



Building Well-Being & Connections

For The Child Care Community

2023 Leadership Institute



#CCAOALEADERSHIP23

October 18-20 | Chicago, IL | Holiday Inn Chicago Downtown Wolf Point

Welcome

to CCAoA's
2023 Leadership Institute

Welcome to Chicago and the 2023 Child Care Aware® of America Leadership Institute, "Building Well-Being and Connections for the Child Care Community." I am sure you will find the sessions thought-provoking, and the networking at out-of-session conversations rich and renewing!

Many of the sessions this year focus on how CCR&Rs are supporting family child care providers and center-based teachers, directors and businesses. How we support and sustain our child care workforce continues to be front and center even as federal relief funding comes to an end and we are challenged to find new ways and funding streams to hold our fragile, piecemeal child care system together.

To that end, policy sessions will identify where and how policy wins are happening and explore threats, challenges and opportunities for advancing high-quality, affordable child care that also supports living wages and benefits for the child care workforce.

Finally, I also know that all of you commit so much of your time, talent, expertise and energy to building the well-being of children, families, child care teachers and leaders, and your communities – and your own well-being deserves to be cared for too! I encourage you to make time in and out of sessions to explore what you personally and our field needs to be healthy, resilient and strong, and how CCAoA can be part of supporting those needs.

I want to give a special thank you to Dan Harris, Executive Director of the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and Secretary of the CCAoA Board of Directors, as well as the staff of the YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, for all their help in planning this year's Leadership Institute. If you see any of them during the event, be sure to add your thanks!

Once again, I hate that I can't be there with you in person, but as I shared earlier, I have the honor of being named an Aspen Institute Ascend Fellow and will be at our kickoff week during Leadership Institute. I look forward to connecting with all of you soon in online roundtable sessions and wish you a wonderful Leadership Institute experience!



Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Perry".

Susan Gale Perry

Chief Executive Officer
Child Care Aware® of America

Content Tracks

Our tracks make it easy to find and select sessions on topics that matter most to you.

Innovative Programs and Practices

Meet innovative thought leaders in child care approaching problems with exciting solutions. Sessions will touch on forward-thinking approaches on current child care hot topics, leadership development, coaching, and strategies for training & technical assistance.

Elevating the Child Care System

Elevating the child care system involves family and community engagement, capacity building, workforce development, knowledge about state licensing requirements, and more. This track will highlight solutions to these varied challenges child care businesses face today, and how systems-level leaders are instrumental in this success.

Stand for Child Care

How can we create a united voice for child care? Movement building involves connecting with businesses and social services in our community to advocate and support policies for quality, affordable child care. Learn how to advocate and make impactful connections within your community.

Technology-Free Quiet Room

Location: American House

Available for attendees to use for peaceful moments during the event.

Schedule at a Glance*

*Subject to change

Tuesday, October 17

5PM - 7PM

Registration Open

Wednesday, October 18

8AM - 5PM

Registration Open

8AM - 5PM

Quiet Room Open

8AM - 9AM

Breakfast

8AM - 6PM

Exhibits Open

9AM - 10:30AM

Opening Plenary ★

10:30AM - 11AM

Break with Exhibitors

11AM - Noon

Plenary ★

Noon - 1PM

Networking Lunch

1PM - 1:30PM

Break with Exhibitors

1PM - 3PM

Joint Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

1:30PM - 3PM

Peer-to-Peer Learning, Collaboration and Creativity Roundtables

3PM - 3:30PM

Break with Exhibitors

3:30PM - 4:45PM

Plenary ★

5PM - 6PM

Exhibits & Snacks

6PM

Dinner on your own

Thursday, October 19

8AM - 5PM

Information Desk Open

8AM - 5PM

Quiet Room Open

8AM - 9AM

Breakfast

8AM - 6:30PM

Exhibits Open

9AM - 9:15AM

Mindfulness Moment

9:15AM - 10:15AM

Plenary ★

10:15AM - 10:45AM

Break with Exhibitors

10:45AM - Noon

Plenary ★

Noon - 1:15PM

Networking Lunch

1:15PM - 1:45PM

Break with Exhibitors

1:45PM - 3PM

Concurrent Sessions

3PM - 3:30PM

Break with Exhibitors

3:30PM - 4:45PM

Plenary ★

5:30PM - 6:30PM

Reception

Friday, October 20

8AM - 10:45AM

Information Desk Open

8AM - 10:45AM

Quiet Room Open

8AM - 9AM

Breakfast

8AM - 10:45AM

Exhibits Open

9AM - 10:15AM

Concurrent Sessions

10:15AM - 10:45AM

Break with Exhibitors

10:45AM - Noon

Closing Plenary ★

Noon

Event Concludes



Daily Schedule

October 17

5PM - 7PM

Registration Open

Location: Columbian House

October 18

8AM - 5PM

Registration Open

Location: Columbian House

8AM - 5PM

Quiet Room Open

Location: American House

8AM - 9AM

Breakfast

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

8AM - 6PM

Exhibits Open



9AM - 10:30AM



Recognizing Child Care Providers as Early Relational Health Professionals

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

Early Relational Health (ERH) is an emerging concept that organizes the cumulative understanding of the relational foundation of children's and adults' health and well-being. Unlike earlier research talking points that drove policy and program work (for example: brain science, return on investment, word gap), the vision of ERH is inclusive (not limited to any one profession), reciprocal (caring for both the child and the adult) and fundamentally rooted in the relational human experiences. Can we recognize child care as an essential part of the early relational experiences for children and their families? Can we lift up our providers as early relational health professionals alongside disciplines like pediatrics, home visiting, mental health and others? Does it matter? This presentation is an invitation to explore these questions in the context of child care leadership and advocacy work.

Presenter:

Junlei Li, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, Harvard Graduate School of Education

10:30AM - 11AM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Enjoy a snack while you visit our exhibitors and learn all about the products and services they have to offer.



11AM - Noon

How to Support the Social Emotional Wellness of Educators in Child Care

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

This expert panel will discuss how CCR&Rs can support child care professionals' social emotional wellness and will share best practices for supporting the ECE work force to optimize social emotional health within child care programs, including ECE providers and, by extension, the children in their care.

Presenters:

Ayse Cobanoglu, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Associate, Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy, Yale University

Nikki Garro, MPH, Director of Early Childhood Health Programs, Child Care Aware® of America

Morgan Horvath, M.ED., Director of Project ACT, Abilities Networks

Noon - 1PM

Networking Lunch

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

1PM - 1:30PM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Take time to visit with the exhibitors.

1PM - 3PM

Joint Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Location: Western Stage House

1:30PM - 3PM

Peer-to-Peer Learning, Collaboration and Creativity Roundtables

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in thought-provoking conversation around topics that are impacting the work of CCR&Rs and the child care system.

3PM - 3:30PM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Take time to visit with the exhibitors.

Plenary



3:30PM - 4:45PM

Changes Ahead: Unpacking the Federal Government's Proposed Regulation

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

The federal government has proposed new rules for the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) for the first time in nearly a decade. As we wait for their final regulation to be published, learn more about what might be expected of states and how to get ahead of the curve during your upcoming legislative sessions.

Presenter:

Anne Hedgepeth, *Chief of Policy, Child Care Aware® of America*

5PM - 6PM

Exhibits and Snacks

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Join the exhibitors for food and fun to close out the day.

5:45PM



Walking Excursions *(Pre-Registration Required)*

Meet in the Sauganash Ballroom at 5:45PM

6PM

Dinner on Your Own



Daily Schedule

October 19

8AM - 5PM

Information Desk Open

Location: Columbian House

8AM - 5PM

Quiet Room Open

Location: American House

8AM - 9AM

Breakfast

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

8AM - 6:30PM

Exhibits Open

9AM – 9:15AM

Mindfulness Moment

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

Visit the Quiet Room located in the American House for a peaceful space. Katie will be there at 1PM on October 19 for another Mindfulness Moment.

Presenter:

Katie Gleason, LCSW, MS, Director of Children's Mental Health Consultation Child, Youth & Family Potential, YWCA Patterson and McDaniel Center

9:15AM – 10:15AM

Plenary

A Conversation with the National ECE Workforce Center

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

Learn more about the National Early Care and Education (ECE) Workforce Center's framework. Participants will brainstorm on ways they can make connections with the National ECE Workforce Center's work. In addition, we will explore ways to identify specific steps in one or more areas where the National ECE Workforce Center can support your community.

Presenter:

Tonya Coston, Co-Director, National Early Care and Education Workforce Center

Manica F. Ramos, Director of Operations, National ECE Workforce Center
Child Trends

10:15AM - 10:45AM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Enjoy a snack while you visit our exhibitors and learn all about the products and services they have to offer.



10:45AM – Noon



Storytelling, Advocacy and the Relief Funding Cliff

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

Federal relief for child care has been a lifeline to the sector. As states exhaust remaining relief funding, it's critical that our collective advocacy efforts effectively communicate to policymakers the future progress that is possible with additional funding for child care, and how further inaction will jeopardize the critical gains made so far. While tactics will vary by state, this session will discuss mapping an advocacy strategy that uses data and storytelling to amplify the impacts of the end of this funding.

Presenters:

Elise Cranston, *Advocacy Director, Child Care Aware® of America*

Diane Girouard, *State Policy Senior Analyst, Child Care Aware® of America*

Paula Neth, *President & CEO, The Family Conservancy*

Ryan Pricco, *Director of Policy & Advocacy, Child Care Aware® of Washington*

Keely Ihry, *Director of Student Services, South East Education Cooperative*

Noon - 1:15PM

Networking Lunch

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

1:15PM - 1:45PM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Take time to visit with the exhibitors.

Concurrent Sessions

1:45PM - 3PM



Elevating the Child Care System

Business Engagement – Brokering Sustained Investment

Location: Western Stage House

Aligning CCR&R services with the needs of employers can be complex and difficult, but also rewarding to communities, families and children. Come join a solution-finding discussion with peers who are also navigating all that comes with business engagement and sustained investment. We invite you to bring your successes, challenges and greatest ideas so we can work together to find solutions that push beyond roadblocks, stalled progress and other barriers to implementation. We would like to hear what is going well — and what is not — so we can put our best thinking to the test across states and industries. Participants will work through a solution-focused exercise designed to enhance the next steps to take when returning to your home service area.

Presenter:

Kate Dean, *Regional Child Care Administrator, Northern Bluegrass Child Care Aware® of Kentucky: Resource and Referral Network*

Concurrent Sessions



Innovative Programs and Practices

Family Child Care CCR&R Promising Practices: How Staffed Family Child Care Networks Can Build Home-Based Child Care Supply

Location: Steamboat Hotel

Many CCR&Rs are considering ways they might better support Family Child Care. CCR&R leaders can chart a course toward SFCCN work as a strategic move for the organizations that support supply building in their communities and individual educators who are often under-resourced (home-based child care providers). A tips and strategies resource will be shared along with case studies from CCR&Rs.

Presenters:

Shannon Cameron Quinn, *Early Care and Education Specialist, Child Care Aware® of America*

Tracy Vergason, *Director of Child Care Systems Building, Child Care Aware® of America*

Amber Cuyler, *Director of Child Care Resource and Referral, Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness*

Maggie Fern, *Outreach, Referral, Recruitment and Retention Specialist, 4-C: Community Coordinated Child Care*

Alicia Smith, *Program Manager for Family Child Care Services, Action for Children*

Concurrent Sessions



Elevating the Child Care System

Preparing and Sustaining the Early Childhood Workforce

Location: Merchants Hotel

Empower to Educate and Child Care Wayfinder are two new workforce development programs at Child Care Aware of Minnesota. Learn how Empower to Educate identifies and supports new educators using local Navigators, and by offering financial support, free training options, job skills training, job placement support and mentorship, and how Child Care Wayfinder supports the creation of new licensed programs through assistance connecting to licensing, funding, business and program resources.

Presenters:

Ann McCully, Executive Director, Child Care Aware® of Minnesota

Brianne Leibham, Workforce Development Coordinator, Child Care Aware® of Minnesota

Matt Carlson, Child Care Capacity Building Coordinator, Child Care Aware® of Minnesota

3PM - 3:30PM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Enjoy a snack while you visit our exhibitors and learn all about the products and services they have to offer.



3:30PM - 4:45PM



Supporting Child Care Programs: What we Learned from the Pandemic

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

In this panel we will hear directly from child care providers as they reflect on the policies and strategies implemented during the pandemic that have been most impactful for their program and, as relief funding is exhausted, what it will mean for their program when these policies are no longer supported. Panelists will also share about any challenges in accessing grants and, going forward, what additional support from states and CCR&Rs would best support the stability and viability of their programs.

Presenters:

Heidi Parker, *District Manager, Learning Care Group*

Martina Rocha, *President and Founder, Together for Childhood Network*

Kimberly Bianchini, *Director, Advance Preschool, Inc.*

Rochelle Golliday, *Executive Director and Owner Cuddle Care, INC*

5:30PM - 6:30PM

Reception

Location: Wolf Point Ballroom, 15th Floor

Join us for networking, drinks and light hors d'oeuvres.



Daily Schedule

October 20

8AM - 10:45AM

Information Desk Open

Location: Columbian House

8AM - 10:45AM

Quiet Room Open

Location: American House

8AM - 9AM

Breakfast

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

8AM - 10:45AM

Exhibits Open

Concurrent Sessions

9AM - 10:15AM

Stand for Child Care

Building and Mobilizing Grassroots Networks

Location: Merchants Hotel

Being able to step up to the plate as a person directly involved in child care to share your story and inform policy change is a key component of self-care. Recruiting, training, supporting and mobilizing grassroots networks are opportunities for CCR&R leaders to continue to build connections in their community and support the well-being of the early childhood workforce and other child care stakeholders. This session will include discussion on the importance of building and mobilizing grassroots networks, the leadership role for CCR&Rs to play in that process, common challenges and potential solutions, and specific tactics to implement.

Presenters:

Elise Cranston, Advocacy Director, Child Care Aware® of America

Beth Oppenheimer, Executive Director, Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children

Ryan Pricco, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Child Care Aware® of Washington

Elevating the Child Care System

Building an Inclusive & Sustainable Care Economy: The Future of the Child Care Workforce

Location: Steamboat Hotel

Participants will learn about how San Francisco has taken a three-pronged approach to bolstering this aspect of the local care economy, and how they are scaling that work across the state. Children's Council's (CCR&R) innovative BizNest suite of services for child care entrepreneurs has supported immigrants and women of color to launch successful careers in early childhood education for decades. On the forefront of innovation and public investment in ECE, San Francisco continues to make bold progress toward building an inclusive and sustainable care economy that supports the ECE workforce to earn living wages and supports working families and their children to find affordable quality care.

Presenters:

Je Ton Carey, Director of Quality Childcare, Business Supports & Black ECE Achievement, Children's Council of San Francisco

Amie Latterman, Chief Advancement Officer, Children's Council of San Francisco

Concurrent Sessions



Innovative Programs and Practices

Planning for the Community's Youngest Population: Collaborating with Emergency Management

Location: Western Stage House

Leaders at CCR&Rs play an important role partnering with Emergency Management. Your work in the communities that you serve can be strengthened by including expertise from emergency management officials. Likewise, emergency management officials can better prepare and respond to emergencies when they understand the unique needs of children being cared for in early childhood settings and the challenging responsibilities that child care providers have with keeping groups of children safe.

Participants will gain a greater understanding of emergency management organizations that exist in their state and/or community and gain practical ideas to create or strengthen partnerships.

Presenters:

Julie Coats, Director, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Child Care Aware® of America

Holly Nett, Director, Child Care Emergency Partnerships, Child Care Aware® of America

Deb Huestis, Provider Support Specialist, Family Connections

Marcia Schlattman, Program Director, Milestones

10:15AM - 10:45AM

Break with Exhibitors

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Don't miss your last chance to visit with the exhibitors.

Closing Plenary



10:45AM - Noon

Making Child Care A Priority

Location: Sauganash Ballroom

We have the power to influence it! When child care and early learning are priorities on the agenda, we all win. Hear from an early childhood champion and dig into ways in which progress on child care and early learning has been made, what the future will look like and learn more about how to best engage with officials.

Presenter(s):

Courtney Penn, Director of the Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning, A division of Family and Social Services Administration in Indiana

Noon

Event Concludes

Thanks so much for joining us!

We hope to see you at our 2024 Symposium, May 19-22 in Arlington, Virginia.

Exhibit Schedule

Location: Sauganash Ballroom Foyer

Oct. 18	8AM – 6PM
Oct. 19	8AM – 6:30PM
Oct. 20	8AM – 10:45AM

Breaks with Exhibitors

Oct. 18	10:30AM – 11AM, 1PM – 1:30PM, 3PM – 3:30PM
Oct. 19	10:15AM – 10:45AM, 1:15PM – 1:45PM
Oct. 20	10:15AM – 10:45AM

Exhibits & Snacks:

Join the Exhibitors for snacks and fun.

Oct. 18	5PM – 6PM
Oct. 19	3PM - 3:30PM

Exhibitor Set Up/Move-In:

Oct. 17	10AM - 4PM
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Exhibitor Move-Out:

Oct. 20	11AM - 2PM
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Kit Carson Counties (ECCYWK)
Early Education and Care Connections, Inc.
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Families First of Minnesota
Family Enrichment Network, Inc.
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Hyer Street Preschool
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Lane Community College Quality Care Connections
Henry County Child Care Network
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Programs for Parents
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Enter to Win \$250!

Complete Your CCAoA Exhibitor Passport by 3PM on Thursday, Oct. 19

Exhibitors will sign the attendees' "passport" after they visit participating exhibitors and answer a question posted on the exhibitor table. Attendees must visit all participating exhibitors in order to be eligible for the \$250 grand prize drawing.

The \$250 prize will be raffled off on Thursday, Oct. 19, during the 3:30PM Plenary.

**CCAoA is an equity-driven, inclusive organization, and encourages the exchange of diverse opinions. The ideas and opinions presented by external organizations at CCAoA events or in any external documentation do not necessarily reflect CCAoA's official position. CCAoA assumes no responsibility for any statement of fact or opinion presented at our events. CCAoA does not necessarily endorse the products or services of any event advertiser, exhibitor or sponsor.*



Meeting Room Map

14th Floor



EXIT : Emergency Exit
 E : Elevator
 AP : Access Point
 [] : Registration/Information Desk

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What is LearnERS?

- Individualized professional development and coaching aligned with the Environment Ratings Scales
- Demonstrates what quality looks like in practice
- Empowers educators to make changes
- Builds on existing strengths
- Designed for state and local technical assistance agencies
- Promotes collaboration of coaches, program leaders, and educators
- Creates a community of practice to support and learn from each other
- Provides opportunities to learn, reflect, and improve



LearnERS Features

- Online modules linked to ERS items
- Individualized CQI journals
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- Available in English and Spanish
- Earn training hours towards your CDA

Learn More

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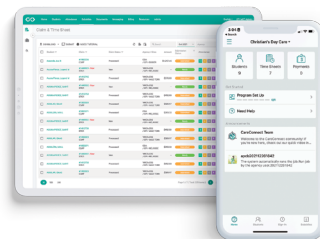
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ZERO TO THREE at Exhibit
Table 8 to learn more



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For Government and Agency

The new generation of educators and caregivers is growing into tech-savvy digital natives. CareConnect provider's full suite of tool helps child care providers of all sizes manage subsidy enrollment, report attendance, submit invoices, communicate with parents all through a single interface. Spend less time on paperwork and administrative tasks and more time with children and parents.



- eForms and Digital Document Management
- Workflow Automation
- Digital Attendance and Provider Invoicing
- Provider Payment Automation

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2024 Symposium

May 19-22
Arlington, VA

childcareaware.org/events

