

33rd NIHSDA Management Training Conference

	Wednesday 6-26-24 1:30p-3:00p	Wednesday 6-26-24 3:30p-5:00p	Thursday 6-27-24 8:30a-10:00a	Thursday 6-27-24 10:30a-12:00p	Thursday 6-27-24 12:30p-2:00p
Ballroom A	Cultural Sensitivity when Providing Early Childhood Education Services to Indigenous Children (Pt 1) Jessica Barnes Najor	Cultural Sensitivity when Providing Early Childhood Education Services to Indigenous Children (Pt 2) Jessica Barnes Najor	Nurturing Literacy through Engaging Play Meghann Hickey	Staff Wellness in Trying Times Lucretia Lovato	Closing Session and Lunch Comedian Donovan (Beef) Archambault
Ballroom B	OHS Roundtable	Let's Talk the Disability Process Mike Richardson	Developing a Sustainable Language Revitalization Program Mike Richardson	Every Interaction Counts: Improving language environments equitably in early childhood education Pamela Salgado	
Ballroom C	Weaving Native Cultures into Curriculum Tanya Hutton, Jennifer Rackliff	Little Minds, Big Hearts: 100 Easy Ways to Boost Young Children's Social Skills Michael Hubler	Tiny Hands, Big Connections: Sign Language for Classroom & Behavior Management Lillian Hubler Tobin	Sunshine Skills: Positive Preventive Skill Building Activities for Young Children Michael Hubler	
Conf. Rm 5	Planning for 5 year Goals, Objectives and Outcomes (Pt 1) Mala Sablok, Sheila Sellers	Planning for 5 year Goals, Objectives and Outcomes (Pt 2) Mala Sablok, Sheila Sellers	Leveraging Professional Development to Support Career Pathways for Family Services Professionals Juan Rodriguez, Patricia Castrodad, Alexis Tarbin	Onboarding and Orienting New Family Services Leaders Juan Rodriguez, Patricia Castrodad, Alexis Tarbin	
Skybridge 1	Fiscal Reporting: Updates for 2024; Timelines and Planning (Pt 1) Betsy McDougall, Ron Ransom	Fiscal Reporting: Updates for 2024; Timelines and Planning (Pt 2) Betsy McDougall, Ron Ransom	Promoting Educational Sovereignty through Culturally-Driven Coordinated Early Childhood Systems: The Tribal Early Learning Initiative Eva Carter, Kimber Olson	Stay Safe Procedures for Early Childhood Programs Neal Horen, Candace Shelton	
Skybridge 2	Intro to Early Head Start Classrooms (Pt 1) Patty Drogue, Laine Rinehart	Intro to Early Head Start Classrooms (Pt 2) Patty Drogue, Laine Rinehart	Building Peer Support for Staff while Nurturing Children's Social Emotional Well-being Shelley Macy, Pam Oatis	Wiba Anung: Our Story of Developing a Curriculum Supplement that Centers Native Language, Culture, and Foods through the Traditional Calendar Jessica Barnes Najor	
Skybridge 3	Health Services Advisory Committees: the backbone of your health component (Pt 1) Alma Sandoval, Racquel Martinez	Health Services Advisory Committees: the backbone of your health component (Pt 2) Alma Sandoval, Racquel Martinez	Maximizing ChildPlus to Manage Staff Data Mandie Sawyer	Expanding and Strengthening Early Learning in Tribal Communities: How to Build Partnerships with Child Care (CCDF) Tanya Hutton, Jennifer Rackliff	
Skybridge 4	Building a Stronger Workforce (Pt 1) Ronda Ritchie, Laura Waukechon-Factor	Building a Stronger Workforce (Pt 2) Ronda Ritchie, Laura Waukechon-Factor	ERSEA: Planning for Full Enrollment PMFO	Leadership and a Strategic Thinking Mindset PMFO	
Skyview 1	Tracking and Monitoring Family Services (Pt 1) Rosa Vasquez	Tracking and Monitoring Family Services (Pt 2) Rosa Vasquez	We Are Stronger Together: Using the 5Rs to Inspire, Motivate, and Retain Staff (Pt 1) DTL	We Are Stronger Together: Using the 5Rs to Inspire, Motivate, and Retain Staff (Pt 2) DTL	

Pre-Conference Intensives

Training-for-Trainers on Trauma-Responsive Care: A Framework of Resilience for Tribes

Melody RedBird Post

Trauma-Responsive Care and Tribal Early Childhood Education: Through facilitated conversations and structured peer learning opportunities, this session will focus on defining trauma, outlining the impacts of trauma on children, caregivers, and families, and lay a foundational understanding of implementing a trauma-responsive approach in early childhood education. Culture, Language, and Strengthening Resilience in Children: Through facilitated conversations and structured peer learning opportunities, this session will focus on defining resilience, discuss strategies to strengthen resilience in children, explore approaches to support children in the context of their families, and build awareness of how to implement a trauma-responsive approach in early childhood education.

Building Resilience in Families and Caregivers—Connecting to Resources: Through facilitated conversations and structured peer learning opportunities, this session will focus on defining trauma-responsive care as a multi-level approach, share strategies for strengthening resilience in child care providers and families, outlining culturally responsive resources and systems of support, identifying community resources and collaborative partners, and establishing a framework for resilience in Tribal early childhood settings.

Leadership Essentials: Vision, Empowerment, and Collaboration in Practice

Nila Rinehart, Jubal Raffety

Being a Head Start Director requires excellent leadership skills. Every day requires leading your team toward positive outcomes for children and families. Each program is a team that operates within a community that exists within a larger context of tribal government and leaders, federal staff, and sometimes media attention. Managing the relational environment requires intentional communication and excellent collaboration.

Leadership is most effective when shared across a team. Leadership Essentials are skills that create environments of excellence, effectiveness, and teamwork. In this workday, we will focus on having a compelling vision with clear goals and priorities, delegating effectively to develop staff, and strategies for ongoing communication with all staff, stakeholders, and partners.

This session is designed for new leaders and promises to be highly interactive with participants sharing, learning, and growing together. Participants will learn how to:

- Create a clear and compelling vision that calls yourself, staff, and co-workers into action.
- Break your vision down into manageable tasks and priorities.
- Work through others, delegate, manage tasks and deliverables, create accountability.
- Use strategies to communicate effectively, intentionally, and resolve conflicts as they arise.

The Season for Healing: Conscious Discipline in Tribal Communities

Annette Chastain

Our tribal communities continue to navigate deep challenges. Historical trauma, anxiety, mental health concerns, escalating behavior problems in the classroom, teacher wellness, teacher retention and recruitment issues, learning gaps, and ever-present school safety concerns drive the need for this Season for Healing. Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based, trauma-informed approach that provides an array of behavior management strategies and classroom structures that adults can use to turn everyday situations into learning opportunities. Join us as we weave the foundational skills of Conscious Discipline within the context of culture and language in our Tribal Communities.

Cultural Integration: Indigenizing Young Athletes Through Traditional Games, Language, and Food

Kassy Lopez-Sonchar

Unlock the potential of cultural integration in this dynamic pre-intensive conference session, where we merge Indigenous traditions with Special Olympics Young Athletes while aligning with Head Start performance standards. Explore innovative approaches to building lessons that seamlessly weave together traditional games, language, and food to enrich the experiences of children in your programs through Young Athletes skills. Led by experts in Indigenous culture, education, sports programming and Pilot 1 AIAN Head Start programs, this session will provide participants with practical strategies and resources to create engaging and culturally responsive lessons with Young Athletes. Discover how traditional games serve as pathways to physical activity, teamwork, and cultural pride, while also meeting Head Start performance standards for physical development. Explore the power of language as a tool for cultural preservation and communication, and learn how to incorporate Indigenous languages into activities to promote language development and cultural identity. All of this with the Young Athletes activities that support inclusive practices. Additionally, delve into the role of food in nurturing both body and spirit, and learn how to integrate traditional Indigenous foods into nutrition education and cooking activities that align with Head Start performance standards for health and wellness. Through hands-on activities, reflection, and collaborative discussions, participants will leave equipped with the knowledge and skills to design and implement culturally inclusive

lessons that honor Indigenous traditions, meet Head Start performance standards, and empower children with Young Athletes materials. Join us in championing cultural diversity and equity in sports and early childhood education with Young Athletes.

Session Descriptions

A Systems Approach to Child Safety Incidents (Pt 1&2)

Racquel Martinez, Ronda Ritchie

Does your program have effective safety practices? Whether you have experienced a child safety incident in your program or want to be proactive to prevent an incident from occurring, it's essential to take a step back and review your management systems. In this session, we will explore strategies from a systems perspective and learn how to dig deeper through root-cause analysis when an incident occurs to determine what underlying systems and processes need to be changed to ensure that you have a culture of safety in your program.

Budgeting for Mental Health (Pt 1&2)

Manisha Tare, Ron Ransom

While there is often a stigma attached to the words 'mental health,' our well-being is integral to our overall health and impacts how we show up daily. Wellness also affects staff retention and outcomes for children and families. In this double session, we will explore a systems approach to mental health and how to view it through a financial lens. We'll also consider the services and supports, including mental health consultation, your program needs based on your community assessment and staff surveys. Through case studies and examples, we will discuss the practical implications for planning, budgeting, and writing justifications to ensure mental health resources are allocated to support your program's staff, children, and families.

Building a Stronger Workforce (Pt 1&2)

Ronda Ritchie, Laura Waukechon-Factor

As leaders in tribal Head Start and Early Head Start programs, we are working hard to retain staff and strengthen employee performance. Being aware of different styles in the workforce is an effective strategy for staff retention. Join us as we explore what situational leadership styles are and how they can apply to our work. We will explore how leadership styles are aligned with Gallup's 12 engagement elements to build stronger connections within the workforce.

Building Belonging: The Leader's Role in Building Belonging with Staff (Pt 1&2)

Carol Bellamy, Patrice Griffin

It is an innate human need to feel accepted, included, and valued. A sense of belonging within the workplace impacts well-being, job satisfaction, engagement, and productivity. But how does a program leader create and sustain a workplace culture that prioritizes belonging? Do practical strategies and tools exist that help build relationships across a diverse team? Join this workshop to discuss answers to these questions and explore staff engagement tools to help all staff feel, "I belong here!"

Building Peer Support for Staff while Nurturing Children's Social Emotional Well-being

Shelley Macy, Pam Oatis

Every child needs to feel seen, heard, and valued by the adults in your program. Yet, how can staff do this at the times when their own tanks are running on empty? Not to mention your own tremendously demanding job—how do you support teachers' and other staff members' emotional needs when you are stretched so thin? In this interactive session, the presenters will share with you the culturally compatible Hand in Hand Listening Tool that is done together--between and among peers. Help staff be their best selves by introducing this simple but structured and profound tool for emotional health and self-regulation. Additionally, we will share the theory behind our work as well as our four adult-to-child Listening Tools that equip staff to meet the emotional needs of children while bringing more joy into teaching.

Building Stronger Foundations: Fun Team Building for Head Start Staff

Kassy Lopez-Sonchar

The success of Head Start programs relies on the collaboration and cohesion of its staff members. In this interactive workshop, we explore innovative and enjoyable team-building activities tailored specifically for Head Start staff. By fostering a sense of community and camaraderie, these activities aim to enhance communication, teamwork, and morale within Head Start teams. Participants will learn practical strategies for creating a positive and engaging work environment while strengthening relationships among colleagues.

Building Sustainable Mental Health Systems

Manisha Tare

As per the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), there is an emphasis on a systems approach for mental health services. While we await the final standards, we can explore ways to strengthen the foundation of mental health services and incorporate a more coordinated and collaborative approach inclusive of all service areas. This session will invite you to review your current mental health services, identify gaps, and explore how mental health can be woven into education, disabilities, family services, and health to serve children and families effectively. Please bring your most recent mental health policies and procedures to make the most out of the session.

Celebrating the Sacred Through the Power of Play

DTL

The highest human purpose is always to reinvent and celebrate the sacred. - N. Scott Momaday (Kiowa Nation) Do you want to help your staff reclaim joy in early childhood work? Join us to explore the foundations and benefits of play and how we can support staff to effectively engage children birth to 5 in the wonders of play and nature. Explore ways to support staff in meaningful interactions that honor children's natural ways of learning and knowing. Rediscover the joyful spark that connect us as early learning leaders through the power of play.

Change In Scope

PMFO

The decision to submit an enrollment reduction or conversion request should be based on the needs of the community served and not solely on the fact that the program is under-enrolled. Programs should regularly update their community assessment to reflect current needs, trends, and characteristics of Head Start-eligible children and families as well as the community within their designated service area. In this session participants will explore the necessary data elements that should be considered when submitting a CiS.

Cultural Sensitivity when Providing Early Childhood Education Services to Indigenous Children (Pt 1&2)

Jessica Barnes Najor

Description coming soon

Developing a Sustainable Language Revitalization Program

Mike Richardson

The pandemic has had huge impacts on moving forward with our language revitalization plans. With so many new staff and fewer resources, many are asking how I even get started. This presentation will be on how I plan for and put together a sustainable language program from development to implementation. We will look at sustainable pathways that will not only look at how we survey current language practices to support language in our classroom and community, but also how to develop a sustainable language plan inclusive of culture. Sustaining our tribal languages is a lifetime commitment. It will take time, a lot of effort, frustration, but the future language legacy for our young children and communities is priceless!!! Let's always strive to make language FUN!!!!

ERSEA: Planning for Full Enrollment

PMFO

Are you grappling with Full Enrollment issues? Have you been persistently applying the same methods without success? Join us as we explore existing program practices and new ones to consider as well to steer your program toward the ultimate goal of full enrollment. Regardless of your Full Enrollment Initiative status, this session is tailored to help Head Start programs think critically about data-informed decisions, service evaluation, and continuous improvement planning.

Every Interaction Counts: Improving language environments equitably in early childhood education

Pamela Salgado

It is well established that educator-child interactions are an essential element for child care quality, with a large and growing body of research connecting early language environments with childhood outcomes. Now, after analyzing daylong audio data from a sample of more than 24,000 children, the national nonprofit research foundation LENA has a clearer picture of adult-child interaction in home and early education settings than ever thought possible. This unprecedented database establishes the first ever benchmarks across care settings, revealing a stark picture of inequity between and within classrooms and providing strong evidence for the need to improve supports for the early childhood workforce.

Expanding and Strengthening Early Learning in Tribal Communities: How to Build Partnerships with Child Care (CCDF)

Jennifer Rackliff, Tanya Hutton

What if we could create a comprehensive early learning system for our community that brings together all of the services we provide to young children and their families? Join us as we embark on a journey that might lead you down that path! During this session, we will explore how Tribal Head Start programs and Tribal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) programs can collaborate effectively to expand access to holistic, high-quality early learning for more children. By fostering partnerships between Head Start and CCDF programs, we can amplify our impact and provide comprehensive support to our children and families. Join us as we come together to ignite change and create brighter futures for the children and families we serve. Together, we can build a stronger foundation for early learning in Tribal communities, rooted in culture, compassion, and collaboration.

Fiscal 101

Racquel Martinez, Chris Bolinger

Are you part of the Head Start Management team, a Policy Council member, or someone curious about Head Start fiscal regulations? Join us as we discuss planning, creating, and monitoring the Head Start budget. In this session, you will learn standard fiscal terms used in Head Start and become familiar with resources to deepen your knowledge about fiscal management.

Fiscal Reporting: Updates for 2024; Timelines and Planning (Pt 1&2)

Betsy McDougall, Ron Ransom

Timely and accurate fiscal reporting is key to managing the Head Start and Early Head Start grant. In January of 2024, ACF issued a new PI (ACF PI 24 - 01) that revises the federal reporting process. During this session we will review the new PI, discuss timelines for your program and explore ways to effectively partner with your tribal fiscal department to meet reporting requirements.

Growing Leadership

Heather Stelzer, Kris Nance

Supporting a strong early education workforce can be challenging, especially, during a time when there are many things we can not control, such as being short-staffed. Together, we will focus on holistic leadership strategies that you can employ to promote a strong early childhood workforce regardless of the unknown challenges. These strategies will include navigating leadership opportunities within classrooms and meetings, being a responsive leader who inspires others, and how to support natural leaders within your program. Additionally, there will be a focus on using program data to support your navigation of leadership opportunities.

Head Start Enterprise System Overview (HSES)

Darlene Zacherle, Ron Ransom

Join us as we explore HSES. We will review and discuss how to enter information such as contact information, center location, correspondence, end-of-month enrollment, grant applications and amendments, and the PIR.

Head Start Programs are a Maternal Health Intervention for American Indian and Alaska Native Families

Mercedes Gutierrez, Candace Shelton

American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) pregnant and postpartum women and people and their babies have higher rates of death than their white counterparts. Head Start programs are uniquely positioned to provide comprehensive services to pregnant people and expectant families throughout the perinatal period which includes pregnancy and one year after delivery. Head Start staff can address pregnancy-related health disparities by recognizing the social determinants of health that contribute to poor health outcomes for AIAN families. This session will explore the current state of maternal health and provide strategies that Head Start programs can use to improve birth outcomes for AIAN expectant families.

Health Services Advisory Committees: the backbone of your health component (Pt 1&2)

Alma Sandoval, Racquel Martinez

If you don't have an HSAC in your program, or if you wish your HSAC was more effective, come and join us, at the end of this session you will be able to: clearly articulate an action plan for your HSAC, develop a representative membership and implement responsive recruitment strategies, provide an orientation to HSAC members, monitor effective operations, and evaluate HSAC activities in your program.

HS Governance 101: Tribal Council Members, Policy Council Members and Head Start Leadership

Laura Waukechon-Factor, Chris Bolinger

Effective Governance is an essential part of all successful Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Join other Tribal Leaders to explore Head Start's vision, values and mission. Consider how Head Start's vision aligns with your tribal vision and mission. Learn about Head Start laws and regulations that guide local program decisions. Review the rights and responsibilities of all three entities that work together to provide inclusive leadership to govern HS programs (Tribal Council, HS Policy Council and Management Team). Meet and network with other Tribal Leaders and Head Start managers.

Integrating Traditional Foods Throughout our Programs (Pt 1&2)

Betsy McDougall, Darlene Zacherle

Local, traditional, and indigenous foods are not only healthy for the body but also provide a deep cultural connection that promotes the overall health of young children and their families. Traditional foods nurture and support overall community well-being. Join us to explore how we can integrate traditional foods and culture throughout our programs while meeting requirements.

Internal Controls: The GAO Greenbook

PMFO

Internal fiscal controls are necessary and required to ensure that Head Start funds and assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition. The GAO Green Book outlines principles for internal controls in the federal government, emphasizing management's responsibility for establishing and maintaining effective control systems. It focuses on five components: Control Environment, Risk Assessment, Control Activities, Information and Communication, and Monitoring Activities. The Green Book guides agencies in designing internal control systems to manage risks, achieve objectives, and ensure accountability.

Intro to Early Head Start Classrooms (Pt 1&2)

Patty Drogue, Laine Rinehart

Whether you're new to Early Head Start (EHS) or planning a Change in Scope to include Early Head Start, this session will provide an introduction to EHS program options, staffing requirements, ratios and group sizes, and creating developmentally appropriate infant and toddler classrooms. Join us in exploring Early Head Start!

Leadership and a Strategic Thinking Mindset

PMFO

With a strategic mindset, leaders can effectively drive progress and ensure that planning is systemic. Mellody Hobson, a Master Class instructor shares her five Guiding Principles for Strategic Thinking. The learning collaborative explores the five guiding principles in a way that recipients can connect back to their programs.

Leadership for Health Coordinators (Pt 1&2)

Alma Sandoval

Are you a Health Coordinator? then join Dr. Alma Sandoval to learn the differences between leading and managing, understand your leadership style, explore characteristics/traits in addressing Head Start program situations, improve your communication skills, and understand the importance of collaborations and accountability.

Let's Talk the Disability Process

Mike Richardson

We will look at Head Start, School, State, Staff and Tribe at providing services for children with a disability from their perspective. What is the IEP process and who should be involved? The responsibility of the LEA and how the tribe can lend support while holding the LEA accountable to the IDEA Law. Developing Interim and 504 plans to support children that may not have an IEP in place yet or may need additional support due to behavior. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) what does it mean to you and to the LEA/ We will have open discussions on these topics to help find ways to improve the disability process.

Leveraging Professional Development to Support Career Pathways for Family Services Professionals

Juan Rodriguez, Patricia Castrodad, Alexis Tarbin

Family services professionals attend numerous professional development activities that support their work in Head Start programs. However, this critical part of our workforce has larger professional aspirations and career goals. Bringing a lens of equity to PFCE fosters the opportunity to scaffold these career goals alongside Family Services Professionals, builds human capital, and positively impacts the recruitment and retention of qualified family services staff. Join NCPFCE to discuss how to support family services managers and coordinators in using existing professional development opportunities as a platform to identify career goals as they partner with family services staff to move forward on their career pathways.

Little Minds, Big Hearts: 100 Easy Ways to Boost Young Children's Social Skills

Michael Hubler

Unleash a treasure trove of creative ideas! This workshop offers 100 simple and effective strategies to seamlessly infuse social-emotional learning into your daily interactions with young children. From imaginative play to meaningful conversations, discover diverse approaches to foster emotional growth in every child.

Maximizing ChildPlus to Manage Staff Data

Mandie Sawyer

Join us for an engaging training session aimed at enhancing your proficiency in ChildPlus custom modules and reports. Throughout the session, participants will delve into real-world applications for efficiently tracking data, ultimately leading to improved data collection practices. By self-assessing current methods, attendees will gain insights into enhancing the integrity and efficiency of data management and decision-making processes. Through hands-on activities and discussions, you'll explore the functionalities of ChildPlus modules and reports, empowering you to harness the full potential of the CMS. From identifying data fragmentation to understanding advanced reporting features like formula fields, this session will equip you with the tools and knowledge necessary for practical implementation within your agency. Don't miss out on this opportunity to elevate your skills and streamline your data management processes.

Nurturing Literacy through Engaging Play

Meghann Hickey

Join us for an enlightening training session on Nurturing Literacy through Engaging Play, where we address the pressing challenges in literacy education by advocating for the power of play-based learning. This session offers a comprehensive exploration of the principles and methodologies associated with play-based learning, specifically tailored to literacy development. Through interactive discussions and practical activities, participants will gain mastery in recognizing and leveraging the significance of play as a facilitator for enhancing phonological awareness and other literacy skills. Additionally, attendees will learn to design and cultivate literacy-rich environments that promote reading proficiency and a love for books, integrating diverse elements to create immersive and stimulating educational spaces. Don't miss this opportunity to revolutionize your approach to literacy education and pave the way for a brighter future of learning.

Onboarding and Orienting New Family Services Leaders

Juan Rodriguez, Patricia Castrodad, Alexis Tarbin

Onboarding and orientation processes are critical for introducing new PFCE leaders to an organization while ensuring a smooth transition into their role. Effective onboarding can set the tone for a PFCE leader's tenure and help them understand the organization's culture, goals, and expectations while accelerating their ability to contribute effectively. Join this session to explore PFCE resources that can contribute to the success of new Family Services leaders through orientation and onboarding.

Planning for 5 year Goals, Objectives and Outcomes (Pt 1&2)

Mala Sablok, Sheila Sellers

Clearly stated program goals allow programs to have a clear vision of their destination, leading to high quality outcomes for children and families. In this session, participants will understand the difference between program goals, objectives, and expected outcomes. We will review the sources of data and the goal writing process. Participants will work together to become better planners in the context of the 5 year project period by reviewing data, determining priorities and writing program goals and objectives.

Promoting Educational Sovereignty through Culturally-Driven Coordinated Early Childhood Systems: The Tribal Early Learning Initiative

Eva Carter, Kimber Olson

This workshop will detail how culturally-driven coordinated Tribal early childhood systems are built by breaking down silos across programs and identifying and addressing real and perceived barriers to collaboration. This results in better coordinated Tribal early learning and development programs, including Head Start, Child Care, pre-K, home visiting, FACE, and other services. Participants will have an opportunity to hear about how the Tribal Early Learning Initiative (TELI) Collaborative teams across the nation have developed partnership teams. These teams have begun to bridge the financial, policy and interpersonal barriers to center Tribal children and families in a meaningful, culturally-driven manner that is specific to their community, historical context, and current needs.

Ready for GameDay - Strategies to Create Happy and Confident Teachers

Rebecca Freedman, Nina Schumacher, Kayla Schumacher

Just like pro athletes and movie stars – teachers are the talent – so how do we ensure our teachers are ready for game day? In this session, we will review actionable methods that can lead to teachers feeling more confident and supported. Topics such as manageable morning self-care, collaborating to celebrate success and tools for effective communication will be explored. Hear from teachers on how these simple support strategies have helped them to create more responsive classrooms that promote pro-social behaviors and reduce challenging ones.

Revisiting School Readiness in Head Start and Early Head Start

Carol Bellamy, Patrice Griffin

Across the country, programs are recruiting new staff and families. All programs have different program goals, but there is one goal that every program must have, and that is School Readiness goals for all. Let's revisit the importance and the requirements of School Readiness goals. In this session, participants will identify and explore key developmental areas in young children that are important for current and future educational experiences. Developing your school readiness goals, and tracking and using your programs' school readiness data will provide children a strong foundation in school and in the future.

Staff Wellness and Mental Health Promotion using Conscious Discipline

Annette Chastain, Marie Tabanera Herrick

Conscious Discipline is an adult-first approach to self-regulation, wellness, and school/tribal culture. Join us as we showcase a tribal Early Childhood Center transformed using Conscious Discipline concepts within the context of culture and language. Learn how to encourage a compassionate culture where adults gain skills to apply developmentally appropriate and brain compatible practices through the lens of their own personal experience, to heal generational trauma, and to build communities of learning in which self-regulation, resilience, and belonging become integral within the school and community culture.

Staff Wellness in Trying Times

Lucretia Lovato

A presentation on how to develop a staff wellness program that is a daily integration into the everyday workday to help relieve the stress of Early Childhood Education and the trauma that everyone has been going through since the pandemic. A positive outlook on staff wellbeing while overcoming stereotypes.

There will be a power point presentation, handouts, activities, coping skills, etc.

Stay Safe Procedures for Early Childhood Programs

Neal Horen, Candace Shelton

Leaders share responsibility for keeping all staff and children safe while in their care in their Head Start or early care programs. The newly released Stay Safe Procedures in Early Childhood Settings, produced by the National Center on Health, Behavior Health, and Safety, prepares program staff to stay calm, take control, and be supportive of children and adults during a crisis. Stay safe procedures refer to what other organizations may call "lock down," "violent intruder," or "active shooter" protocols. Working with young children requires a unique viewpoint and special considerations to address the developmental and social and emotional needs of younger children during an emergency. Please join this interactive session to explore how to use this resource with your programs to minimize feeling helpless and overwhelmed during stressful events.

Sunshine Skills: Positive Preventive Skill Building Activities for Young Children

Michael Hubler

Join us in cultivating a sunny disposition in your classroom! This training focuses on positive, preventive skill-building activities that empower young children with essential life skills. Explore proactive approaches to address challenges, enhance resilience, and build a foundation for positive social interactions among your little ones.

The 1303 Application Process: The 5 Key Issues

PMFO

Facilities represent a sizable investment for most Head Start programs. They directly impact the services recipient organizations offer children and families. Whether programs are proposing to purchase, renovate, or construct a facility, completing the 1303 application can be a complex task. In addition to exploring the pre-planning and multi-step application process, this session will identify the five (5) key issues that Head Start programs face when completing the 1303 application and the strategies that grantee specialists can use to help programs identify funding opportunities and articulate and justify facility needs.

The Season Of Healing - An Adult-first Journey of Conscious Discipline

Wynonna Toeaina

Conscious Discipline is a trauma informed, evidence based, self-regulation/social-emotional program used by parents, early childhood caregivers, and schools across the U.S and other countries. Join us as we talk about shifting towards transformational healing for the safekeepers of our communities. Conscious Discipline helps to guide the way to be more intentional about conscious connection with children and how to mindfully pause more often to be better regulated for some of those challenging moments. Together we'll take a deeper look into how to weave indigenous culture within the program of Conscious Discipline to respectfully fit within tribal communities. This session will emphasize the importance of nurturing the adult journey towards rebuilding our brains as well as strengthening our power and skills.

The Wheels of TRUST.. are you rolling in the right direction?

Sylvia Hubbard

In this dynamic training, we will focus on the "Management Systems Wheel" within the context of Family Services. You will gain a deep understanding of how to ensure that your program is rolling in the right direction, building trust every step of the way. The "TRUST" acronym stands for Transparency, Responsibility, Unity, Support, and Teamwork, which are the essential components of effective management in any organization, especially in Head Start programs. The Wheels of TRUST training will equip participants with a comprehensive toolkit of strategies and approaches to help ensure your team is Review Ready

Tiny Hands, Big Connections: Sign Language for Classroom & Behavior Management

Lillian Hubler Tobin

Harness the silent power of sign language to create a harmonious classroom environment. This training equips educators with effective tools for behavior management, utilizing sign language as a positive and proactive means of communication. Enhance your classroom dynamics and promote a cooperative and respectful atmosphere among students.

Tracking and Monitoring Family Services (Pt 1&2)

Rosa Vasquez

Join us for an engaging two-part training session where participants will gain valuable insights into effectively tracking and monitoring of Family Services. In Part 1, we'll explore the fundamentals of data collection, key performance indicators, and best practices for capturing relevant information. Participants will acquire the skills needed to establish a robust tracking system.

Part 2: Building on the foundation established in Part 1, the second part of the training will focus on advanced monitoring techniques. We will explore strategies to ensure that data collection is accurate and monitored on an ongoing basis. Discover how to seamlessly integrate PIR reporting into your evaluation processes, ensuring alignment with Head Start Program Performance Standards.

By the end of this training, attendees will be equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to optimize Family Services tracking and monitoring processes. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your skills and showcase your commitment to providing exceptional support services to the children and families in your community.

We Are Stronger Together: Using the 5Rs to Inspire, Motivate, and Retain Staff (Pt 1&2)

DTL

Man does not weave this web of life. He is merely a strand of it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself. Chief Seattle. Are you struggling to create and sustain motivation and commitment to high-quality services? As an education leader, you play an important role in encouraging and inspiring staff to do their best work, which is especially important during stressful and challenging times. Join this 2-part session to learn how strategies of effective learning leaders, called the 5Rs (Responsive Relationships, Reason, Resources, Reflective Dialogue, and Recognition) and empowering staff through adult learning strategies can motivate and retain staff and build a strong program team.

Weaving Native Cultures into Curriculum

Tanya Hutton, Jennifer Rackliff

Embark on a transformative journey into early childhood education with our innovative training session, where we seamlessly integrate the rich tapestry of Native American cultures with the Creative Curriculum. Tailored for educators, curriculum developers, and advocates alike, our presentation celebrates the diversity of all Native cultures while offering practical strategies for incorporating traditional stories, practices, and objects into Creative Curriculum units. Through engaging examples such as the historical significance of stickball in Cherokee and Choctaw traditions or the intricate artistry of pottery and basket weaving, participants will discover how to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for diverse cultures among both students and staff. Each thematic unit, from balls to clothes, will be accompanied by curated book recommendations, activities, and resources that can be readily applied or adapted to classroom settings. Join us in honoring

and integrating the richness of Native American cultures into our teaching practices, creating more inclusive, diverse, and engaging curriculums that captivate and educate students in deeply meaningful ways. Whether you're seeking to enrich your existing curriculum or exploring culturally inclusive strategies, this presentation promises valuable insights and practical tools for creating a comprehensive and culturally responsive learning environment.

Welcoming Tribal Leaders and Partners into Head Start and Early Head Start Programs

Laura Waukechon-Factor, Chris Bolinger

The success of our Head Start/Early Head Start programs is linked to the involvement of community leaders, tribal council members and policy council members. Creating a welcoming environment at our Head Start Centers takes leadership, intentional thought, involvement of staff, and lots of practice! Developing strategies for outreach and “hospitality” is often overlooked. We promise to have some fun as we develop strategies to welcome Tribal Leaders and community partners into Head Start.

Wiba Anung: Our Story of Developing a Curriculum Supplement that Centers Native Language, Culture, and Foods through the Traditional Calendar

Jessica Barnes Najor

Description coming soon

DRAFT