2017 Annual Parent-Child Home Program Conference

AGENDA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY</th>
<th>All workshops are open to everyone, unless specified.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELS:</td>
<td>Workshop appropriate for Early Learning Specialists (Home Visitors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C:</td>
<td>Workshop appropriate for Site Coordinators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS:</td>
<td>Workshop is “program specific” pertaining specifically to the Parent-Child Home Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC/FS:</td>
<td>Workshop covers an Early Childhood or Family Support topic, appropriate, but not specific to the Parent-Child Home Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MONDAY, MAY 8

8 AM – 9 AM – Registration/Breakfast/Exhibits
GRAND BALLROOM/CONFERENCE MARKETPLACE

9 AM – 10:30 AM – Welcome and Opening Keynote – GRAND BALLROOM

“The Brain Architecture Game: Every Brain Tells a Story” – Al Race, Chief Knowledge Officer & Deputy Director, Center for the Developing Child, Harvard University

The Brain Architecture Game is a tabletop game that builds understanding of the powerful role of early childhood experiences on brain development – what promotes it, what derails it, and what are the consequences for society? Created through a partnership of the Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University and the University of Southern California’s Creative Media and Behavioral Health Center, the game is designed to engage policymakers, community and business leaders, health and education service providers, and government officials in understanding the science of early brain development. Groups of four to six players work together, drawing Life Experience cards to gain materials for brain building. Since 2009, more than 25,000 people in groups around the world have played the Brain Architecture Game. Players leave with an understanding that the architecture of the brain is built starting in the earliest years of life, and that experiences shape the structure for better or worse. The game concludes with a facilitated discussion, establishing a strong, shared frame for productive conversations on a range of early childhood issues, policies, and programs. The shared concepts and vocabulary help people focus on shared civic responsibility for creating the environments in which young children develop.
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Exhibits – CONFERENCE MARKETPLACE

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM – Workshops


On a cloudy gray day, a white cat goes out looking for colors. Under the brush of Airlie Anderson, the fur of the cat becomes dotted with all the colors she encounters. Picture books like Cat’s Colors (Child’s Play) are written, illustrated, edited, revised, and published – not to sit on a bookshelf – but to be opened, read aloud, and ultimately played with. Join the team from the publisher Child’s Play to discover how Cat’s Colors was made, how parents can use the book to explore household and neighborhood colors with their children, and how communities are celebrating the white cat and the surprise she brought to a gray day.

2. Creative Engagement Play Activities for Families – Alison Pepper, Early Childhood Educational Consultant, Kaplan Early Learning Company (ELS, EC/FS)

This workshop is a hands-on session highlighting areas of learning for young children at home through fun and easy play activities. Participants will engage in activities and discussion about the developmental learning aspects of play in ways that can be shared with families.

3. Could This Child Have a Learning or Attention Issue? – Patricia Flanagan, Expert Advisor to Understood.org (C, ELS, EC/FS)

It can be challenging for parents to recognize the early warning signs of learning or attention issues. It can be especially difficult for low-income parents, or parents who may be recent immigrants or refugees. This session reviews developmental milestones you would expect to see during the toddler and preschool years, possible red flags, whether those red flags might be reflective of a cultural or linguistic variation, and what actions you can help parents take if their child is not on track.

4. An Introduction to Mindful Parenting – Virginia Blum, Variety Child Learning Center (C, ELS, EC/FS)

“The wonderful gift of mindfulness is that we can stop ourselves and ask: What am I feeling? What is it like from my child’s point of view? When you can do that, you often see things that you didn’t let yourself see before because you were too caught up in the reactive mode, which is very limiting.” – Myla Kabat-Zinn, Everyday Blessings, The Inner World of Mindful Parenting

This presentation will include an introduction to the principles and practices of mindfulness and how these practices can be integrated into home visits. A definition of mindful parenting will be discussed, and participants will learn how mindfulness has
been shown to decrease parenting stress and emotional reactivity; increase overall positive parenting skills; and deepen the parent-child connection. Participants will have the opportunity to experience some mindfulness exercises useful for their own work.

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM – Buffet Lunch – GRAND BALLROOM

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM – Exhibits/Networking – CONFERENCE MARKETPLACE

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Workshops

1. Early Childhood Math Literacy – Cobi Dunn, PCHP Director, Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County (ELS, EC/FS)

We are all born with a mathematical instinct, yet before school entry, a math gap develops with long-term implications for low-income children. This presentation will focus on the importance of early childhood math literacy and ways to promote children’s school readiness through math language. We will talk about how children instinctively use math in their play, and explore participants’ own assumptions about math.

2. Infant Mental Health and the Impact of Trauma in Childhood – Candida Cucharo & Zahra Khalfan, New York State Association for Infant Mental Health (C, ELS, EC/FS)

Infant Mental Health is a term that often brings up many questions. Join the New York State Association for Infant Mental Health as we uncover what the term “Infant Mental Health” means. What is meant by the developmental period of infancy? What age group are we talking about? We also will discuss the effects of trauma on a child’s mental health. Participants will learn ways to help children cope with stressful and traumatic situations and how to care for ourselves when faced with stressful situations. We want you to walk away from this workshop feeling confident about what trauma looks like and knowing how best to help.


Maternal depression affects one in seven new mothers in the United States, and perhaps up to 50% of low-income mothers. It has devastating effects on child development that can impact the child and family for years to come. This workshop is intended to help navigate how best to promote maternal well-being in the context of the child. We will cover: research on maternal mental health; different methods of screening; and how to support families in need of extra services. We will pay special attention to cross-cultural considerations and the specific needs and sensitivities of PCHP families. We will discuss easy screening tools to use, such as the PHQ, Edinburgh, and SWYC.
4. Every Child Ready to Read: A Public Library Initiative – Renee McGrath, Manager of Youth Services, Nassau Library System, & Ilene Madden, Children’s Librarian, Oceanside Public Library (C, ELS, EC/FS)

An overview of Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR), a public library early literacy initiative that was developed by the Association of Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association. ECRR is very much aligned with the work that PCHP does with young families because it encourages parents to read, talk, sing, and play with their children. The workshop presenters will also talk about Dialogic Reading techniques, as well as the Whole Book Approach, first developed at the Eric Carle Museum, which is a way of reading that incorporates text, art, and the whole design of the book – reading “with” children, rather than reading “to” children. You will also hear about some of the newest and best picture books published for young children. Let’s share and brainstorm ways that your PCHP site can partner with your local public library.

5. An Introduction to Parent-Child Home Program for Family Child Care – Sarah Howard, PCHP-FCC Project Manager (C, ELS, PS)

This information session is open to any site staff who might be interested in learning more about PCHP’s Family Child Care model and perhaps consider starting a program in the future. You will learn about what PCHP for FCC is, get a summary of existing pilots, and receive more information on its evaluation and development at the PCHP National Center. Join us to learn more about PCHP’s exciting work with family child care providers and the children they serve.

3:30 PM – 4:45 PM – All-Conference Presentation - GRAND BALLROOM
An Introduction to the New Parent-Child Home Program Management Information System (MIS) – Cesar Zuniga & Representative from Icreon, MIS Developer (C, ELS, PS)

This presentation is a demonstration of the new data system (MIS). PCHP staff, in collaboration with the software developers, will demonstrate the new system's features and design elements. PCHP staff will present the new system's business rules, data entry milestones, and gather feedback from users. Attendees will learn about the latest monitoring, analytic, and reporting tools that will be available through the new MIS and how they will support Site Coordinators’ and Early Learning Specialists' (Home Visitors’) field work.
TUESDAY, MAY 9

8 AM – 8:45 AM – Breakfast - GRAND BALLROOM

8:45 AM – 10:00 AM - Keynote

Family Engagement in the 21st Century: Reaching Out and Raising Up – Margaret Caspe, PhD, Director of Research and Professional Learning, Global Family Research Project

Family engagement is one of, if not the most important, predictor of children’s success in school and life. Together we will talk about the latest research and innovations in family engagement, including different initiatives across the country that promote “anywhere, anytime” child learning – in places like the home, early childhood programs, museums, and libraries. We will also explore how a core set of engagement practices – reach out, raise up, reinforce, relate, and reimagine – are reshaping how educators are empowering families in the communities in which they live.

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM - Workshops

1. MAP ME to School Readiness – Cobi Dunn, PCHP Director, Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, & Blanca Cartagena, PCHP Site Coordinator, Lake Worth West Regional Planning Group (C, ELS, PS)

Learn MAP ME to enhance home visits and maximize children’s readiness for school. MAP ME is an acronym for Early Learning Specialists to use to cover a range of important school readiness skills during home visits. MAP ME stands for Music, Art, Pretend Play, Math Literacy, and Executive Functions. Participants will create their own open-ended, spontaneous, and fun MAP ME ideas with selected VISMs.

2. Trauma-Informed Care Coming to Life in the Home Setting – Jamie Meyer, Director of Education, Metropolitan Ministries, Tammi McGinn, PCHP Coordinator, Metropolitan Ministries, & Lisa Spitaleri, Associate Director of Child Development Program, Metropolitan Ministries, Tampa, FL (C, ELS, PS)

This interactive workshop will empower participants with knowledge and action steps to infuse Trauma Informed Care (TIC) into their Parent-Child Home Program. Using the Sanctuary Model of TIC, presenters will share the successful implementation in a homeless shelter setting focused on healing and recovery for staff, volunteer Early Learning Specialists, parents, and young children. We will discuss ways to bring TIC into the home setting, and will provide hands-on strategies to deal with the stress and challenges of working with trauma, and discuss ways to avoid burnout and compassion fatigue.

3. Engaging Families: At the Intersection of Race and Homelessness – Debra Monroe, Services Manager; Ayan Warsame, PCHP Coordinator; Cathy
Nguyen, Operations and Grants Manager; & Jeanice Hardy, Regional Services Director, YWCA Seattle-King-Snohomish (C, ELS, PS)

This interactive workshop will explore trauma-informed, culturally specific approaches and strategies for outreach to and engaging families of color experiencing homelessness in the Program and services. We will talk about how race and homelessness intersect; barriers and experiences of families of color experiencing homelessness; strategic community partnerships; follow-up and incentives for families; trust and relationship building with families; cross-disciplinary case staffing; and trainings related to trauma-informed advocacy and institutionalized racism.


This workshop explores the many ways to “listen” to toddlers' behavior in order to better understand their needs, explore what they are feeling, and nurture their development. We will talk about the five possible causes of behavior: developmental stage, individual differences, environment, child does not know but is ready to learn, and unmet need, and learn about being sensitive to a toddler’s cues.

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM – Workshops

1. Working with Families to Modify Challenging Behaviors – Florence Barbour, Director of Curriculum & Instructional Professional Development, Harbor Child Care, Inc. (ELS, PS)

This workshop will focus on giving Early Learning Specialists the tools to assist families in modifying challenging behaviors that are present in the home. Using a collaborative approach to discipline, the parent and Early Learning Specialist will be able to identify WHY the behavior is present, what purpose it serves the child, and what can be done within the home to ameliorate the behavior. The workshop will explore cultural factors that are evident in the home, and how to be respectful of those factors while setting clear and age-appropriate expectations for the child. The tools to be discussed will provide Early Learning Specialists the opportunity to model what to do when faced with challenging behaviors.

2. Responsive Caregiving for Social-Emotional Development in Infants and Toddlers – Barbara Pirnat, Director of Early Intervention, Variety Child Learning Center (C, ELS, EC/FS)

Infants and toddlers are affected adversely when significant stresses threaten a family’s well-being. We will discuss how young children benefit significantly from relationships with responsive caregivers, both within and outside of the immediate family. What tools can we use to access social-emotional development in infants and toddlers? We will discuss how best to address a family’s needs if deficits are indicated by the assessment, so that caregivers’ responses encourage social-emotional development. Participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and ask questions.
3. Extending Literacy Through Creative Activities – Miriam Avila, Family Resource Coordinator/PCHP Coordinator, & Viviana Zepeda, PCHP Early Learning Specialist, North Rockland Central School District, West Haverstraw, NY (ELS, PS)

From the PCHP Early Learning Specialists’ point of view, it is sometimes frustrating to keep a child engaged in a book for 30 minutes. We will share ideas to bring a book to life, along with some easy activities to develop language and imagination. The presenters bring lots of experience to this workshop, as they both have been parents and then Early Learning Specialists in PCHP, and would like to hear what has worked best for you. Let’s all share and feel pride in the important work we do that changes families’ lives.


When we are focused on language and building vocabulary, we may overlook simple non-verbal strategies that are more effective than conventional approaches. This workshop will examine and demonstrate effective use of gestures and non-verbal prompts; opportunities to minimize verbal prompts and excessive talking; visuals; and movement and spatial factors in the environment that impact parent-child relationships.

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM – Sit-Down Lunch – GRAND BALLROOM

Table Talk: The Impact of Recent Changes in Immigration and Deportation Policies on PCHP Families and on the Delivery of PCHP Services.

Each table will have a facilitator and a series of questions to discuss, and the facilitator will report out to the whole group. The goal is to share concerns and challenges, determine commonalities, and provide ideas about what types of training and program supports would be useful on this topic. Please do not miss this opportunity to share what is happening in your community and with your families, hear what PCHP staff in other parts of the country are experiencing, and help to deepen and broaden the information, resources, and supports PCHP is developing.

To make this exercise a success, we request that you please sit at your assigned table.

At the end of the table talks – stay tuned for Dessert, Recognition of Site Anniversaries, and Door Prizes!