PhD, Research Assistant Professor*

University of South Florida

13301 Bruce B. Downs Boulevard

Tampa, FL 33616

Phone: 727-434-8974

E-Mail: awinneker@usf.edu

74. Blooming Empathetic Leadership In Early Childhood

Esplanade II

It's important to understand the unique challenges that every team member faces, and empathy can help leaders build relationships and make life easier for their teams. It's also key to creating a work environment where a business and its employees thrive. Empathy is the ability to recognize and share others' feelings and perspectives, and is a vital skill for any leader. It cannot be overstated, especially in today's world of work. Blooming Empathy is recognizing and sharing others' feelings and perspectives. Empathy is the ability to put yourself in others' shoes. You can lead others more effectively if you can understand what they might be experiencing.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Jenny Sanchez, PhD, Quality Education Manager

Early Learning Coalition of Broward

1475 West Cypress Creek Road, Suite 301

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Phone: 786-457-3513

E-Mail: jsanchez@elcbroward.org

75. Beyond The Checkmark: Digital Portfolios For Authentic Assessment

Esplanade III

In the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and standardized data, authentic assessment offers a powerful lens for capturing the whole child - academically, socially, and developmentally. This session explores how digital portfolios, created with Book Creator and Google Sites, provide an accessible, individualized, and differentiated method for curating child growth over time. Participants will learn how to document meaningful learning moments, track progress toward goals, and showcase the child's journey through multi-modal means of representation (e.g., audio, video, text-to-speech, language translation, images, and writing). Digital portfolios make child learning visible and easily shareable with families, caregivers, teachers, and children - fostering connection, reflection, and growth.

Program Track: Screenings/Assessments/Evaluations

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Observing, Documents, Screening, and Assessing

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Presenters:

Jennifer Berne, PhD, Assistant Professor
Nova Southeastern University
2409 NE 12th Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

Phone: 561-715-7928
E-Mail: jberne@nova.edu

Dana Fredebaugh, PhD, Associate Professor
Nova Southeastern University
11000 SW 13th Street
Pembroke Pines, FL 33025

Phone: 954-850-4473
E-Mail: danaf@nova.edu

76. Intentional Integration For READY Children

Garrison

The face of teaching in early childhood education has changed over time. We have evolved from creating our own theme-based lesson plans, art projects, and games to lesson plans that have been developed for us all, while trusting that these plans meet Florida standards and benchmarks. "Intentional Integration for READY Children" is a presentation that encourages providers and early childhood educators to revisit the Florida Standards to ensure all learning centers within the classroom meet Florida Standards for School Readiness in the state of Florida, which has the potential to raise CLASS™ (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) scores across all age groups.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Program Track: | Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum |
| Target Audience: | Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced |
| FELDS Domains: | Physical Development Approaches to Learning Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy Mathematical Thinking Scientific Inquiry Social Studies Creative Expression Through the Arts |
| Core Competencies: | Teaching and Learning Environments and Interactions Curriculum |
| CDA Standards: | Well-Run, Purposeful Program |
| HSELOF Domains: | Approaches to Learning Social and Emotional Development Language and Literacy Cognition Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development |

Presenter:

Danesha Davis, PhD, CCEF, Professional Development Coordinator
Episcopal Children's Services- ECS4Kids!
2547 Townsend Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32211

Phone: 904-536-2119
E-Mail: danesha.davis@ecs4kids.org

CONCURRENT PRESENTATIONS

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

77. The Second Year: Helping Young Toddlers Develop Socially And Emotionally

Bayshore V

The first three years of life are the most important, and the development of a positive self-concept and self-regulation are vital to success in later school. This presentation will use the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards and child development theory to explain social and emotional development. We will discuss how adults can provide meaningful experiences that support emotional and social development of young children.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development
Infant and Toddler

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Pamela C. Phelps, PhD, Owner/Director of the Creative Pre-School, Vice Chair

The Creative Center for Childhood Research & Training, Inc.

2746 West Tharpe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone: 850-422-1080

E-Mail: cccrt@comcast.net

78. The Importance Of Sensory Play And YOU!

Bayshore VI

This session builds on the presentation, "Sensory Processing: How It All Works!" Attendees will walk away with multiple examples of sensory play that can be used to promote healthy development for every child! It will also delve into how important YOU are to create spaces and experiences that allow children to risk and build lifelong regulation skills from the sensory play that we provide them.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development

Target Audience: Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Presenter:

Ingrid M. Kanics, *Occupational Therapist Registered/Licensed (OTR/L)*

Kanics Inclusive Design Services, LLC

506 Hilltop Drive

Swansboro, NC 28584

Phone: 412-563-6474

E-Mail: imkanics@mindspring.com



Ingrid M. Kanics, OTR/L, is an Occupational Therapist who has worked for years helping communities create and run amazing places where all children can play together. She was senior consultant on the national advisory team for the Center for Creative Play, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. During that time, she worked with numerous communities and children's museums, helping them expand their understanding of Universal Design and the importance of Sensory Play in every child's development. Kanics continued this work as Therapy Director at Hattie Larlham, Mantua, Ohio, where she oversaw therapy and recreation programs for children of varying abilities. She now owns her own consulting business, focusing on creating great play spaces in communities. Kanics has presented at local, state, and national conferences on the topics play, sensory integration, and Universal Design. Conferences include the Association of Children's Museums, American Occupational Therapy Association, Parents As Teachers, and National Association of the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC).

79. Once Upon A Story: Supporting Young Children's Literacy Development Through Dramatic Play

Bayshore VII

Play allows children to explore, experiment, and learn about the world around them. Dramatic play particularly serves as a context for early language and literacy learning. In this interactive session, participants will explore the powerful connection between dramatic play and foundational literacy skills, including enhanced language and vocabulary, storytelling, comprehension, and print awareness. Early childhood educators will gain practical strategies for integrating dramatic play activities into their daily routines, using simple props, themes, and role-playing scenarios. They will be inspired to provide creative opportunities for their young learners to play out familiar stories and invite them to create their own.

Program Track: Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

FELDS Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition

Presenters:

Laura Delgado, *Vice President, Curriculum and Professional Development*
Learning Beyond Paper
580 Village Boulevard, Suite 380
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

Phone: 833-452-7669
E-Mail: ldelgado@learningbeyondpaper.com

Suzanne Adinolfi, *Director, Research and Content Development*
Learning Beyond Paper
871 Squirrel Road
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433

Phone: 850-419-3445
E-Mail: sadinolfi@learningbeyondpaper.com

**80. Retaining Excellence: Advancing ECE Educators Through
Higher Education, Professional Development, And Achieving
Higher Wages With TEACH And INCENTIVE\$ Florida**

Palma Ceia I

In this session, we will explore state and national data highlighting the importance of retaining well-educated and well-compensated educators in early learning classrooms. Attendees will learn about the numerous benefits of supporting professional development opportunities that have been proven to lead to increased higher education and financial stability for our state's early learning and family child care educators. We will also discuss how quality initiatives, including TEACH & INCENTIVE\$, contribute to a stronger, more sustainable Early Childhood Education (ECE) workforce, ultimately benefiting both educators and the young children they serve.

Program Track: Collaboration

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced,
Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

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10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Presenters:

Laure Fiotte, *Workforce Initiatives Specialist INCENTIVE\$*

Children's Forum

1650 Summit Lake Drive, Suite 210

Tallahassee, FL 32317

Phone: 850-487-6300

E-Mail: lfiotte@thechildrensforum.com

Cynthia Christie, *Workforce Initiatives Specialist INCENTIVE\$*

Children's Forum

1650 Summit Lake Drive, Suite 210

Tallahassee, FL 32317

Phone: 850-487-6300

E-Mail: cchristie@thechildrensforum.com

81. Nature-Based Learning In The Outdoor Classroom

Palma Ceia II

When we schedule outside time, is it all about burning off energy? Getting the wiggles out? Children and adults need opportunities to connect to the natural world and receive the mental and physical benefits it offers. Any outdoor space can provide these with the proper planning. Discover how amazing nature-based activities can transform your playground time into nature-based learning experiences.

Program Track:

Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum

Target Audience:

Administrators, Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced,
Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains:

Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking
Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies:

Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards:

Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains:

Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenter:

Kimberly Nassoioy, *Associate Director*

University of Central Florida, Creative School for Children

4719 Brown Road

Christmas, FL 32709

Phone: 407-310-9816

E-Mail: kimberly.nassoioy@ucf.edu

82. Build A Toolbox For Emotional Intelligence

Palma Ceia III

This presentation is designed to increase your knowledge and give you tools for working with children and adults through the lens of Emotional Intelligence. Emotional intelligence (EI) is a skill set with specific traits and behaviors. Children and adults all have different levels of EI, but the skills can be learned and enhanced with training. The main areas of EI are self-awareness, self-regulation, social awareness, empathy, and social skills.

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

FELDS Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Social and Emotional Development

Presenter:

Sabrena Smith, Program Director
Central Florida Institute of Training (CFIT)
P.O. Box 20127
Bradenton, FL 34204

Phone: 407-891-0956
E-Mail: cda@cfitinc.com

83. Una Receta, No Un Menú: Mapa De Ruta Para El Futuro De La Educación Temprana En Florida

Palma Ceia IV

Desde el año 2022, un grupo formado en un 70% por padres de familia y educadores y 30% por otros profesionales y líderes en el temas de educación temprana en Florida, han trabajado juntos y crearon el Mapa de Ruta para la Educación Temprana en nuestro estado. En esta sesión y a través de una actividad interactiva, aprenderás sobre los 4 componentes principales y las 41 recomendaciones que se hacen en temas de legislación, inversión y acción comunitaria para el futuro de la niñez de 0-5 años en Florida y sobre el trabajo conjunto que actualmente se esta llevando a cabo para su implementación.

Program Track: Public Policy and Advocacy

Target Audience: Administrators, Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Presenter:

Rocio Velazquez,

The Children's Movement of Florida
3250 SW 154th Terrace
Miami, FL 33129

Phone: 786-814-8925
E-Mail: Rocio.Velazquez@childrensmovementflorida.org

84. It Takes A Village: Cultivating Family Engagement

Esplanade I

Impactful family engagement is a shared responsibility among leadership, teachers, and families in which centers commit to working in partnerships that pave the way for school readiness and children's later academic success. Children who come from homes and programs that prioritize parental involvement have a greater chance of developing healthy social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development skills than those who do not. By attending this session, participants will gain knowledge in the following areas: creating a welcoming environment; effective school-family communication; providing meaningful resources for families; shared leadership with families; and conflict resolution, turning conflicts into partnerships.

Program Track: Family Engagement

Target Audience: Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced, Training & Technical Staff

Core Competencies: Building Family and Community Relationships

CDA Standards: Positive and Productive Relationships with Families

Presenter:

Shayna Torres, *Infant-Toddler Specialist*
Early Learning Coalition of Orange County
7700 Southland Boulevard, Suite 100
Orlando, FL 32809

Phone: 407-965-7146
E-Mail: storres@elcoc.org

85. Understanding...Caring...Compassion For Every Child

Esplanade II

Understanding. Caring. Compassion. These character traits are the foundational philosophy of great teachers. This session will explore examples of how to apply these ideas across the curriculum and make a difference with a wide variety of special needs, those who have experienced trauma, and those from different backgrounds.

Program Track: Mental Health/Managing Behaviors

Target Audience: Directors, Teachers: New, Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Mathematical Thinking

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

Scientific Inquiry
Social Studies
Creative Expression Through the Arts

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Language and Literacy
Cognition
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenter:

Holly Cromer

Childhood Development Education Alliance (CDEA)
7670 Windward Way West
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Phone: 904-233-8762
E-Mail: hcromeroz@gmail.com

86. Leveraging Data Types For Continuous Improvement

Esplanade III

Leveraging Data Types for Continuous Improvement will equip early childhood leaders with strategies to use data for school improvement. This session will guide leaders in broadening their understanding of data beyond traditional metrics, focusing on child-centered learning and practices. Through real-world examples and strategic planning exercises, attendees will leave equipped to drive meaningful instructional changes. This session provides practical steps to transform data into actionable insights for improving early learning outcomes.

Program Track: Management and Leadership

Target Audience: Administrators, Directors, Teachers: Experienced

Core Competencies: Professionalism

CDA Standards: Professionalism

Presenter:

Michele LaCoursiere-Ferrer, *Managing Director of Strategic Partnerships*

Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI)
990 Spring Garden Street, Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Phone: 561-436-4765
E-Mail: mlacoursiere@cli.org

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

10:15 A.M. - 11:45 A.M.

87. Music Starts With The Heartbeat!

Garrison

Humans are born musical. Our hearts set the rhythm for our lives. This is a key reason why music is important for babies. When using music, we are continuing the beat that begins in the womb. Howard Gardner cites music as the first of the multiple intelligences to awaken. Let's build upon that. Come learn how and why to use music, as well as being given a guide as to what music to use.

Program Track: Child Growth and Development
Infant and Toddler

Target Audience: Direct Service Providers, Directors, Family Support, Teachers: New,
Teachers: Experienced

FELDS Domains: Physical Development
Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development

Core Competencies: Child Development and Learning

CDA Standards: Physical and Intellectual Competence
Social and Emotional Development

HSELOF Domains: Approaches to Learning
Social and Emotional Development
Perceptual, Motor and Physical Development

Presenter:

Maryann Harman, Founder
Music with Mar., LLC
149 Garland Circle
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

Phone: 727-781-4627
E-Mail: mar@musicwithmar.com

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

12:00 NOON – 1:30 P.M.

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

Bayshore II

Presiding:

Ted Granger
One Goal Summer Conference
Tallahassee, Florida

Topic:

**Hats Off To You: Thank You For Being Every Day Miracle
Workers In Children And Families' Lives!**

If “Change the life of a child, you change the world” remains true, why are we labeled “glorified babysitters?” Come celebrate compelling reasons why our Emotionally Intelligent profession and you matter.

Keynote Speaker:

Holly Elissa Bruno
International Keynote Speaker, Best-selling Author, Podcaster
Holly Elissa Bruno Keynotes & Team Building
Fitchburg, Massachusetts



Holly Elissa Bruno is a best-selling and award-winning author, international keynote speaker, and podcaster. She served as Assistant Attorney General for the state of Maine and Assistant Dean at the University of Maine School of Law. While working as Associate Professor and Academic Dean at the University of Maine-Augusta, Bruno was selected “Outstanding Professor”. An alumna of Harvard University’s Institute for Educational Management, she teaches leadership courses for Wheelock College, most recently in Singapore. Bruno has written several books. Her first book, *Leading on Purpose*, was published by McGraw-Hill in 2008. Its sequel, *What You Need to Lead: Emotional Intelligence in Practice*, has been one of NAEYC’s best-sellers. *Managing Legal Risks*, Teachers

College Press, is another best-seller. *The Comfort of Little Things* received the Living Now Award for books in any field that “uplift the quality of life”. Her current writing focuses on transforming childhood trauma into healing wisdom. Her article “*Broken into Wholeness*” was released by Exchange Press in early 2018. As a podcaster, iTunes ranked her radio program, Heart to Heart Conversations on Leadership: Your Guide to Making a Difference, in its top 200 K-12 podcasts.

To “recovering attorney” Holly Elissa Bruno, life is too short to do anything but enjoy it daily.

**2025 SUMMER CONFERENCE
ONE GOAL: BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER
“PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST”**

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITORS

Age of Learning

Lisa Viera, Susan Provost
101 North Brand Boulevard, 8th Floor
Glendale, CA 91203
727-458-5197
lisa.viera@aofl.com

Children's Literacy Initiative

Michele LaCoursiere-Ferrer
990 Spring Garden Street, Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19123
561-436-4765
miacoursiere@cli.org

Becker's School Supplies

Julius Slaughter, Carla Dieterich
1500 Melrose Highway
Pennsauken, NJ 08110
561-815-3650
julius.slaughter@cjbinc.com

Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign

Jenn Faber
1203 Governor's Square Boulevard, #102
Tallahassee, FL 32303
239-565-6217
jfaber@FACCT.com

CELEBRATE Successful Early Learning

Sharon Burnett
204 Palamino Street
Crandall, TX 75114
904-201-9568
sharon@celebratesel.com

Frog Street Press

Jeanette Russell, Bonnie Leon
12385 Aston Drive
Hudson, FL 34669
407-848-8372
jrussell@frogstreet.com

Central Florida Institute of Training

Sabrena Smith, Thomas Smith
P.O. Box 20127
Bradenton, FL 34204
407-891-0956
cda@cfitinc.com

Fun Science Materials

Andrea Alexander
170 Lindbergh Drive
Atlanta, GA 30305
404-579-8030
funscience@mindspring.com

Child's Play, Inc.

Joe Gardner, Julie Gaudette
250 Minot Avenue
Auburn, ME 04210
800-472-0099
joe@childsplayusa.com

Happy Feet Soccer

Jameison Lynn
11514 Pyramid Drive
Odessa, FL 33556
816-286-8644
j.lynn@floridapremierfc.com

HATCH Early Learning

Paloma Panesi, Beth Petrosian
301 North Main Street, Suite 101
Winston Salem, NC 27101
800-624-7968, ext. 1128
ppanesi@hatchearlylearning.com

Highlights Early Learning

Mary Gantzer, Shannon St. Peter
1800 Watermark Drive
Columbus, OH 43215
603-703-2380
shannon.stpeter@highlights.com

Kaplan Early Learning Company

Tony Boloutchi, Nick Evens, Jamilet Diaz
Post Office Box 609
Lewisville, NC 27023-0609
800-334-2014
tboloutchi@kaplanco.com

Lakeshore Learning Materials

Tony Chaidez, Erik Zubal, Shannon Ayers
Keith Fine, Jonathan Dills
2695 East Dominguez Street
Carson, CA 90895
800-421-5354
www.lakeshorelearning.com

Learning Beyond Paper, Inc.

Corinne Muller, Laura Delgado
580 Village Boulevard, Suite 380
West Palm Beach, FL 33409
773-412-2819
cmuller@learningbeyondpaper.com

LENA

Gina Gates, Amy Marciniak
361 Centennial Parkway, #100
Louisville, CO 80027
303-441-9081
vilmasierra@lena.org

MarcoPolo Learning, Inc.

Megan Folts, Mat Thomas,
Hillary Hocking, Sydney Todd
501 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 1400
Tampa, FL 33602
954-483-6006
megan@marcopololearning.com

Pathways Early Autism Intervention

Renee Hoffman, Adelle Sutton
355 Angler's Ridge
Bluff Dale, TX 76087
817-408-6236
rhoffman@pathwaysndbi.com

Procare Solutions

Rana Zayed, Brittany Bromir
1125 17th Street, Suite 1800
Denver, CO 80202
815-276-7835
babromir@procaresoftware.com

The Discovery Source

David Scahill, Sandy Ampudia,
Jeanne Hughes
1574 Parkview Drive
Vista, CA 92081
760-212-3358
ds@thediscoverysource.com

**The National Early Childhood
Program Accreditation (NECPA)**

Ari Sarousi, Cindy Lehnhoff
P.O. Box 2948
Merrifield, VA 22116
571-210-4818
asarousi@necpa.net

TORSH

Jamie Paulsen, Angelia Daliel,
Courtney Williams
416 Lowerline Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
615-975-4991
Jamie@torsh.com

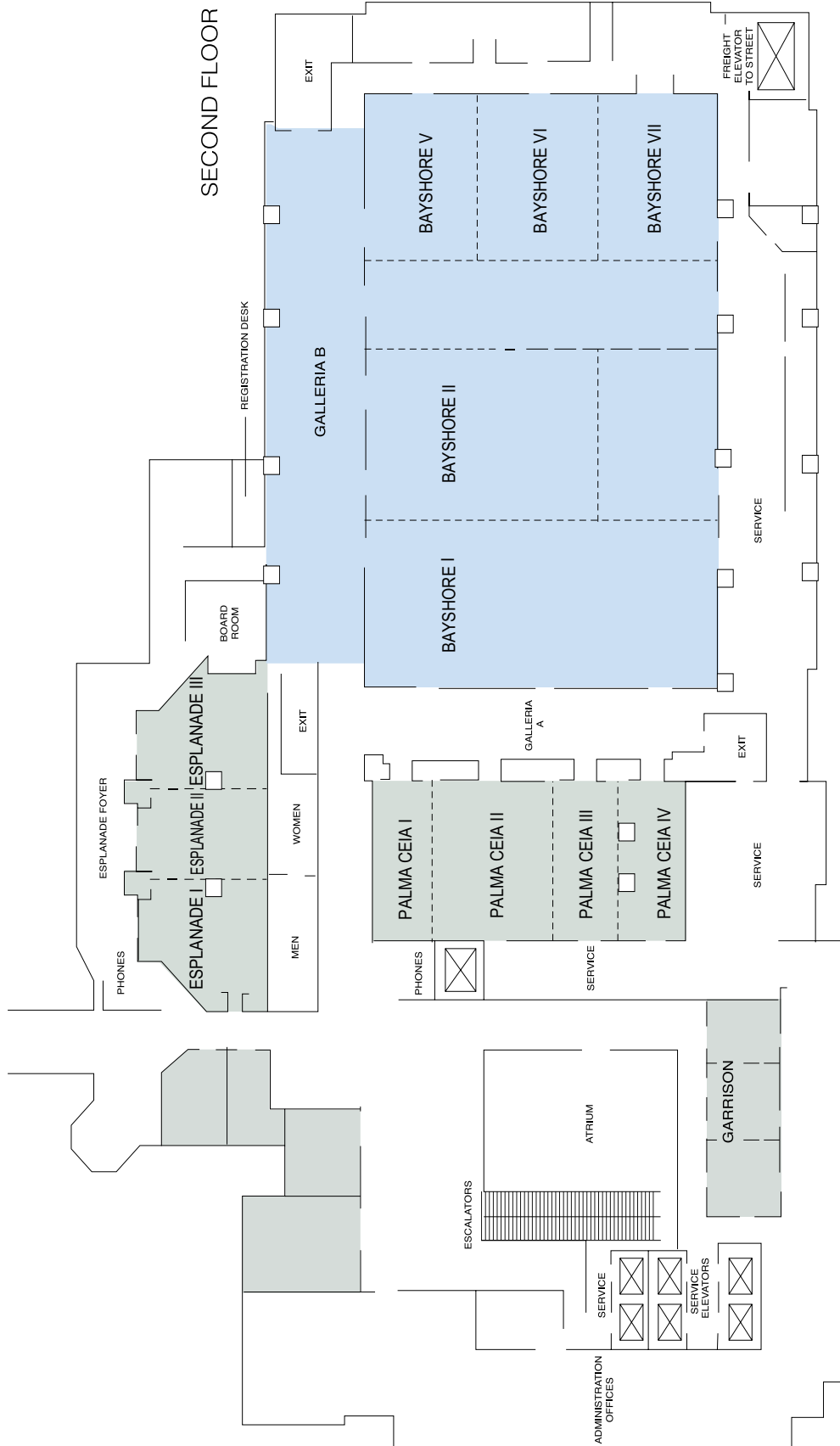
WELS Systems Foundation, LLC

Muriel Wong, Carlos M. Valdes,
Heidy Valdes
8004 NW 154th Street, #362
Miami Lakes, FL 33016
305-606-0871
cvaldes@welsfoundation.org

PROGRAM PRESENTERS

| PRESENTER | DESCRIPTION # | PRESENTER | DESCRIPTION # |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Adinolfi, Suzanne | 3,79 | Harmon, Jamie | 33,45 |
| Albrektson, Leslie | 55 | Henderson, Joy | 55 |
| Alvarez Santiago, Ladiz | 54 | Hoffman, Renee | 13,23 |
| Ampudia, Sandra "Sandy" | 9 | Jackson, Cassandra | 29 |
| Avila, Lina | 16 | Jedinak, Shauna | 2 |
| Berk, Lauren | 6 | Johnson, Mecca | 44 |
| Bermudez, Sandra | 71 | Kalifeh, Phyllis | 24 |
| Berne, Jennifer | 28,75 | Kanics, Ingrid M. | 22,78 |
| Blume, Lisa | 57 | Kelly, Jennifer | 31 |
| Bradwell, Audia | 5 | Killingsworth, Jennifer | 52 |
| Bruno, Holly Elissa | 66 | Kissoondyal, Pam | 15,25 |
| Butler, Lori | 68 | Krosky, Cynthia | 11,32 |
| Cadigan, Maria | 34 | LaCoursiere-Ferrer, Michele | 40,86 |
| Campbell, Michelle | 23 | Langier, Lexi | 12 |
| Chastain-Gross, Rachel | 33,45 | Levy, Lisette | 36,48 |
| Christie, Cynthia | 80 | Looney, Melissa | 13,23 |
| Clarke, Shelley | 73 | Lopez Mata, Melinna | 46,59 |
| Clough, Melanie | 6 | Maroney, Katerina Koikos | 24 |
| Colle, Hope | 51 | Martinez, Gabriela | 16 |
| Colon, Jose | 16 | McCray, Varnessa | 72 |
| Craig, Kristen | 51 | McGlothlin, Hannah | 8 |
| Cromer, Holly | 39,85 | McTier, Devon | 67 |
| Crouch, Tripp | 24 | Mejia, Laura | 20,64 |
| Davis, Danesha | 76 | Mercado, Melissa | 62 |
| DeCotis, Sarah | 41,53 | Milbert, Anna | 49 |
| Delgado, Laura | 79 | Minick, Wanda | 24 |
| DeScalzo, Stephanie | 68 | Mirabal, Suzette | 17,27 |
| Eubanks, Rachel | 71 | Mohl, Ronald | 18 |
| Faber, Jenn | 60 | Moshman, Rachael | 42 |
| Ferris, Amanda | 52 | Moss, Kathy | 12 |
| Fiotte, Laure | 69,80 | Nakagama, Janis | 1 |
| Fredebaugh, Dana | 28,75 | Nassoiy, Kimberly | 81 |
| Garcia De Osuna, Janice | 9 | Neuhofer, Gina | 37 |
| Garilli, Austin | 58 | Nolan, Jennifer | 31,43 |
| Gates, Gina | 63 | Palma, Nelly | 47,59 |
| Gilliland, Melissa | 26 | Parker, Cynthia | 21 |
| Giusti, Olivia | 56 | Parker, Kristine | 29,56 |
| Granger, Ted | 24 | Peña, Dana | 43 |
| Grant, Martha | 69 | Perry, Juelie | 7 |
| Grant, Molly | 24 | Pesek, Whitney | 4 |
| Greenfield, Daryl | 21 | Phelps, Pamela C. | 14,65,77 |
| Harman, Maryann | 30,87 | Pink, Kristy | 10 |

| PRESENTER | DESCRIPTION # |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Reinhart, Chelsea | 62 |
| Rivas, Hellen | 35,46 |
| Rodriguez, Myriana | 35,47 |
| Rogers, Aurora | 51 |
| Russie, Carrie | 36,48 |
| Sanchez, Jenny | 74 |
| Schaible, Darleen | 54 |
| Schladant, Michelle | 58 |
| Sizemore, Erin | 61 |
| Smeltzer, Erin | 24 |
| Smith, Courtney | 24 |
| Smith, Sabrena | 82 |
| Solano, Dixie | 70 |
| Thakur, Madeleine | 19,24 |
| Torres, Shayna | 84 |
| Trabulsy, Dana | 24 |
| Tripi Scott, Candice | 2 |
| Velazquez, Rocio | 83 |
| Ward, Andrea | 5 |
| Whitfield, Barbara | 38,50 |
| Winneker, Anna | 73 |



SECOND FLOOR



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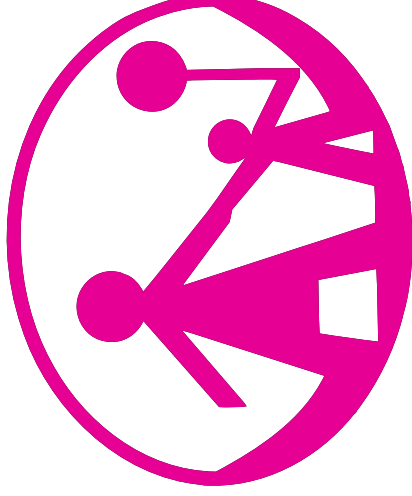
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2025 Summer Conference
ONE GOAL: BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER
“PUTTING FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST”



Certificate of Attendance

June 16-18, 2025
Hilton Tampa Downtown
Tampa, Florida

Pamela C. Phelps