Early Childhood Education
Workforce Convening

2023 Convening Program

Hosted by the
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Center

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Child Care Services Association

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Please use this QR code to access the workshop descriptions.
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**

Registration................................................................. Atrium  
7:30 am – 4:30 pm

Continental Breakfast......................................................... Atrium  
7:30 am – 8:30 am

Opening Welcome and Keynote Address ...................... Grumman Auditorium  
8:30 am – 10:00 am

**Concurrent Session I**  
10:30 am – 11:45 am

**Centering ECE Workforce as Key Experts in Policy Design**  
**Location:** Grumman Auditorium  
**Presenters:** Annie Dade, Policy Analyst, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment; Hopeton Hess, Research and Policy Associate, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment

**Mapping the Money: An Interactive Tool Showing the Complexity of Early Childhood Care and Education Funding**  
**Location:** Azalea  
**Presenter:** Catherine Huddleston-Casas, Associate Director, Workforce Planning and Development Program, Buffett Early Childhood Institute, University of Nebraska

**T.E.A.C.H. Innovation: Online Application Implementation**  
**Location:** Mt. Laurel  
**Presenters:** Kelly Smith, Chief Technology Officer, Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association; Judith Santmire, Chief Operating Officer, Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association; Jill Arnold, Director of Database Support and Services, Child Care Services Association

**WAGE$ Administrator’s Roundtable (For WAGE$ Program Leadership Only)**  
**Location:** Windflower  
**Presenters:** Allison Miller, Vice President, Compensation Initiatives, Child Care Services Association; Katherine Walker Brooks, Child Care WAGE$® Program Director, Child Care Services Association

**Advance Your Child Care Career: Missouri’s Journey in Creating a Marketing Campaign**  
**Location:** Redbud A  
**Presenters:** Beth Ann Lang, Chief Program Officer, Child Care Aware® of Missouri; Amanda Schwartz, Director of Scholarships, Child Care Aware® of Missouri

**The Road to College Completion: Rekindle the Fire**  
**Location:** Redbud B  
**Presenter:** Sharon Little, Higher Education Liaison, Child Care Services Association

**Lunch** ................................................................. Trillium Dining Room  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**Concurrent Session II**  
1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

**Building Vermont’s Early Childhood Education Pipeline - Lessons Learned and Pathways Celebrated**  
**Location:** Azalea  
**Presenters:** Brenda Schramm, ECE Workforce Development Director, Vermont AEYC; Paula Nadeau, ECE Workforce Development Specialist, Vermont AEYC

**Moving Beyond ARPA: Key Takeaways for States Addressing ECE Compensation**  
**Location:** Grumman Auditorium  
**Presenters:** Krista Olsen, Research and Policy Associate, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment; Caitlin McLean, Director, Multi-State and International Programs, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment

**Child Care WAGE$© Counselors Roundtable (For WAGE$ Program Counselors Only)**  
**Location:** Mt. Laurel  
**Presenters:** Allison Miller, Vice President, Compensation Initiatives, Child Care Services Association; Katherine Walker Brooks, WAGE$ Manager, Child Care Services Association; Lakisha Best, WAGE$ and AWARDS Program Coordinator, Child Care Services Association

**Breaking Into the News: Tips for Successful Interviews**  
**Location:** Windflower  
**Presenters:** Penelope Whitney, Communications Director, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment; Davina Boldin-Woods, Administrator, First Presbyterian Child Development Center

**Let’s Talk: Aligning Federal and State Policy and Advocacy Opportunities to Support the ECE Workforce**  
**Location:** Redbud A  
**Presenter:** Lauren Hogan, Managing Director of Policy and Professional Advancement, NAEYC

**Stabilizing the Early Childhood Workforce Through Funding Design: Innovative Whole-System Approaches by Two States**  
**Location:** Redbud B  
**Presenters:** Theresa Hawley, Executive Director, Center for Early Learning Funding Equity; Amy Checkoway, Senior Associate Commissioner, Policy, Research and Data Analytics, Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
Concurrent Session III  
3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Collaborating to Support the Next Generation of Early Childhood Leaders: An Online Emerging Leaders Graduate Program  
Location: Azalea  
Presenters: Deb Carter, Professor, Early and Special Education, Boise State University; Erin McCandless, Director of Academics and Professional Certifications, Association for the Education of Young Children; Erin Tanzer, Clinical Instructor, Boise State University

Beyond Hope: Making the Ideal Child Care Real  
Location: Grumman Auditorium  
Presenter: Marica Cox Mitchell, Vice President, Early Childhood, Bainum Family Foundation

We Are Superheroes, But We Are Not Invincible: The Work Environment of Family Child Care Providers During the Pandemic  
Location: Mt. Laurel  
Presenters: Marisa Schlieber, Ph.D., Senior Research and Policy Associate, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment; Tobi Adejumo, Research and Policy Associate, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment; Jenna Knight, Research and Policy Associate, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment

Building an Early Childhood Registered Apprenticeship from the Ground Up and Lessons Learned Two Years Later  
Location: Windflower  
Presenters: Marinel Russo, Assistant Director, Early Childhood Workforce Initiatives, Rhode Island AEYC; Briana Assante, Registered Apprenticeship/ T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, Rhode Island AEYC

Equity Check - How to Create and Use an Equity Toolkit to Make Decisions  
Location: Redbud A  
Presenters: Calahena Merrick, Associate Director of Operations, Child Care Aware® of Minnesota; Nicolette Graf, Equity and Advocacy Coordinator, Child Care Aware® of Minnesota

Counselor Relationships: Building Rapport with Your Recipients (for T.E.A.C.H. and WAGE$ Staff Only)  
Location: Redbud B  
Presenters: Amy Duffy, Senior T.E.A.C.H. Manager, Child Care Services Association; Pam Ellis, T.E.A.C.H. Counseling Specialist, Iowa AEYC

Networking Reception/ Light Hors d’oeuvres .......................................................... Atrium  
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Concurrent Session V
10:15 am – 11:30 am

Refundable Tax Credits Can Boost Early Educator Compensation
Location: Azalea
Presenters: Cindy Cisneros, Vice President, Education Programs, Committee for Economic Development of The Conference Board; Grace Reef, Senior Outreach Consultant, Committee for Economic Development of The Conference Board

Fostering a Changemaker Mindset by Cultivating a Culturally Competent Workplace
Location: Grumman Auditorium

Building Value and Creating Awareness: A Guide to Using New and Existing Relationships to Promote Your Scholarship
Location: Windflower

Experienced Counselor Roundtable (for veteran T.E.A.C.H. Counselors Only)
Location: Mt. Laurel
Presenters: Amy Duffy, Senior T.E.A.C.H. Manager, Child Care Services Association; Schquita Battle, T.E.A.C.H. Manager, Child Care Services Association

CCSA Early Childhood Educator Apprenticeship Pilot Updates
Location: Redbud A
Presenter: Megan Burk, Director, Workforce Initiatives, Child Care Services Association

Advancing Equity in Wisconsin’s Early Education Workforce: A Narrative Inquiry that Centers the Lived Experiences of Black and Brown Professionals in the Field
Location: Redbud B
Presenters: Toshiba Adams, Instructor, Milwaukee Area Technical College; Tanya Johnson, Professional Development and Training Specialist, Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

Lunch ......................................................................................... Trillium Dining Room
11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Plenary Session ............................................................................. Grumman Auditorium
12:45 pm - 2:00 pm

Concurrent Session VI
2:30 pm – 3:45 pm

Supporting Early Educators in their CDA® Journey – for Trainers, Coaches, Instructors, Administrators
Location: Azalea
Presenters: Raquel Andrade, Director, CDA Credentialing, The Council for Professional Recognition; Chiquita Blackwell, CDA Credentialing Manager, The Council for Professional Recognition

How to Deliver High-Quality Professional Development to Diverse Populations in Appalachia
Location: Mt. Laurel
Presenters: Karen “KT” Thompson, Professional Development Manager, Appalachian Early Childhood Network; Becky Stacy, Executive Director, Appalachian Early Childhood Network

Effectively Navigating Rapid Growth in a T.E.A.C.H. and/or WAGES Program: A Panel Discussion
Location: Windflower
Presenters: Laurie Adams, T.E.A.C.H. Program Director, Texas AEYC; Victoria Murphy, T.E.A.C.H. Outreach and Recruitment Manager, Texas AEYC; Lesli Itz, T.E.A.C.H. Student Success Manager, Texas AEYC; Paul Lazenby, Executive Director and T.E.A.C.H. State Manager, Arkansas Early Childhood Association

ECE Advocacy Campaigns: Connecting & Collaborating to Maximize Impact
Location: Redbud A
Presenters: Laurie Litz, T.E.A.C.H. Director, Pennsylvania Child Care Association; Jodi Askins, Communications Director, Start Strong PA Campaign; Lindsey Ramsey, Executive Director, Shady Lane School

Early Childhood Policy and Funding - Strategies that Moved the Needle on Workforce Compensation in Kentucky and Maine - and What’s Next
Location: Redbud B
Presenters: Sarah Vanover, Policy and Research Director, Kentucky Youth Advocates; Heather Marden, Policy Director, Maine AEYC; Julie Rogers, Program Director, Child Care Services Association

Plenary Session
We welcome two national early childhood leaders who will discuss new federal resources and opportunities in support of the early care and education workforce and ongoing national efforts to professionalize the early childhood teaching field.

Katie Hamm, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development, Office of Early Childhood Development, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Lauren Hogan, Managing Director of Policy and Professional Advancement, NAEYC