CONNECTIONS AND SOLUTIONS:
Empowering Success

2017 Conference
Saturday, October 14, 2017
A1: Communicating to be Understood: Bridging the Gaps that Divide Us

We all communicate, but how we do it makes all the difference. This workshop will closely examine how our words, actions, and behaviors transmit messages and affect outcomes, of which we are often unaware. Come and be part of this eye-opening seminar, and gain a new perspective about how communication happens.

Edmonia “Edie” Glover, LSW, MSW, Educational Trainer/Therapist

A2: Classroom Calm for Kids: Yoga, Meditation, and Mindfulness

Teachers and providers will benefit from this workshop, which focuses on simple techniques and games for creating a more productive and peaceful classroom environment. Yoga, meditation, breath work, and mindfulness will be incorporated into fun activities that can be used the very next week. Participants will explore a Yoga Nidra relaxation and receive a script to use with the children.

Erin Peluso and Joell Lanfrank, Co-owners, Lotus Lounge Yoga Services

A3: What is Process Art for Children & Why is it Important?

Participants will learn through hands-on activities the difference between process and product art. Participants will explore how process art enhances the learning domains of math, literacy, physical development, and social-emotional development.

Ellen Tully, EMT Early Childhood Consulting/Owner/Independent Consultant

A4: The Development of Socialization

Socialization skills are developed throughout our lives. The stage is set for positive, pro-social interactions in early childhood. Our skills continue to be impacted through our youth and adolescence. Consider the things we post on social media as we learn about the stages of social skill development and how we impact a young person’s sense of self.

Cindy Terebush, Consultant, Speaker, and Author

A5: Observing in the Infant/Toddler Classroom

Join us as we learn to use everyday experiences to document and observe children’s skill development. We will review best practices in terms of anecdotal writing, including objectivity and confidentiality. Participants will also practice taking anecdotal notes and aligning them with NJ Birth-to-Three Early Learning Standards. Learn to use these notes to assist in lesson-planning and to individualize curriculum, and take away helpful tips to ease the process of anecdotal writing.

Shauna Battad, M.A., NJ First Steps Infant/Toddler Specialist, Community Coordinated Child Care of Union County

A6: Attachment Matters: Supporting Attunement between Infants and Their Caregivers

Did you know your relationship with the infants in your care actually helps shape brain architecture? It does! This workshop is designed to inspire all infant caregivers and to help them understand the essential role they play as secondary attachment figures. Come explore Attachment Theory and recognize how your emotional relationship with infants is critical to supporting development and learning.

Lindsay J. Pearson, M.Ed., IMH-E IV-Policy, Lead Trainer and TAS, Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health, Montclair State University

A7: Finding Your Inner Advocate

Now more than ever it is critical that early care and education professionals become strong advocates for their programs, their staff, and the children they serve. While the thought of advocacy may be intimidating at first, this interactive workshop will provide participants with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they will need to become successful advocates for early learning issues.

Cynthia Rice, Esq., Senior Policy Analyst, and Diane Dellanno, LCSW, Advocates for Children of New Jersey

Administrators Track A

AA1: The Value of Slowing Down, Reflective Supervision, and Consultation

Reflective practice considers the parallel process between a supervisor, caregiver, and children. Reflective practice also recognizes the value of slowing down, building self-awareness, considering multiple perspectives, staying attuned with ourselves and others, using a collaborative stance, and maintaining a sense of curiosity. Participants will learn ways to engage in reflective practices to help inform their work, relationships, and interventions.

Diane Squadron, PsyD, and Jean Budd, LPC, NCC, NJ Association for Infant Mental Health
**B1: What is Infant Mental Health?**

Infant mental health promotes healthy social-emotional development, trust, emotional security and self-regulation within the family relationship. Using the domains of Prevention, child development and intervention, the participants will identify their role in the support of infant mental health.

Jean Budd, LPC, NCC, IMH E IV-Clinical, Lead Trainer and TAS, Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health, Montclair State University

Diane Squadron, PsyD, IMH E IV-Clinical, VP, YCS Institute for Infant and Preschool Mental Health

**B2: Build a Brain: Play the Renowned Brain Architecture Game**

Play the “Brain Architecture Game” to discover how positive events, tolerable stress, and toxic stress impact the development of the brain. During this fun, hands-on session, you will experience the impact that events and caring adults can have on the brain. We know so much more about brain development today. Come, learn, and be a brain architect!

Cindy Terebush, Consultant, Speaker and Author

**B3: Hands-on STEM in the Preschool Classroom**

This workshop will be a hands-on introduction to using science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in the preschool classroom. We will explore fun classroom activities utilizing everyday materials.

Mary Applegate, MA, Preschool Teacher, YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge, and South Amboy

**B4: What’s Love Got to Do With It?**

This workshop will explore mind and body work in the early childhood years. Come learn fun activities for the children in your classroom and contemplate the role of love in our life and work.

Miriam Moran Shankman, Master Teacher of Tai Chi, Chi Kung, and Meditation

**B5: Infant/Toddler Individual Expression Art**

Prepare to roll up your sleeves and get messy with art! This workshop is specifically designed for infant/toddler teachers to support children’s individual art expression. Participants will receive classroom ideas and resources for developmentally appropriate art experiences. The workshop will connect NJ Birth-to-Three Early Learning Standards, ITERS quality, and research-based curriculums.

Rhonda Ciccone, NJ First Steps Infant/Toddler Specialist, Community Coordinated Child Care of Union County

**B6: The Positive Discipline Approach to Developing Social-Emotional Strengths and Improving School**

Understanding the philosophy and tools of Positive Discipline helps educators build more respectful relationships in their classrooms and schools. While cultivating social/emotional, problem-solving and self-regulation skills in children, Positive Discipline also positively impacts the school culture and climate. Participants will bring new management tools back to their classrooms and learn about the benefits of a school-wide approach to Positive Discipline.

Kathleen McClay, Trainer, and Teresa LaSala, Lead Trainer & Author, Positive Discipline & School Climate Specialists

**B7: Connect Experience Write (CEW)®: Using Music, Movement, and Connection to Teach Letter Formation and Developmental Foundations of Handwriting**

This workshop will demonstrate how to teach the foundational skills needed for handwriting and letter formation using innovative, evidence-based techniques that integrate music and movement. Research on the value of handwriting instruction, as well as the use of music and movement, will be reviewed.

Carrie Davis, OTR/L, Co-Founder, and Michele Parkins, OTR/L, Connect Experience Write (CEW)®

**Administrators Track B**

**BB1: Developmental Screening and Talking with Families**

This workshop discusses the process of screening, screening tools available for providers, and tips on what to do when screening positive for developmental concerns. The various perspectives of administrators, staff, and families will be explored and effective, relationship-based strategies identified.

Lasheema Edwards, M.S., Family Resource Specialist, Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN)
2017 Conference for Early Care and Education
Hyatt Regency Princeton
October 14, 2017

SCHEDULE

Registration, Continental Breakfast, and Exhibits
8:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.

Welcome
8:30 A.M. - 8:45 A.M.

Keynote Speaker
Ron Shuali, M.Ed.
The Empowered Educator: 3 Success Secrets to Terrific Teaching

Training Session
Workshop Group A
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Lunch
Exhibits and Raffle
12:15 P.M. - 1:15 P.M.

Training Session
Workshop Group B
1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Attending Keynote, Session A, and Session B provides five contact hours toward licensing requirements.