FOR THE L♥VE OF CHILDREN

2025 Annual Conference

**Child Care Regulation
Annual Early Childhood Conference
March 1, 2025
8:45 am - 4:00 pm**

San Jacinto College

TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Information You Need To Know!

On behalf of Child Care Regulation, we want to thank you for attending the second annual "For the Love of Children" Conference! Once again we are excited about our new location at San Jacinto College and the incredible speakers we have lined up for the day. We promise many opportunities to learn, share, network and have FUN! Your career in working with young children is an extremely important one and we cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work and dedication to your profession. If you have any questions or needs throughout the day, please do not hesitate to let us know! Enjoy the conference!

— — For the Love of Children Conference Planning Committee

★ **You must wear your wrist band to participate in conference sessions.** You must have your wrist band to gain entry into the conference. Wristbands will be ready at the "Registration Tables" for pick up as early as 8:00 am.

★ **Many of our exhibitors have generously donated door prizes.** Please register for these prizes at the exhibitor booths. Names of winners will be posted in the exhibitor area.

★ Please understand that sometimes speakers cancel their presentations. In the event of a cancellation, we will make every effort to schedule a substitute.

★ Certificates will be issued through a QR code system with the TECPDS. Please visit the TECPDS table for any assistance you need with this.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

★ *Information given at these workshop sessions does not necessarily reflect the philosophy of Child Care Regulations or any of the entities sponsoring this event. Child Care Regulation does not endorse any product or speaker.*

QR CODES FOR CERTIFICATES!

Certificates for the Conference will be awarded through the Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System (TECPDS) and will be sent directly to the "Conference" section of your TECPDS profile as well as to your email address!

We encourage you to setup your TECPDS account prior to attending sessions if possible. QR codes will be available in each session to allow you to track the sessions you attend.

See the next page or visit the TECPDS table in the hallway if you need to create a TECPDS account!

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
EXHIBIT AREA, SATURDAY, MARCH 1ST
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

8:00 am - 8:45 am	Registration
8:45 am - 10:00 am	Keynote
10:15 am - 11:30 pm	Session II
11:45 pm - 1:00 pm	Session III
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm - 2:45 pm	Session IV
3:00 pm - 4:00 p.m.	Session V

FOR THE LOVE OF CHILDREN

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

I BUILD BRAINS!

Jodi Nerren
Slocumb Auditorium

When someone asks what you do for a living, what do you say? I take care of kids? I teach preschool? I run around preventing a thousand crises a day with background noise that rivals most major airports??? When you – an early childhood educator – put in work to create safe, healthy, engaging environments for young children to learn, you are actually doing one of the most important jobs in the world. Next time someone asks you what you do, tell them the truth: I build brains!

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

I Need to Create a TECPDS Account

All early childhood professionals can register for a free TECPDS Account, regardless of their role in the sector in which they work. A TECPDS Account can help you keep track of your professional development; creating and updating your professional development profile enables you to view your professional development report and link to your center/facility of employment.

VISIT THE TECPDS BOOTH IN THE HALL IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE CREATING YOUR ACCOUNT!

WWW.TECPDS.ORG

Nature Matters - Heading Off Challenging Behavior with Outdoor Play
Room 1013

Outdoor play is important, but could it really play an integral part in the uptick in challenging classroom behaviors? Outdoor play is essential for healthy brain development. Learn how you can be a catalyst for change with your students.

Amy Musick

Minimum Standards Training: Personnel/ Child Care Giver Ratio
Classroom 1101

Join us for a comprehensive review and become familiar with Chapter 746 of the Minimum Standards related to Personnel/ Child/Caregiver ratios for Child Care Centers.

Child Care Regulation Staff

Minimum Standards: Nutrition/Active Play
Classroom 1105

Join us for a comprehensive review and become familiar with Chapter 746 of the Minimum Standards related to Nutrition/ Active Play for Child Care Centers.

Child Care Regulation Staff

Master Your Finances: Building a Strong Budget for Your Childcare Center
Classroom 1108

In this session, discover how to build and maintain a budget that drives financial stability and growth for your childcare center. Learn key financial principles, expense management strategies, and profitability techniques. Attendees gain practical tools to manage finances, support staff, and reinvest for long-term success - perfect for informed business decisions.

Chelsea Reue

Building Bridges: Cultivating Respect, Engagement, and Support for Families in Early Childhood Education
Classroom 1110

Discuss why respecting families is foundational to creating a supportive and effective learning environment and positive outcomes for children. Explore how parent involvement is crucial for reinforcing learning at home and the idea that parent involvement strengthens the home-school connection. Lastly, highlight the importance of connecting families to community resources.

Natoya Carroll

Elevating Excellence: Key Strategies for Childcare Owners to Thrive in the Modern Era
Classroom 1113

This session equips childcare owners with actionable strategies to enhance leadership, improve curriculum quality, implement sustainable financial practices, and navigate compliance. Learn practical tools to elevate your childcare center, attract families, and foster growth in today's competitive landscape. Gain insights to ensure operational success and deliver exceptional early childhood education services.

Dawn Fobbs

Igniting the Fire For Social-Emotional Learning
Lecture Hall - 2nd Floor

In contributing to a GREAT conference, I hope each of you will join me for a quick look at Social-Emotional Learning and its concepts via Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL). This will include group activities and a few anecdotes to remind us how important these concepts are to our children and our personal lives.

Corey Garza, Child Care Regulation

Minimum Standards Training: Activities/Discipline/Safety
Classroom 1103

Child Care Regulation Staff

Join us for a comprehensive review and become familiar with Chapter 746 of the Minimum Standards related to Activities/ Discipline/Safety for Child Care Centers.

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Child Care Regulation Staff

Streamlining Success: Effective Processes for Supervising ECE Staff and Building Strong Teams
Classroom 1109

Are you ready to transform your approach to supervising ECE professionals? In this dynamic and engaging session, we'll uncover the secrets to balancing leadership and teamwork while inspiring your staff to reach their full potential. Packed with real-world tips, interactive strategies, and a touch of fun, you'll walk away feeling empowered to lead with confidence and create a thriving ECE team! Let's make supervision the best part of your day!

Tamyra Belo & Eboni Tafolla

Bringing Stories to Life: Engaging Students Through Interactive Read-Alouds
Classroom 1111

Bringing Stories to Life: Engaging Students Through Interactive Read- Alouds introduces educators to effective strategies for fostering language development, comprehension, and student engagement. Participants will explore text selection, questioning techniques, and interactive strategies to create meaningful read-aloud experiences that support diverse learners and promote a love for reading in early childhood classrooms.

Cheryl Mallant

Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities
Classroom 1115

This interactive training session is designed for early childhood educators seeking to create more inclusive classrooms for children of all abilities. The focus will be on easy, practical strategies for adapting the classroom environment to ensure all children, including those with diverse abilities, can thrive. Participants will learn how to: Identify and assess the needs of the children in your classroom, create an inclusive physical environment that supports children of all abilities, and adapt materials and activities to meet the diverse needs of all children. By the end of the session, educators will be equipped with practical strategies and resources to make classrooms more accessible, welcoming, and effective for children of all abilities, ensuring that every child can succeed and develop to their fullest potential.

Martha Gonzales

Flourishing in the Classroom: Empowering Teacher Development
Classroom 1116

This training highlights the importance of motivating staff and explores practical strategies to inspire and engage them. Participants will discuss the value of professional development in enhancing program quality, as well as techniques to build trust and strong relationships with teachers and caregivers, fostering a positive and collaborative environment.

Caresal Bolds

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Red Rover, Red Rover, Send Inclusive Physical Play Tips Over
Classroom 1207

Implementing current, research-based best practices in your early childhood environment around physical activity can be challenging and not always easy to adapt for the children you serve. You will learn why regular activity is crucial for children of all ages, learn how to match specific activities to stages of development, and how you can modify activities for children.

Alexis Cordova & Beverly Reed

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Child Growth & Development Supporting Children with Special Needs
Classroom 1211

We would like to support early childhood practitioners in helping them to identify resources to support the children that they serve. This session provides insight on various opportunities for families to engage with their early childhood providers even if that journey means outside of care.

Aubri Simpson

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Below the Surface: Exploring the Hidden Depths of Child Development
Classroom 1213

Just as scuba divers explore the hidden wonders beneath the ocean's surface, early childhood educators delve into the fascinating world of child development. This training, "Below the Surface," invites you on a journey of discovery, exploring the depths of how children grow, learn, and develop. Like charting a course through unfamiliar waters, understanding child development requires careful observation, keen awareness, and a willingness to explore the intricate ecosystem of influences that shape a child's growth. Let's take a deep dive into the world of child development, uncovering the hidden potential within each child and surfacing with a renewed understanding of how to support their growth and learning.

Cheryl Carey

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Who is Child Care Enforcement (CCE)?
Classroom 1216

Child Care Enforcement (CCE) reviews recommendations for and decides on corrective actions, adverse actions, and administrative penalties within the residential and daycare regulatory programs. CCE also conducts administrative reviews within these programs when an operation disagrees with a Child Care Regulation (CCR) deficiency decision. Learn about the roles and responsibilities of Child Care Enforcement in reviewing, analyzing, and processing enforcement actions.

Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether

Please make sure you are capturing each session's QR code to be counted for attending the session. Certificates will only be distributed through QR Codes with your TECPDS account. If you need help setting up your account, please visit the TECPDS table in the hallway on the first floor where sessions will be held.

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"What Makes You Say That?": Engaging Young Learners in Primary Source Exploration
Classroom 1209

This interactive session equips early childhood educators with engaging strategies to introduce primary source analysis to young learners. Using storytelling, visual thinking, and hands-on activities, educators will discover how to spark curiosity, build inquiry skills, and make history come alive through age-appropriate primary sources like photographs, artifacts, and oral histories.

Haley Ford

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Building Your Dream Team: Hiring and Onboarding in ECE
Classroom 1212

This workshop equips administrators with tools to hire and onboard exceptional ECE team members. Learn to craft impactful interview questions, analyze candidate responses, and design an engaging onboarding process that fosters buy-in, aligns with your center's mission, and ensures long-term team success.

Laura Nelson

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Beyond The Handbook: Closing the Gaps in Staff and Parent Expectations
Classroom 1215

Handbooks, memos, and meetings only go so far when setting expectations for staff and parents. Despite clear communication efforts, gaps often remain that lead to frustration and unmet standards. This training dives into the reasons behind these disconnects and offers practical solutions to close the gap. Learn how to address miscommunications, unspoken assumptions, and resistance to policies in a way that builds trust and ensures alignment between staff, parents, and organizational goals.

Sheika Petteway

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Handwriting Skills: What I Need to Know Before I can Learn
Classroom 1218

This interactive workshop empowers early childhood educators to foster essential pre-writing skills in young learners. We'll delve into key developmental milestones and foundational abilities that pave the way for confident and legible handwriting. Join us to learn how to nurture a love of writing in your students.

Vickie Maertz

Supporting Dual Language Learners
Room 1013

Learning two languages simultaneously is beneficial and does not slow progress or confuse young learners. Let's investigate how we can best utilize the strengths of dual language learners to benefit your entire classroom.

Amy Musick
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Minimum Standards Training: Personnel/ Child Care Giver Ratio
Classroom 1101

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Minimum Standards: Nutrition/Active Play
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Child Care Regulation Staff
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Enrollment Excellence: Strategies to Maximize Enrollment and Revenue
Classroom 1108

Struggling with low enrollment or wanting to fill those last few spots? Discover innovative strategies to maximize enrollment and revenue - from refining your tours and marketing to building strong family relationships. Gain practical tools to streamline enrollment, boost conversions, and thrive. Ideal for owners and directors seeking growth.

Chelsea Reue
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Partnering for Success: Elevating Family and Community Engagement in Early Childhood Programs
Classroom 1110

This training equips childcare center leaders with strategies to build family and community-centered programming, aligning with Texas Core Competencies. Participants will explore effective engagement practices, cultural inclusivity, and collaboration techniques. Through interactive activities and action planning, attendees will enhance their leadership skills to foster stronger connections and improve program quality.

Natoya Carroll
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Partnering for Progress: Navigating Conversations About Developmental Concerns with Parents
Classroom 1113

This session focuses on the critical role that child care professionals play in identifying early developmental challenges and how to approach these conversations with sensitivity, empathy, and clarity. Participants will gain practical tools for discussing developmental concerns with parents in a supportive and non-judgmental way, empowering parents to take action and seek the resources they need to support their child's growth.

Margaret Sachs

Child Care Regulation Background Checks
Lecture Hall - 2nd Floor

Join the Director of CCR's Centralized Background Check Unit, Emily Kopplin to learn about the different required background checks, background check processing time frames, the answers to frequently asked questions and tips and tricks to navigating the background check process.

Emily Kopplin
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Tamyra Belo & Eboni Tafolla
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Solving the Bad Behavior Mystery
Classroom 1111

Do you find yourself asking your toddlers and preschoolers WHY they acted out or made certain choices? In this session, we will discover the art of recognizing triggers, minimizing chaos, and getting inside the minds of our little ones.

Scarlett Tandy
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Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities
Classroom 1115

This interactive training session is designed for early childhood educators seeking to create more inclusive classrooms for children of all abilities. The focus will be on easy, practical strategies for adapting the classroom environment to ensure all children, including those with diverse abilities, can thrive. Participants will learn how to: Identify and assess the needs of the children in your classroom, create an inclusive physical environment that supports children of all abilities, and adapt materials and activities to meet the diverse needs of all children By the end of the session, educators will be equipped with practical strategies and resources to make classrooms more accessible, welcoming, and effective for children of all abilities, ensuring that every child can succeed and develop to their fullest potential.

Martha Gonzales

Connections Count: Building Intentional Relationships to Promote Early Childhood Mental Health
Classroom 1116

Our earliest interactions form the foundation for social and emotional development, which impacts a child's growth and mental health. In this session, we will discuss social and emotional learning and its effect on early childhood mental health, the role relationships play in this development, and practical strategies that promote positive mental health outcomes.

Felicia Sprayberry & Lisa Nelson

DON'T HAVE A ZILLION DOLLARS?
Creating Adaptations that Support Learning for All Children
Classroom 1207

Creating learning opportunities for all children requires understanding your children's needs, the skills you are teaching, and thoughtful planning. This does not mean you are planning separate lessons for each child. We will present various ways to modify and adapt materials and instructions to meet your children's needs.

Beverly Reed & Alexis Cordova

Child Growth & Development Supporting Children with Special Needs
Classroom 1211

We would like to support early childhood practitioners in helping them to identify resources to support the children that they serve. This session provides insight on various opportunities for families to engage with their early childhood providers even if that journey means outside of care.

Aubri Simpson

It Takes Skills to Grow Up!
Classroom 1213

How do children develop during early childhood? The process involves learning and mastering numerous skills like sitting, walking, talking, jumping, and tying shoes. Children learn these skills, called developmental milestones, during predictable time periods. It takes children skills to grow up! By observing and assessing them, we monitor the progress of children, and determine how we can support their optimal growth and development.

Cheryl Carey

Conflict Resolution Leadership Training
Classroom 1215

This training is designed to equip childcare directors with the skills needed to navigate and resolve conflicts effectively within their organizations. Participants will learn to identify and understand the roots of conflict and gain insight into why conflicts arise in workplace settings. Through proven strategies and techniques, directors will discover effective methods for resolving conflicts constructively. Additionally, they will develop proactive skills to prevent and reduce workplace conflicts, fostering a more harmonious and productive work environment. This course is ideal for childcare leaders seeking to build a resilient team and maintain a positive workplace culture.

Sheika Petteway

What is Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)!
Classroom 1217
What is ECI!

Join us to discuss a comprehensive Early Intervention Program that services families with children from birth to 3 years old with developmental delays and/or disabilities to learn, grow and develop to their highest potential.

Marci Brown & Tina James

Leading for Resiliency: Professional Communication Strategies to Reduce Teacher Burnout
Classroom 1209

Supervising staff is often one of the most challenging and fulfilling parts of becoming a director. As the director, you are responsible for effectively communicating with staff ensuring staff are following program policies and procedures, working effectively with one another and the families you serve, and facilitating children's learning and development in appropriate ways. In this session, we will discuss ways to support and grow resiliency within your staff through effective communication, active supervision, and relationship development. We will also create ways to reduce burnout.

Amy Foster Palmer

Behavior-Smart Classrooms
Classroom 1212

Discover how to design environments that support children with challenging behaviors. This session explores essential components of effective learning spaces, strategies for structuring classrooms, and adaptable best practices to meet diverse needs. Participants will leave with actionable tools to create nurturing, behavior-responsive environments that foster all learners' growth, engagement, and success.

Laura Nelson

Love Beyond
Classroom 1214

This training session will explore effective behavior management strategies in early childhood education (ECE) with a special focus on promoting social-emotional development. Grounded in the "Leading with Love" approach, participants will learn how to create a loving, nurturing and supportive classroom environment where young children can thrive emotionally and socially.

Jessica Abraham

Who is Child Care Enforcement (CCE)?
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Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether

Sensory 101: Understanding the Inputs in a Child's Learning Environment
Classroom 1218

Does your classroom feel chaotic? Some children overwhelmed, others under-stimulated? This training explores sensory processing in young learners. Learn to identify sensory needs, create a harmonious learning environment, and discover strategies to support children who are over or under-stimulated.

Vickie Maertz

Overview of Breakout Sessions

Room	SESSION II 10:15 am – 11:30 am	SESSION III 11:45 am -1:00 pm
Room 1013	*Nature Matters: Outdoor Nature Play and Child Development* Amy Musick	*Supporting Dual Language Learners* Amy Musick
Lecture Hall - 2nd floor	*Igniting the Fire for Social-Emotional Learning* Corey Garza	*Child Care Regulation Background Checks* Emily Kopplin
Classroom 1101	*Minimum Standards Training: Personnel/Child Care Giver* Ratio Child Care Regulation Staff	*Minimum Standards Training: Personnel/Child Care Giver Ratio* Child Care Regulation Staff
Classroom 1103	*Minimum Standards Training: Activities/Discipline/Safety* Child Care Regulation Staff	*Minimum Standards Training: Activities/Discipline/Safety* Child Care Regulation Staff
Classroom 1105	*Minimum Standards Training: Nutrition/Active Play* Child Care Regulation Staff	*Minimum Standards Training: Nutrition/Active Play* Child Care Regulation Staff
Classroom 1107	*Minimum Standards Training: Health/Fire Safety/Field Trips and Transportation* - Child Care Regulation Staff	*Minimum Standards Training: Health/Fire Safety/Field Trips and Transportation* - Child Care Regulation Staff
Classroom 1108	*Master Your Finances: Building a Strong Budget for Your Childcare Center* - Chelsea Reue	*Enrollment Excellence: Strategies to Maximize Enrollment and Revenue* Chelsea Reue
Classroom 1109	*Streamlining Success: Effective Processes for Supervising ECE Staff and Building Strong Teams* Tamyra Belo & Eboni Tafolla	*Streamlining Success: Effective Processes for Supervising ECE Staff and Building Strong Teams* Tamyra Belo & Eboni Tafolla
Classroom 1110	*Building Bridges: Cultivating Respect, Engagement, and Support for Families in Early Childhood Education* Natoya Carroll	*Partnering for Success: Elevating Family and Community Engagement in Early Childhood Programs* - Natoya Carroll
Classroom 1111	*Bringing Stories to Life: Engaging Students Through Interactive Read-Alouds* - Cheryl Mallant	*Solving the Bad Behavior Mystery* - Scarlett Tandy
Classroom 1113	*Elevating Excellence: Key Strategies for Childcare Owners to Thrive in the Modern Era* - Dawn Fobbs	*Partnering for Progress: Navigating Conversations about Developmental Concerns* - Margaret Sachs
Classroom 1115	*Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities* - Martha Gonzales	*Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities* - Martha Gonzales
Classroom 1116	*Flourishing in the Classroom: Empowering Teacher Development* - Caresal Bolds	*Connections Count: Building Intentional Relationships to Promote Early Childhood Mental Health* - Felicia Sprayberry & Lisa Nelson
Classroom 1207	*Red Rover, Red Rover, Send Inclusive Physical Play Tips Over* Alexis Cordova & Beverly Reed	*DON'T HAVE A ZILLION DOLLARS? Creating Adaptations that Support Learning for All Children* - Alexis Cordova & Beverly Reed
Classroom 1209	*"What Makes You Say That?": Engaging Young Learners in Primary Source Exploration* - Haley Ford	*Leading for Resiliency: Professional Communication Strategies to Reduce Teacher Burnout* - Amy Foster Palmer
Classroom 1211	*Child Growth & Development Supporting Children with Special Needs* - Aubri Simpson	*Child Growth & Development Supporting Children with Special Needs* Aubri Simpson
Classroom 1212	*Building Your Dream Team: Hiring and Onboarding in ECE* - Laura Nelson	*Behavior- Smart Classrooms* - Laura Nelson
Classroom 1213	*Below the Surface: Exploring the Hidden Depths of Child Development* - Cheryl Carey	*It Takes Skills to Grow Up!* - Cheryl Carey
Classroom 1214	❤❤❤❤	*Love Beyond* - Jessica Abraham
Classroom 1215	*Beyond The Handbook: Closing the Gaps in Staff and Parent Expectations* - Sheika Petteway	*Conflict Resolution Leadership Training* - Sheika Petteway
Classroom 1216	*Who is Child Care Enforcement (CCE)?* Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether	*Who is Child Care Enforcement (CCE)?* Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether
Classroom 1217	❤❤❤❤	*What is Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)!* - Marci Brown and Tina James
Classroom 1218	*Handwriting Skills: What I Need to Know Before I Can Learn* Vickie Maertz	*Sensory 101 - Understanding the Inputs in a Child's Learning Environment* - Vickie Maertz

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Classroom 1111	*Solving the Bad Behavior Mystery* - Scarlett Tandy	*Solving the Bad Behavior Mystery* - Scarlett Tandy
Classroom 1113	*Elevating Excellence: Key Strategies for Childcare Owners to Thrive in the Modern Era* - Dawn Fobbs	*Spotting the Signs: Early Identification of Autism in Child Care* Margaret Sachs
Classroom 1115	*Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities* - Martha Gonzales	*Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities* Martha Gonzales
Classroom 1116	*Connections Count: Building Intentional Relationships to Promote Early Childhood Mental Health* Felicia Sprayberry and Lisa Nelson	♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Classroom 1207	*Play to Learn! How Dramatic Play can Ignite Learning in the Classroom* - Emily Perez	*Play to Learn! How Dramatic Play can Ignite Learning in the Classroom* Emily Perez
Classroom 1209	*Leading for Resiliency: Professional Communication Strategies to Reduce Teacher Burnout* - Amy Foster Palmer	*"What Makes You Say That?": Engaging Young Learners in Primary Source Exploration* - Haley Ford
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Classroom 1212	*Intentional Leadership - A Journey of Growth and Reflection* Laura Nelson	*The Temperament Toolbox: Building Strong Emotional Connections with Children* - Laura Nelson
Classroom 1213	*It Takes Skills to Grow Up!* Cheryl Carey	*Below the Surface: Exploring the Hidden Depths of Child Development* Cheryl Carey
Classroom 1214	*Love Beyond* Jessica Abraham	*Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Programs: A Guide to TCEQ's Support for Safe Drinking Water* - Nicole Ruiz
Classroom 1215	*Mastering Delegating and Coaching* Sheika Petteway	*Conflict Resolution Leadership Training* Sheika Petteway
Classroom 1216	*Who is Child Care Enforcement (CCE)?* Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether	*Who is Child Care Enforcement (CCE)?* Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether
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Classroom 1218	*Generational Partnerships in ECE* – Michael Gonzalez	*Generational Partnerships in ECE* – Michael Gonzalez

LUNCH!

Lunch will be served starting at 1:00 pm!
The Exhibitor Area will be OPEN as well!

Grab a lunch and find a space to eat!
Remember, sessions begin again at 1:30, so
feel free to take your lunch to a classroom if
that is easier! Enjoy!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To **CHILD** for assisting with planning
logistics related to the **For the Love of Children Conference**

CHILD
Center in Houston for Infant Learning and Development

www.DiscoverCHILD.org

EXHIBITORS

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
SOUTHEAST TEXAS

Workforce Solutions
GULF COAST

TEXAS
Health and Human Services

ChildCareGroup

CHILD
Center in Houston for Infant Learning and Development

PALS

Lakeshore®

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EARLY LEARNING COMPANY

United Way
Greater Houston

CELEBRATE
Successful Early Learning
www.celebratesel.com

Texas Early Childhood
Professional Development System

Lead Testing
In School & Child Care
A PROGRAM OF TCEQ

Child's Play®

Every attendee will receive a gift from Lakeshore Learning at the conclusion of the conference. These gifts are made possible via funding from **WorkForce Solutions Gulf Coast - Early Education Quality Services!**

Nature Matters - Heading Off Challenging Behavior with Outdoor Play
Room 1013

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Elevating Excellence: Key Strategies for Childcare Owners to Thrive in the Modern Era
Classroom 1113

This session equips childcare owners with actionable strategies to enhance leadership, improve curriculum quality, implement sustainable financial practices, and navigate compliance. Learn practical tools to elevate your childcare center, attract families, and foster growth in today's competitive landscape. Gain insights to ensure operational success and deliver exceptional early childhood education services.

Dawn Fobbs

Child Care Regulation Background Checks
Lecture Hall - 2nd Floor

Join the Director of CCR's Centralized Background Check Unit, Emily Kopplin to learn about the different required background checks, background check processing time frames, the answers to frequently asked questions and tips and tricks to navigating the background check process.

Emily Kopplin

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Minimum Standards Training: Activities/Discipline/Safety
Classroom 1103

Join us for a comprehensive review and become familiar with Chapter 746 of the Minimum Standards related to Activities/Discipline/ Safety for Child Care Centers.

Child Care Regulation Staff

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Minimum Standards Training: Health/Fire Safety/ Field Trips and Transportation
Classroom 1107

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Child Care Regulation Staff

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Streamlining Success: Effective Processes for Supervising ECE Staff and Building Strong Teams
Classroom 1109

Are you ready to transform your approach to supervising ECE professionals? In this dynamic and engaging session, we'll uncover the secrets to balancing leadership and teamwork while inspiring your staff to reach their full potential. Packed with real-world tips, interactive strategies, and a touch of fun, you'll walk away feeling empowered to lead with confidence and create a thriving ECE team! Let's make supervision the best part of your day!

Tamyra Belo & Eboni Tafolla

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Solving the Bad Behavior Mystery
Classroom 1111

Do you find yourself asking your toddlers and preschoolers WHY they acted out or made certain choices? In this session, we will discover the art of recognizing triggers, minimizing chaos, and getting inside the minds of our little ones.

Scarlett Tandy

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Adaptations Made Easy! Classroom Environments for All Abilities
Classroom 1115

This interactive training session is designed for early childhood educators seeking to create more inclusive classrooms for children of all abilities. The focus will be on easy, practical strategies for adapting the classroom environment to ensure all children, including those with diverse abilities, can thrive. Participants will learn how to: Identify and assess the needs of the children in your classroom, create an inclusive physical environment that supports children of all abilities, and adapt materials and activities to meet the diverse needs of all children. By the end of the session, educators will be equipped with practical strategies and resources to make classrooms more accessible, welcoming, and effective for children of all abilities, ensuring that every child can succeed and develop to their fullest potential.

Martha Gonzales

Connections Count: Building Intentional Relationships to Promote Early Childhood Mental Health
Classroom 1116

Our earliest interactions form the foundation for social and emotional development, which impacts a child's growth and mental health. In this session, we will discuss social and emotional learning and its effect on early childhood mental health, the role relationships play in this development, and practical strategies that promote positive mental health outcomes.

Felicia Sprayberry & Lisa Nelson

Play to Learn! How Dramatic Play Can Ignite Learning in the Classroom
Classroom 1207

Has learning taken a stagnant turn in your classroom? Come "play to learn" exciting and practical ways to bring learning to life again! Dramatic play is essential to success so let's have fun! Join Emily Perez for this fun and informational training on dramatic play!

Emily Perez

Child Growth & Development Supporting Children with Special Needs
Classroom 1211

We would like to support early childhood practitioners in helping them to identify resources to support the children that they serve. This session provides insight on various opportunities for families to engage with their early childhood providers even if that journey means outside of care.

Aubri Simpson

Leading for Resiliency: Professional Communication Strategies to Reduce Teacher Burnout
Classroom 1209

Supervising staff is often one of the most challenging and fulfilling parts of becoming a director. As the director, you are responsible for effectively communicating with staff ensuring staff are following program policies and procedures, working effectively with one another and the families you serve, and facilitating children's learning and development in appropriate ways. In this session, we will discuss ways to support and grow resiliency within your staff through effective communication, active supervision, and relationship development. We will also create ways to reduce burnout while meeting staff, children, and program needs.

Amy Foster Palmer

Intentional Leadership: A Journey of Growth and Reflection
Classroom 1212

The Intentional Leadership in ECE: A Journey of Growth and Reflection training equips leaders with practical tools and strategies to foster intentional personal and professional growth. Through interactive activities and reflection exercises, participants will explore self-awareness, consistent leadership habits, and creating growth-friendly environments. The session focuses on actionable steps to enhance leadership effectiveness, strengthen team culture, and create lasting impact within early childhood education settings.

Laura Nelson

It Takes Skills to Grow Up!
Classroom 1213

How do children develop during early childhood? The process involves learning and mastering numerous skills like sitting, walking, talking, jumping, and tying shoes. Children learn these skills, called developmental milestones, during predictable time periods. It takes children skills to grow up! By observing and assessing them, we monitor the progress of children, and determine how we can support their optimal growth and development.

Cheryl Carey

Love Beyond
Classroom 1214

This training session will explore effective behavior management strategies in early childhood education (ECE) with a special focus on promoting social-emotional development. Grounded in the "Leading with Love" approach, participants will learn how to create a loving, nurturing and supportive classroom environment where young children can thrive emotionally and socially.

Jessica Abraham

Who is Child care Enforcement (CCE)?
Classroom 1216

Child Care Enforcement (CCE) reviews recommendations for and decides on corrective actions, adverse actions, and administrative penalties within the residential and daycare regulatory programs. CCE also conducts administrative reviews within these programs when an operation disagrees with a Child Care Regulation (CCR) deficiency decision. Learn about the roles and responsibilities of Child Care Enforcement in reviewing, analyzing, and processing enforcement actions.

Christina Harvey, Lea Long and Kristin Grether

Generational Partnerships in ECE
Classroom 1218

For many years the early childhood workforce has been comprised of different generations. These generations shared similarities at times, but those times have seemingly come and gone. This informative session will discuss these generational gaps and provide new ideas based on research. Learn to develop new partnerships through collaboration with the multiple generations in the early childhood field to strengthen your practice!

Michael Gonzalez

Mastering DELEGATING AND COACHING
Classroom 1215

This training equips childcare professionals with the tools to become inspiring role models in their workplace. Participants will develop skills to demonstrate effective leadership through strategic delegation and coaching, fostering a high-performing team and supporting individual growth among team members.

Sheika Petteway

What is Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)!
Classroom 1217
What is ECI!

Join us to discuss a comprehensive Early Intervention Program that services families with children from birth to 3 years old with developmental delays and/or disabilities to learn, grow and develop to their highest potential.

Marci Brown & Tina James

Supporting Dual Language Learners
Room 1013
Learning two languages simultaneously is beneficial and does not slow progress or confuse young learners. Let's investigate how we can best utilize the strengths of dual language learners to benefit your entire classroom.
Amy Musick

Minimum Standards Training: Personnel/ Child Care Giver Ratio
Classroom 1101
Join us for a comprehensive review and become familiar with Chapter 746 of the Minimum Standards related to Personnel/ Child/ Caregiver ratios for Child Care Centers.
Child Care Regulation Staff

Minimum Standards: Nutrition/Active Play
Classroom 1105
Join us for a comprehensive review and become familiar with Chapter 746 of the Minimum Standards related to Nutrition/ Active Play for Child Care Centers.
Child Care Regulation Staff

Eliminate, Automate, Delegate, to Elevate: Strategies to Streamline Your Workload and Boost Success
Classroom 1108
Discover the power of the "Eliminate, Automate, Delegate, to Elevate" framework in this transformative presentation. Learn to streamline your workload by removing nonessential tasks, leveraging technology for repetitive processes, and empowering team members to take ownership. Gain more time for innovation, strategic growth, and achieve lasting renewed focus and fulfillment.
Chelsea Reue

Partnering for Success: Elevating Family and Community Engagement in Early Childhood Programs
Classroom 1110
This training equips childcare center leaders with strategies to build family and community-centered programming, aligning with Texas Core Competencies. Participants will explore effective engagement practices, cultural inclusivity, and collaboration techniques. Through interactive activities and action planning, attendees will enhance their leadership skills to foster stronger connections and improve program quality.
Natoya Carroll

Igniting the Fire For Social-Emotional Learning
Lecture Hall - 2nd Floor
In contributing to a GREAT conference, I hope each of you will join me for a quick look at Social-Emotional Learning and its concepts via Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL). This will include group activities and a few anecdotes to remind us how important these concepts are to our children and our personal lives.
Corey Garza, Child Care Regulation

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Tamyra Belo and Eboni Tafolla

Solving the Bad Behavior Mystery
Classroom 1111
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Scarlett Tandy

Spotting the Signs: Early Identification of Autism in Child Care
Classroom 1113
This interactive and informative session is designed for child care providers to better understand and recognize the early signs of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in young children. Participants will learn about common developmental red flags, how to observe key behaviors, and the importance of early intervention. Through real-life examples, activities, and group discussions, child care providers will gain practical tools to identify potential signs of autism, approach parents with sensitivity, and foster a more inclusive and supportive environment for all children.
Margaret Sachs

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Martha Gonzales

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Aubri Simpson

Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Programs: A Guide to TCEQ's Support for Safe Drinking Water
Classroom 1214

The Lead Testing in Schools and Child Care Program (LTSCC) helps Texas child care centers test drinking water for lead. Learn about the 3Ts (Testing, Training, and Taking Action), available remediation support, and how to enroll in this free program to proactively reduce potential lead exposure at your child care facility.

Nicole Ruiz

Conflict Resolution Leadership Training
Classroom 1215

This training is designed to equip childcare directors with the skills needed to navigate and resolve conflicts effectively within their organizations. Participants will learn to identify and understand the roots of conflict and gain insight into why conflicts arise in workplace settings. Through proven strategies and techniques, directors will discover effective methods for resolving conflicts constructively. Additionally, they will develop proactive skills to prevent and reduce workplace conflicts, fostering a more harmonious and productive work environment. This course is ideal for childcare leaders seeking to build a resilient team and maintain a positive workplace culture.

Sheika Petteway

"What Makes You Say That?": Engaging Young Learners in Primary Source Exploration
Classroom 1209

This interactive session equips early childhood educators with engaging strategies to introduce primary source analysis to young learners. Using storytelling, visual thinking, and hands-on activities, educators will discover how to spark curiosity, build inquiry skills, and make history come alive through age-appropriate primary sources like photographs, artifacts, and oral histories.

Haley Ford

The Temperament Toolbox: Building Emotional Connections with Children
Classroom 1212

Discover how understanding temperament can transform your classroom! This engaging session provides practical Whole-Brain strategies to manage behaviors, foster emotional regulation, and support social- emotional growth. Grounded in neuroscience and Erikson's theories, you'll leave empowered to create nurturing environments that celebrate every child's individuality and build lasting emotional connections.

Laura Nelson

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Michael Gonzalez

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