

SESSION 5: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20: 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM**5.01 Designing Classrooms with the Brain in Mind (K2.3 C3)**

Lauren Spigelmyer, The Behavior Hub/UPenn

This workshop will provide participants with a clear understanding of the impacts of the physical environment on students' brains. We will discuss aspects of design such as stress, safety, mobility, lighting, temperature, aromas, and productivity. Additionally, we will dig into the neuroscience evidence behind these designs and determine ways to add these elements to our classrooms.

5.02 Evolving Exposures in Cyber Liability for ECE Centers (D8.3 C3)

Scott McGorry, Seltzer Group

Cyber liability claims are on the rise in today's society. In this session we will explore the particular risks that child care organizations face, discuss claim scenarios and provide actionable items that ECE centers can implement to manage these risks.

5.03 Let's Chat SAC (K6.6 C2)

Betsy Saatman, PA Key

Come together and let's chat about SAC. We will take this time to chat about SAC Supports available across the state; including the ASQ/CQI model, professional development opportunities, and professional organizations. In addition, we will provide time for open dialogue and connection!

5.04 Advocating for Risky Play (K1.8 C3)

Dr. Debra Lawrence, Delaware County Community College

Teacher and administrator fears are interfering with children's development across all domains, but most significantly in the large motor domain. This session explores these fears and provides an alternative approach to engaging children in challenging physical play that is supervised and supported through intentional teacher interactions.

5.05 Head Start Leadership, Part 1 (K6.5 C2)

Blair Hyatt, PHSA

This four-part series will provide leaders in the Head Start/Early Head Start community with relevant updates at the federal, state and local levels. The series is facilitated by Blair Hyatt, PHSA Executive Director.

KEYNOTE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20: 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

SESSION 6: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20: 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM**6.01 Keynote Follow Up with Teacher Tom***Teacher Tom Hobson*

Teacher Tom will take a deeper dive into the topic of his keynote presentation, “Educating Citizens through Play.”

6.02 Getting Little Hands on the Land K2.14 C2*Julie Travaglino, Allegheny Land Trust*

This is an interactive workshop that will engage participants in environmental education activities for the early childhood classroom. Emphasis will be placed on activities that can be completed with limited outdoor space (or virtually!) and that can be recreated for little to no cost. We will explore how to create our own dramatic play items and sensory items, dig into creating gardens and discuss hikes such as sensory hikes and "hoop hikes". We will even learn how to create and assemble preschool friendly hydroponics systems using pool noodles for innovative life cycle exploration! All activities are aligned to early childhood education standards.

6.03 Strategies for Staff Engagement and Retention D8.11 C3*Kathe Petchel, HINGE Early Education Brokers*

Child care business owners have faced a number of challenges this year--from falling enrollment numbers to having to close shop for an extended period. However, no challenge has been quite as tough as balancing what is best for your staff. Join child care staffing expert Kathe Petchel as she reveals how best to engage and retain your current teachers, hire and train new staff and what policies you should be implementing to keep your team covered.

6.04 The Effects of Stress on Mind and Body during the COVID-19 Pandemic K6.5 C2*Jacqueline Amor-Zitzelberger, Penn State Cooperative Extension*

Participants will learn how stress affects the brain, how to manage it, avoid it, and put it to use. We are going through unprecedented times and many of us are uncertain how to deal with the stress we're encountering at home and work. Learn about resources and information that will help you prosper during this difficult time.

6.05 Using Technology to Seamlessly Link Curriculum and Assessment K4.10 C1*Kathie Loeffler, Teaching Strategies LLC*

Discover how technology can support and enhance your work with children as you follow an ongoing, observation-based assessment process. Participants will explore the latest examples of teacher-facing technology and learn how these tools can help them individualize instruction, strengthen family connections, and promote positive child outcomes.

SESSION 7: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20: 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM**7.01 Exploring Program Observation Instruments for School-Age Programs (K4.1 C1)**

Stefanie Camoni, PA Key; Betsy Saatman, PA Key

Explore the optional tools available for school-age professionals: School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale-Updated (SACERS-U), K-3 CLASS, and School-Age Program Quality Assessment (SPQA). Compare and contrast the tools, discuss self-assessment, and learn about professional development opportunities.

7.02 Health Heroes - Creative Strategies to Support Children's Health (K7.3 C1)

Lori McMonigal, TIU #11; Rose Gioia-Fine, TIU #11;

Caregivers are a key ingredient when it comes to helping children form healthy behaviors. Join us to talk about factors that contribute to the rise in childhood obesity and hear from a panel of child care heroes who identified and implemented creative ways to improve the nutrition and physical activity habits of children through their participation in the Pennsylvania Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (PA NAPSACC).

7.03 Learning to Lead: An Introduction to Leadership (D6.9 C1)

Rose Snyder, PennAEYC

Maybe you were focused and planned carefully to become a leader or maybe you never intend to be a leader but now, here you are! Maybe people come to you for leadership and guidance even though you are "not in charge". Leadership in ECE is one of the most important jobs you hold! No matter how you landed or intend to land in leadership you have a very specific responsibility to your program, colleagues children and families. In this course participants will explore and compare various leadership characteristics that influence the way others view us and the way we view ourselves as leaders. We will briefly review leadership styles and the importance of knowing your personal leadership style and the styles of others you are trying to lead.

7.04 Supporting Infant Teacher Degree Attainment (K6.5 C2)

Amy Friedlander, Amy Friedlander Consulting; Laurie Litz, PACCA/T.E.A.C.H.

National data reveal that infant teachers are more likely to be women of color, without degrees and less compensated than their ECE peers. In Pennsylvania there are programs such as the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship, Professional Development Organizations (PDOs) and Rising STARS Tuition Assistance (RSTA) that help to promote degree attainment and increased compensation for this critical sector of our workforce. This session will explore each of these programs further and share insights and challenges from directors currently supporting infant teachers in advancing their education. Presenters will provide guidance to help directors and teachers determine which PD support program would best meet their needs and how to access these resources.

7.05 Head Start Leadership, Part 2 (K6.5 C2)

Blair Hyatt, PHSA

This four-part series will provide leaders in the Head Start/Early Head Start community with relevant updates at the federal, state and local levels. The series is facilitated by Blair Hyatt, PHSA Executive Director.

SESSION 8: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20: 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**8.01 Advocacy 201: Crafting and Sharing Your Message (K6.10 C2)**

Emily Neff, Trying Together; Lindsey Ramsey, Trying Together; Christina Codario, Trying Together

Effective messaging helps advocates communicate key points to their audience that can potentially influence their level of support. This workshop is for ECE professionals who have taken our Advocacy 101 or any other foundational advocacy training and would like to take the next step in preparing to speak with elected officials. We will review early childhood research and effective messaging such as brain science, return on investment, impact on workforce and business community, and high-quality teaching. Attendees will leave the workshop with talking points for meeting with elected officials to advocate for early childhood.

8.02 Children...The True Leaders of Learning (K2.9 C2)

Denise Madzik, Northampton Community College; Christine Murphy, Northampton Community College

How do teachers provide high quality programming for our very youngest learners, support their families, and advocate best practices for future educators? Participants will discover how children are the true leaders of learning through emergent curriculum supported by an arts integrated framework. The spontaneity of daily interactions is what connects the synapses in the early brain. Sometimes the day seems like it's spinning out of control, but it's really spinning towards greatness! Participants will be presented with several examples of projects built from emergent explorations and how to be the narrators of the child's story through display and will be given strategies for real life application in their everyday classrooms.

8.03 Introduction to Program Observation Instruments for CQI: A Deeper Look (K4.1 C1)

Ann Gula, PA Key; Angel Avery-Wright, PA Key

Do you want to know more about program observation instruments that can be used in your classroom to support your continuous quality improvement efforts? Over the past few years, PA has invested in the training of the Program Quality Assessment Team on numerous assessment tools in addition to the ERS and CLASS. This session provides an overview of some of those program observation instruments including the Inclusive Classroom Profile (ICP), Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning and Development (CHILD), School-age program quality assessment (SPQA), Developmental environment Rating Scale (DERS), Program Administration Scale (PAS), Business Administration Scale (BAS), and Parenting Interactions with Children (PICCOLO) and others.

8.04 Leading and Learning: Using Digital Resources and Intentional In-House Coaching (D6.2 C2)

Rebecca Escott, Penn State Better Kid Care

Committed to coaching your staff but wondering how to make that work well? This session shares the results of several coaching projects which used a hybrid model, combining online learning, a digital coaching guide filled with videos and print resources, and in-person observations and coaching sessions to positively impact staff skills, relationships, and the care environment. This approach can simplify a director's life, allowing them to lead well. The projects include a guide series designed especially for infant-toddler professionals, an under-supported group within our profession. Other guides focus on positive guidance and cultural awareness. Lessons learned and strategies employed work for any age group of services.

8.05 ELRCs - Your One-Stop Shop (K8.4 C1)

Jen DeStephano, ELRC Regions 9 & 10; Beth Nichols, ELRC Region 10

This workshop will provide an overview of how STARS and CCW relate to one another. In this workshop we will review STARS standards and Provider Self Service as well as CCW eligibility requirements, copays, and schedules. Discover how the introduction of ELRCs allows Keystone STARS and CCW to better work together to support programs and families.