

SCCA – Workshop Course Descriptions – 2012 “Conference by the Sea”

The workshop descriptions include which part of the ‘Core of Knowledge’ will be satisfied and the description of the workshop. There will be an Assessment of Knowledge distributed for each workshop that must be submitted to document what you’ve learned. ‘Proof of Attendance’ stickers will be distributed after each session.

Friday—5/4/12:

11:00 a.m.-12:30 pm—Ms. Nicole Pierre, “Autism 101” - Overview of the symptoms and diagnosis.

1:00-2:00 p.m.—Introduction to and overview on program focus of the Maryland Family Network

2:30-4:30 p.m.—Ms. Liz Kelley, Director, MSDE—Office of Child Care— annual review and update.

NOTE: 1:00-4:00 pm—The training session on First Aid and CPR is being offered by Mr. Frank Peusch. Registrations requires a separate form and payment. All participants certificates will come from Mr. Peusch, not the MSCCA.

7:30 – 8:30 pm— Mr. Ty Howard—”You have to STRETCH and F.O.C.U.S. for Continuous Success” - Success is more than being good at what you do; it’s about staying and being consistently cutting-edge. This session will help people to understand why their products, services and relationships—or in some cases, those of their competitors—are number one. You cannot spell SUCCESS without ‘U’. We’ve all heard the importance of “best practices” and superior knowledge. So why aren’t the smartest people or most informed organizations always in charge? Or number one in their industry? This session provides original research on managing expectations and emotions and shares what is required to stay—or become number one in your industry.

Saturday—5/5/12:

8:00 –9:00am— Mr. Ty Howard—”Resuscitating Your Self-Talk: Going from Negative to Positive at the Speed of Life” - Everyone experiences challenging and de-motivating events in their everyday lives. During these difficult times we may slip into negative self-talk patterns. You’ll learn about the seven empowering strategies that can be used in a pinch, in real time, on the job, to help you overcome negative self-talk and burnout. With these practical and east-to-use tools, you’ll learn to take control and make an immediate impact in improving your attitude, thoughts, self-talk, actions, and performance on any level of early childhood education.

Session #1 — 9:30-11:00 am:

I/T-1: Ms. Jennifer Reynolds—”Exploring Play With and Purpose” - The session begins with hands-on play for participants using open-ended, re-usable resource materials and then provides an opportunity for reflection. Increased intentionality in teaching takes place when teachers are aware of the creative potential of the child and of self-regulated, open-ended play. Teachers can then become highly conscious of the value of both following and guiding children and of providing materials that provoke children’s imagination and unique discoveries.

P-1: Ms. Sue Mogard—”Building Positive Teacher-Child Relationships” - Teachers will gain a greater understanding of the following concepts: Positive teacher/child relationships influence success in elementary school; and how positive teacher/child relationships are related to good peer interactions, positive relationships with future teachers, lower levels of challenging behaviors and higher levels of competence in school.

SA-1: Ms. Randi Albertson—”More Secrets of Success for School Age Care” - Caring for school age children requires a different perspective than caring for infants or preschoolers. School agers need your understanding and support. This session provides insight into the unique challenges of working with school agers, and offers strategies and ideas for meeting the needs of this age group.

O/D-1 - Mr. Ty Howard—”Excelling in Teamwork” - Builds awareness and skills in the areas of teamwork team dynamics, team problem-solving, and team decision making. The structural and behavioral dimensions of building and leading an effective work team, task force or group are fully explored. You will develop leadership skills applicable to many areas but especially suited to self-directed work teams, employee participation teams, interdepartmental task groups, and other group situations where combined efforts are needed to reach optimal team performance and desired outcomes.

Session #2 – 11:15am-12:45 pm:

I/T 2: Ms. Tresa Hanna and TJ Bennet—“Introduction to the Infant and Toddler Environmental Rating Scale” - The Environmental Rating scales (ERS) are assessment tools used to measure the quality of early childhood settings. The “ERS” will be used as a tool in the Maryland EXCELS quality rating and improvements system. In this session you will be introduced to the scales through discussion, video clips and scoring practice.

P-2: Mr. Vincent Nunes—“Songs in the Key of ‘C’ - Curriculum, Community and Creativity” - Vincent’s original songs enhance curriculum, encourage creativity and introduce shared community values. Among the modules presented are the five senses, the alphabet, counting, and colors to name but a few. The songs that participants will hear and participate in focus on the senses, living in harmony with family, neighbors and the environment, learning the days of the week, the colors in chromo graphic order, about volunteerism, teamwork and gender equity—and about reducing waste, reusing and recycling things and about helping each other.

SA-2: Ms. Darcie Vurginovich—“Working Towards and Environmentally Healthy Program: The Who, What, Why and How” - Would you like to be more conscientious about children’s environmental health issues and learn how you can reduce your program’s impact on the environment? This session will provide a research-based overview of children’s environmental health, explain why children are particularly vulnerable to environmental hazards, and provide concrete steps that you can take to reduce

MSCCA—Workshop Course Descriptions—Page 2

toxins in your program. The session will define the ‘precautionary principle’ and address ‘hot topics’ such as BPA and plastics cleaning and personal hygiene products, reusable versus disposable materials, and safe toys and art supplies. We’ll introduce a variety of tools and resources that you can use to conduct an informed assessment of your program and how you can involve staff, children, families and the community in your efforts. You’ll create a short-term action plan to make concrete changes now and write long-term goals for the future.

O/D-2: Ms Lin Phelps –“Catch Me if You Can: The Art of Great Communication: The foundation of any positive relationship is rooted in the idea that all individuals understand the value and art of great communication. It is a skill that has to be nurtured, developed and practiced on daily basis. This session will provide participants with an understanding as well as strategies to improve their communication skills with families, colleagues and most importantly the children in their program.

Session #3 – 1:30-3:00 pm:

I/T 3: Ms. Amy Augenblick—“Promoting Language and Literacy Development in Infants and Toddlers” - Research connects the oral language environment surround infants and toddlers to school readiness and achievement. The trajectory toward school readiness is set, largely, by the number of words spoken to children between birth and three. With systematic reflective practice, ECE programs can ensure staff promote oral language and literacy development. This workshop examines the differences in outcomes between children based on their early oral language environments. Participants develop strategies to increase the richness of the oral language environment for the children in their care.

P-3: Ms. Julie Weatherington—“Grief in Small Places: Developmental Stages of Grief and How to Support Grieving Children” - Using stages of Child development, how children process their grief after the death of a loved one. Life cycle milestones and family coping patterns are also addressed. We will offer concrete approaches to participants. Interactive role plays are employed to give participants the change to use methods offered and explore comfortable approaches.

SA-3: Mr. Vincent Nunes—“Smart Songs for Growing Children” - Children’s songs embrace and reflect musical traditions in many different genres and types. ‘Smart Songs’ for children, which are age-appropriate and accessible to early childhood learners, come in many different forms: sipper songs, echo songs, mantras, sequence songs and pattern songs. This session demonstrates and explains all these forms and supplies movement instructions which also enhance learning.

O/D-3: Ms. Jena Smith—“Credentialing: An In-Depth Look at What’s Coming” - Come see what the Credentialing Department at MSDE has on the horizon for Maryland’s Child Care Credential. Hear about the upcoming requirements for participation and see how the program is looking as we move into the future.

Session #4-- 3:15-4:45 pm:

I/T 4: Ms. Sue Mogard—“Fathers & Father Figures: Their Role in Children’s Social and Emotional Development” - Teachers will gain a greater understanding of the following concepts:

Engagement and Interaction — Availability and Accessibility (Physical Presence/Emotional Presence) and Responsibility for Direct Day-to-Day Care.

P-4: Ms. Bonnie Hendershot—”We are the Same, We are Different: Teaching and Learning in a Diverse World” - This session addresses the subject of teaching children about diversity. However, the focus of this session will be on adults, not children. To successfully teach children about diversity and integrate our goals into the curriculum, we have to first look at ourselves. It is important to plan and implement anti-biased lessons but our attitudes and behaviors speak louder than words. This session will let us take a look at our own culture and explore other cultures to gain understanding of our differences.

SA-4: Ms. Candace Radoski—”High Quality School Age Child Care: Support 21st Century Thinking Skills” - To help practitioners integrate skills into the teaching of core academic subjects, the Partnership for 21st Century Skills has developed a unified, collective vision for learning known as the Framework for 21st Century Learning. This Framework describes the skills, knowledge and expertise students must master to succeed in work and life; it is a blend of content knowledge, specific skills, expertise and literacies. This session explores ways to integrate principles of child development with resources created by the National Partnership for Quality Afterschool, aimed at nurturing 21st Century Skills. Participants will use the framework to create activities that build on the 4C's (creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication).

O/D 4: Dr. Cheryl De Pinto, Ms. Susan Sweitzer—”Asthma Friendly Child Care” - This session will provide child care providers information about the Asthma Friendly Child Care program sponsored by the MD Asthma Control Program. Through presentation and discussion, participants will become motivated to create an asthma-friendly environment, learn the criteria for a MD Asthma Friendly Child Care designation, learning how to conduct a self-assessment of the extent to which criteria are currently in place in their program, and discuss challenges and solutions to becoming AFS's including how the criteria are supported by NAEYC accreditation standards and the ERS.

Sunday – 5/6/12:

8:30-9:30 am - Closing Keynote - Mr. Vincent Nunes—”Building a Better Community Song by Song” - Songs about shared community values enable children to learn together and to build a learning environment where cooperation, mutual respect and participation are central. Among topics to be presented are respect for each other and the environment, cultural diversity and gender equity. The participants will hear and participate in songs about living in harmony with family, neighbors and the environment, our own unique colors and racial tolerance, about teamwork and helping each other.

10:00-11:30 am – Closing Session—Ms. Linda Bratcher—”Book It to Cook It” - We will focus on using literature to help teach children healthy food choices by planning cooking activities in conjunction with children's books. Participants will also learn some guidelines to include cultural considerations and children's special needs when planning children's activities.