

37th Annual Head Start Conference and Meetings

Seminars Descriptions

*Note: Registration is required for seminars; space is limited.
Participation in seminars is free with conference registration.*

Monday, 5/3/2010

8 a.m.-Noon

Digging Deeper: How Our Cultural Beliefs and Values Affect Our Care Giving Practices

Our individual culture, life experiences, and affiliation with different groups, shape our personal values, beliefs, and assumptions. These values, beliefs, and assumptions are the lens through which we see and understand the world. Unfortunately, the interpretation of one's words and actions can be vastly different from those intended. This training seminar offers early childhood professionals the valuable opportunity to explore how their personal values, beliefs, and assumptions influence their care giving practices and their interpretations of and reactions to children's attitudes and behaviors.

Donna R. Britt, Ed.D
Senior Program Manager
ZERO TO THREE

Amy Hunter
Early Childhood Mental health Specialist
ZERO TO THREE

Accountability Matters: Discussing Data to Improve Programs and Communicate Outcomes.

Join representatives from Head Start programs, regional offices, and program monitoring and evaluation agencies for an interactive discussion exploring the challenges of collecting, communicating, and using meaningful data throughout an organization. Participants will collectively brainstorm strategies to link data for program quality enhancement.

Cheryl M. Roberts, Ed.D
Vice President of Corporate Initiatives
The Source for Learning Inc.

Mari Blaustein
Director of Preschool Initiatives

The Source of Learning Inc.

An Innovative Approach to Enrollment

The Enrollment Team Model utilizes some new approaches to the enrollment cycle for Head Start/Early Head Start. The model will be fully described, explaining the benefits to the agency as well as to families. Participants will be able to engage in discussion and adapt communication techniques to their programs.

Lyn Rhodes-Birawer

ERSEA Coordinator

Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties Head Start/Early Head Start

Enrollment Team of Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties Head Start/Early Head Start

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Commit to Prevention and Health: Building Blocks for a Healthy Future

A healthy life for our children's future begins with their caregivers. Head Start's research, mission, and goals illustrate the strong ties between emotional and physical health and a child's ability to learn, make wise choices, and build strong relationships. This seminar will foster understanding about the need to build and improve prevention and protective factors at school and within families and communities; it will also explore ways *Building Blocks for a Healthy Future* supports teachers and parents. Participants will examine the many ways that *Building Blocks for a Healthy Future*, a free tool for educators and families, offers methods and opportunities to involve children and their parents in healthy growth and educational progress. Participants will learn how to make the program work for their students and how to use it to reach out to and support parents and the community.

Pat Schneider

Founding Partner, Project Manager, and Educational Writer

Teachable Tech Inc.,

Replacing the Bell with Technology: Hands-on Training in Up-to-Date Hearing Screening Methods for Young Children

Head Start has a long-standing commitment to identifying children with hearing health needs and requires appropriate screening procedures to identify auditory concerns for children to be completed. In response to this requirement, this seminar introduces

Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) hearing screening, the most effective screening method that can be used with children ages birth to 3 years and for some 4- to 5-year-olds. After participating in this hands-on training, participants will be able to develop an OAE screening program, select appropriate OAE equipment, screen children in a variety of settings, implement an appropriate follow-up protocol for children who do not pass the initial screening, access resources for tracking and follow-up systems, and identify local audiologists to support future OAE training and implementation efforts.

William Eiserman, Ph.D.
Director, Early Childhood Hearing Outreach (ECHO) Initiative
The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management
Utah State University

Creating a Nourishing Environment to Promote a Family of Readers

This is a train the trainer seminar that provides teachers and leaders with the tools needed to bring parents together to participate in quick fun workshops that demonstrate the importance of family involvement while including best practices to ensure all children are given an opportunity to grow and reach higher in a family of readers!

Patricia Oholeguy
Reading is Fundamental

Rebecca Chrystal Armstrong
Reading is Fundamental

1-5 p.m.

Conflict Resolution

Learn to see conflict resolution as what it truly is: an important opportunity to learn and grow. *Do I have a conflict style? What is that style? Should I use the same conflict style in all situations? If not, why not? What is my organization's conflict style of? How safe am I in conflict situations? What is my ability to handle stress and conflict? What role or part do I play in a conflict situation? Is the conflict a who or a what?* Join us for this seminar to get answers to these and other questions and to acquire new skills that will help you turn a particular conflict into a constructive opportunity for growth.

Frank Ranger, M.A.
Director
Kauai Head Start
Roger Company Inc.

Knock, Knock... Who's There? Can We Come In? Strategies for Successful Inclusion of Young Children with Disabilities in Child Development Programs

Using lecture, discussion, role-play, and videos, this training seminar will present various approaches and strategies for planning and implementing inclusion support in a Head Start preschool setting. Discussion will include two specific models of support, the use of one-to-one paraprofessionals, and issues and strategies related to team work, collaboration, and conflict resolution.

Anne-Marie Richardson-Gibbs, M.A.
Inclusion Specialist
El Monte City School District

Olga Vasquez
Disabilities Facilitator
El Monte City School District

Lisa Dunbar, M.A.
Director
El Monte City school District

Starting Early to Prevent Obesity: CAS GO! Kids — A Model Classroom-Based Program

This interactive training seminar will provide early childhood educators and program directors with a more thorough understanding of issues relating to childhood obesity and the information, skills, and materials needed to immediately implement the Children's Aid Society Go! Kids program.

Juan Carlos Gonzalez
Program Coordinator
The Children's Aid Society Go! Kids Program

Doris Burgos
Health and Wellness Educator
The Children's Aid Society Go! Kids Program

Shared Services for the ECE Industry

This seminar will provide attendees with innovative solutions to using Early Head Start and Head Start resources in family child care settings and leveraging the unique quality that comes along with those resources through the implementation of a shared alliance. It will provide an overview of how shared services works in the ECE setting, what market challenges this approach addresses, and how providers can maximize Early Head Start and Head Start resources through this business approach.

Sue Renner, M.S.
Director
David and Laura Merage Foundation

Lucinda Burns
Executive Director
Early Childhood Options

Louise Stoney
Alliance for Early Childhood Finance

Diane Price
President & CEO
Child Nursery Centers

Phil Acord
President & CEO
Children's Home/ Chambliss Shelter

Tuesday, 5/4/2010

8 a.m.-Noon

Take it Outside! Purposeful Play and Meaningful Movement

Are you providing engaging outdoor play experiences for your children? This training seminar will explore the importance of outdoor play on children's health, help you identify key features of high-quality outdoor play spaces, and extend your thinking about the adult's roles in facilitating movement and learning during outdoor play. Participants will leave feeling re-energized and ready to get outdoors!

Bethe Almeras, M.S.
Training Director
Head Start Body Start National Center for Physical Development and Outdoor Play

Karin Spencer, Ed.D
Director
Head Start Body Start National Center for Physical Development and Outdoor Play

Steve Stork, Ed.D
Director of Programs
iHealth Center for Integrated Wellness

Building High Performance Work Teams

Effective work teams are essential for improving employee performance and organizational productivity. This fun, interactive training seminar will explore the dimensions of team building, from developmental stages through team problem solving as a high-performing team.

Frank Coy, M.A.
OD/HRD/Facilitator/ Mediator
Human Resources Consultants

From Small Talk to Difficult Conversations: Effective Techniques in Making True Connections

In general, teachers have been taught to talk; in today's world of advanced technology and increasingly diverse populations, however, the skill of listening has become much more important. In this training seminar, educators will participate in exercises specifically designed to develop and strengthen their active listening skills. From "small talk" to "difficult conversations," these active listening skills are essential for establishing two-way communication that is crucial in developing partnerships with families.

Rhonda D. Richardson, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, College of Education
Sam Houston State University

Conflict Resolution (*Repeated Seminar*)

Learn to see conflict resolution as what it truly is: an important opportunity to learn and grow. *Do I have a conflict style? What is that style? Should I use the same conflict style in all situations? If not, why not? What is my organization's conflict style of? How safe am I in conflict situations? What is my ability to handle stress and conflict? What role or part do I play in a conflict situation? Is the conflict a who or a what?* Join us for this seminar to get answers to these and other questions and to acquire new skills that will help you turn a particular conflict into a constructive opportunity for growth.

Frank Ranger
Director
Kauai Head Start
Roger Company Inc.

SOLAR System: A 21st Century Web-based HR Planning Instrument

Strategic training and development is at the heart of continuous effort to meet the requirements of the Head Start Act 2007. In this interactive session participants will

learn how to use SOLAR to meet the HR goals and ways to link Monitoring Reports, T/TA and Professional Development Plans, and SOLAR reports.

Marsha Carter McLean, M.A.
Management & Administrative Specialist
Head Start Knowledge and Information Management Services

Bridget N. Shea
Head Start Knowledge and Information Management Service

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Raising Expectations for Children’s Learning: The Link between Curriculum, Assessment, and Child Outcomes

Child outcomes toward school readiness are an important component of program accountability. The Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 promotes the coordination and improvement of early childhood education through the alignment of curriculum with the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and state early learning standards. Additionally, Head Start’s national priorities include effective classroom practices. The discussion and hands-on group activities in this seminar will center on teacher planning for learning and for assessment — important practices that help guide the preparation for preschool children to enter kindergarten. This seminar will also examine how improving and connecting current systems, tools, processes, and procedures for curriculum planning based on learning standards provides the foundation for measuring, analyzing, evaluating, and reporting patterns of children’s progress toward school readiness. Participants will learn...

- How to better understand the linkages between curriculum planning, child assessment, and child outcomes.
- How child data informs and drives classroom instruction that meets the needs of children toward school readiness in the domains of child development.
- How curriculum planning based on the assessed needs of children informs and guides individualization.

Gwynne Smith Scheffer, M.S.
Associate
Booz Allen Hamilton

A Day in the Life of a Preschooler: Joyfully Weaving Best Practices from Circle Time to Good-Bye

In this full-day seminar, participants will take on the roles of both the “child” and the “observer” as they experience a wide variety of fresh ideas and activities that can be used throughout the preschool day. This training will examine recent brain research that

explains why and how of these exciting activities meet early learning standards through play. Come prepared to play and learn... and leave with a full toolkit of play-based learning ideas. The CLASS assessment will be included as a part of the evaluation process.

Ellen Booth Church
Author and Educator
Environments Inc.

Natalie Daise
Presenter and Coach
Environments Inc.

Creating a Competency-Based Training Program for Meeting the New Expectations of Professional Development in Head Start

This seminar is designed to assist Head Start and Early Head Start directors and education managers in establishing a training program aimed at meeting the professional development requirements in the Head Start Act. With the current release of the *Roadmap to Excellence*, the Office of Head Start aims to implement initiatives to improve school readiness for children. The core of this initiative is professional development for teachers. Broad strategies and resources for creating competency-based training for teachers will be shared and discussed. Participants will be encouraged to look at their employee training and development programs for teachers from a strategic perspective, and use a competency-based training approach that focuses first on understanding the goals or objectives from the Office of Head Start's initiatives centered on the Child Outcomes Framework and the current results of the Head Start Impact Study. They will also work to identify the skills and behaviors teachers need to achieve those goals. Participants will...

- Gain a working knowledge of competency-based training.
- Examine their organizational training goals, identify gaps and challenges, and learn strategies to integrate in their existing professional development plans.
- Begin the process for establishing a competency-based training in their programs that meet the professional development requirements in the Improving Head Start Through School Readiness Act.

Myra G. Crouch, Ph.D.
Director, Education and Technical Assistance Programs
STG INTERNATIONAL Inc.

The Necessity of Play: Preparing for the 21st Century

Play is a vital learning process for children, which is why Head Start staff must be prepared to serve as facilitators and advocates of play. In this seminar, training will focus on both current research and practical strategies that support participants in their roles as advocates and facilitators of play. Small group work, visuals, and guidelines will be used to provide participants with tools to use and take back to their programs to offset the decline in children's imaginative play. Participants will deepen their understanding of the implications of a "remote controlled childhood," become better prepared to identify and address frequent challenges to children's play development, and learn to articulate the value of play in ways that address Head Start Outcomes and help prepare children for the 21st century.

Holly Blum, M.A.
Educational Consultant

Serving Children with Disabilities

This seminar will help teachers use research-based practices to effectively engage children with special needs in early childhood classrooms. Training modules from the Head Start Center for Inclusion, which translates research-based practices into easy-to-follow steps for inclusion, will be presented. Participants will observe inclusion practices used in classrooms, analyze instructional interactions in order to make better decisions, and practice using planning and problem-solving tools to help children with disabilities learn and thrive. Upon completion, participants will have learned how to... a) increase the overall quality of the classroom, b) modify and adapt the environment and curriculum to enhance children's engagement, c) address children's individual education plan goals by embedding learning opportunities, and d) identify when and how to provide more explicit, child-focused instructional support.

Gail E. Joseph, Ph.D.
Principal Investigator and Assistant Professor
Head Start Center for Inclusion
University of Washington

1-5 p.m.

Positive Approaches for Managing Organizational Conflict and Difficult People

This unique self-awareness, conflict-prevention training provides proven, field-validated methods and techniques for effectively handling emotionally explosive individuals and situations. In addition, the latest research on Emotional Intelligence (EI) and recent success in applying "Core Values," mental imagery, and stress management techniques in diffusing highly charged emotional events is incorporated.

Frank Coy. M.A.
OD/HRD Instructor
Human Resource Consultants

Nothing is Working! They Don't Care! What Am I Going to Do? (A workshop focused on discipline)

Are you living in survival state? Emotional state? Executive state? Are the discipline strategies you are currently using actually working? In this interactive training seminar, music and movement will be incorporated into thoughtful discussions about building a school family and the use of a "safe place" in the classroom.

Peggy P. Osborne
Disabilities Facilitator
College Station Independent School District

Lauren Osborne
First Grade teacher
HEB Independent School District

Resiliency Training for Educators and Parents

Few things are as important in working with young children as resilience. Resilient educators and parents have more patience, energy, and imagination when dealing with daily tasks and unanticipated challenges. They also have the ability to model resilience for their children and students. Resilient administrators provide leadership necessary for maintaining coherence and harmony throughout the learning environment. This seminar will address the many challenges to maintaining resilience. *Resiliency Training for Educators and Parents* is an evidence-based training program for parents and educators that is designed to counter the effects of stress through a set of practical tools and strategies. Grounded in neuroscience, the program teaches participants how to transform stress and improve resilience through a variety of experiential activities that build on key developmentally appropriate social and emotional skills for young children. Participants will acquire a better understanding of the effects of stress on their own physiology and the knowledge of how to think more clearly and make smarter decisions, especially under pressure.

Bob Rees, Ph.D.
Director of Education
Institute of HeartMath

Jeff Goelitz
Program Developer

I Don't Know What to Do! Overcoming the Challenges of Infant-Toddler Assessment

Early Head Start “care teachers” are tasked with the daily challenges of interacting and caring for infants and toddlers, providing meaningful learning experiences, observing individual development, and making learning visible to parents. Participate in this seminar to learn how using authentic assessment during care routines will help you and your program provide an accurate picture of each individual child’s abilities and progress.

Kamna Seth, M.S.
Senior Manager of Educational Services
The Source of Learning Inc.

Mari Blaustein
Director of Preschool Initiatives
The Source of Learning Inc.

Recipe for Success: “Ingredients” for Supporting the Social Emotional Competence of Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

One of the primary focuses of Head Start as well as early care is to promote social development of young children. This seminar will equip providers with practical resources and strategies that can be used to strengthen their everyday practices with infants, toddlers, and young children around supporting social and emotional development.

Tweety Yates, Ph.D.
Co-Project for the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning
University of Illinois