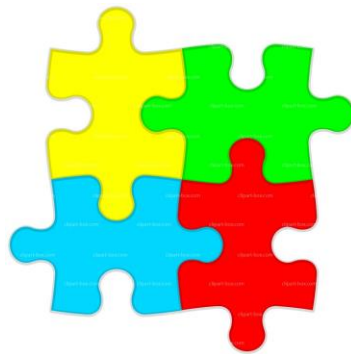


27th Annual
Coming Together for Children
Conference 2020

“Building Connections”



Saturday, February 29, 2020

7:30 am to 1:00 pm

Crossroads United Methodist Church

**220 George W. Liles Parkway, Northwest
Concord, North Carolina 28027**



Coming Together for Children Conference 2020

The 27th annual *Coming Together for Children* Conference is for early education professionals from Cabarrus, Stanly and surrounding Counties. Parents are also welcome. The conference will feature exciting workshops, outstanding presenters, agencies, vendors, and light refreshments.

Who is invited?

Early childhood educators in Cabarrus, Stanly, and surrounding counties are invited to attend. This includes programs serving children birth through age 8, all day or part day, licensed or unregulated. The invitation is extended to all parents and foster parents of children ages 0 to 5 years of age.

Breakfast

All participants are invited to enjoy a **light breakfast (coffee, juice, pastries, fruit)** as part of their conference registration fee. Lunch is not provided.

Exhibits

Exhibits will open at 7:30 AM and close at 11:15 AM. Exhibits are located **in the Gymnasium**. Look for signs. Please take time to visit each vendor and agency. There will be a lot of information and resources for you to take home.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration Fee is \$20.00 Registration Deadline: *February 7, 2020*

Late Registration Fee: \$25.00 (February 8 - 24, 2020)

On-site Registration Fee: \$35.00 with limited workshop selection.

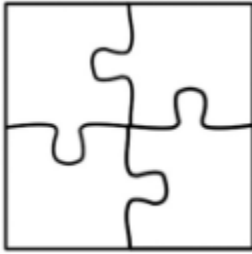
No refunds after February 21, 2020. Requests for refunds must be received in writing to CTFC Coalition and postmarked by February 20, 2020. Please allow approximately three to five weeks for processing. "No Shows" will NOT be given any kind of refund.

Payment in the form of a check or money order must accompany the registration. Registrations will not be processed without payment. Make checks payable to CTFC Coalition.

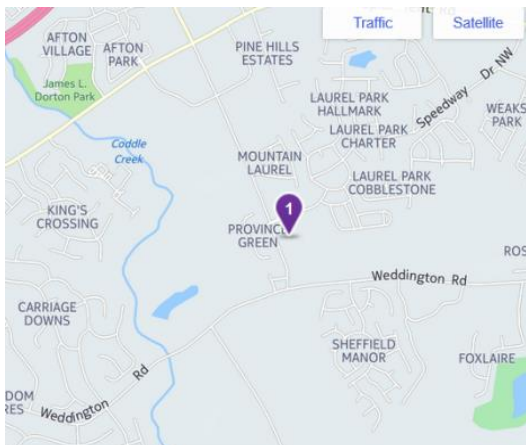
CREDITS

NC Division of Child Development: Contact Credit Hours of three (3) hours for conference participants.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE



- 7:30 to 8:30 Check-in/Breakfast
Vendor and Agency Fair
- 8:30 to 9:15 Keynote – Ashlie Shanley
- 9:15 to 9:30 Break/Vendor & Agency Fair
- 9:30 to 10:45 Breakout Sessions 1
- 10:45 to 11:00 Break/Vendor & Agency Fair
- 11:00 to 12:15 Breakout Sessions 2
- 12:15 to 1:00 Hearts & Hands Awards/
Door Prizes
- Conference Wrap-up



Please use the NexGen Entrance at Crossroads. The entrance is on the back side of the building and will be clearly marked the day of the conference.

Crossroads United Methodist Church
220 George W. Liles Parkway, Northwest
Concord, NC 28027

Please wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes! Workshops will be in classrooms throughout the church, so you will have a little walking to do. Bring a light jacket as we cannot control thermostats!!

ACCESSIBILITY ASSISTANCE: If you would like assistance due to a mobility, hearing, or sight impairment, or limited English proficiency, you are warmly encouraged to contact CTFC Coalition Member Christy Hopkins at chopkins5545@stanly.edu



**PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INTO THE
CONFERENCE AFTER 8:30 AM!!
THE ENTIRE CROSSROADS CAMPUS IS SMOKE-FREE.**

Keynote Speaker – 8:30 AM TO 9:15 AM*



Ashlie Shanley has prosecuted child crimes in our community for the past twenty-three years. In this presentation, she will describe the cases she most often encounters, share tips on protecting children and discuss the new human trafficking threat.

Biography

Ashlie Shanley is the Chief Assistant District Attorney of Cabarrus County and heads the Safe Haven Special Victims Unit, a unit dedicated to prosecuting the homicide and sexual assault of women and children. In addition, Shanley facilitates the Cabarrus County Human Trafficking Task Force, is a member of the Domestic Violence Initiative, is Vice Chair of the Cabarrus County Child Protection Team and has served as President of the Board of Directors of the Children’s Advocacy Centers of North Carolina.

Shanley graduated Cum Laude from Campbell Law School in 1996 and graduated from North Carolina State University with a degree in Business Management. Shanley has travelled throughout North Carolina to conduct trainings for law enforcement officers, the Department of Social Services, forensic nurses, school administration, students, pediatricians and other professionals regarding North Carolina law prosecuting human trafficking cases.



***All participants will attend the Keynote Presentation.**

Breakout Sessions 1 – 9:30 am - 10:45 am

The number at the beginning of each workshop description should be used when completing your registration form.

101 – Director Roundtable

Norma Honeycutt, Executive Director, Partners in Learning

Focus Group: Administrators

Norma Honeycutt, a director for over 40 years will discuss what's important to directors in the field; including, discussing how to prepare for your next licensing visit, holding staff accountable, and how to recruit and maintain high quality staff. Directors will discover what gives life to their center, work and team by reflecting on the current culture within.

102 – Greetings Have Impact!

Mandee LaCroix, Director, cfa Academy

Focus Group: All

Classroom greetings as part of a daily routine are an amazing way to build connections with each student. Greetings also foster fun connection moments between students. It is a great ritual to add to every classroom. Come learn how!

103 – Start'em Early: How to Make Meaningful Memories for Pre-K Children in Nature

Tammi Remsburg, Cabarrus Soil & Water Conservation District; Mandy Smith-Thompson, City of Concord; and Shannon Unger, Cabarrus County Active Living and Parks

Focus Group: Preschool (Beginning, Intermediate, Experienced)

This workshop will present a full toolbox of curriculum resources to engage Pre-K children in meaningful environmental education activities, along with the benefits and challenges of getting kids outside. Each participant will walk away with new ideas on just how to create positive experiences and meaningful memories for their young naturalists that will help facilitate a life-long love of the great outdoors!

104 – Take a Hop, Skip and a Jump: Motor Development for Toddlers & Preschoolers that will unlock the IMAGINATION.

Bernadette Hard, Early Childhood Educator, Stepping Stones Preschool

Focus Group: Toddler/Preschool, Beginning, Intermediate, Experienced, Administrators

Participants will learn about fun, easy and inexpensive gross motor equipment and imaginative activities that are simple to incorporate into any classroom. Motor activities build brain cells and help children burn energy so that they are more focused and ready to learn.

105 – Building Connections with Our Community

Maria F. Bostian, Fire & Life Safety Educator and Children's Author

Focus Group: Toddler/Preschoolers/School Age, Beginning, Intermediate, Administrator

This workshop will take attendees on a journey through their community and show them how every week can be "Community Helper Week", not just a one-time event. Come learn how to engage community partners to provide quality educational opportunities and experiences for your students.

Breakout Sessions 1 (continued)

106 – Positive Classroom, Positive Behavior

Leigh Broome, Social Behavior Specialist – Stanly County Partnership for Children

Focus Group: Toddler/Preschoolers, Beginning, Intermediate

Everyone is affected by their surroundings – including young children. This workshop will explore the use of space, materials, furnishings, schedule and communication and their influence on children's behaviors. Participants will learn how to use the Pyramid Model and its usage in the early childhood classroom.

107– Finding Balance: Incorporating Yoga in the Classroom

Jessica Hendley, EC Preschool Teacher Cabarrus County Schools

Focus Group: Toddler/Preschoolers, Beginning, Intermediate

Interested in incorporating yoga into your preschool classroom, but not sure where to start? This session will guide participants into supporting children in body and brain connections as well as breathing activities to support mindfulness. Examples of visual strategies and music will be shared! No yoga experience required!

108 – Warm Woolen Mittens: Building early literacy skills through nature and the five senses

Danica Heflin, M.Ed. Reading Education

Focus Group: All – Beginning/Intermediate

Many children struggle to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words that are the building blocks of early literacy, while adults are struggling with too many small sounds—the pings, dings, and other electronic responsibilities that fragment our communication with others. This workshop will share research-based strategies that help adults connect with very young children through a range of literacy activities. We will see how the natural world can engage the five senses, prime us for learning and help adults and children connect to each other and their surroundings. There's no app for this one!

109 – Expanding Language through Literacy and Play

Susan Jendrasik, M.S., CCC/SLP & Tammy Rector, M.S, CCC/SLP

Focus Group: All

In this hands-on session, participants will be introduced to speech and language development for children 6 months to five years of age. We will discuss the use of literacy to actively engage children in the experience by acting out the story and targeting specific vocabulary, based on language development. There will be an interactive time for (2) different stories; one for 2 – 3 year olds and one for 4 – 5 year olds. Strategies will be given to expand children's language skills while engaging in play experiences in both structured and unstructured play activities.

Breakout Sessions 2 – 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

201 – Bring Picture Books and Stories To Life

Maria F. Bostian, Kannapolis Fire Department (Fire & Life Safety Educator) Author

Focus Group: Toddlers/Preschoolers/School-Age, Beginning, Intermediate

In this interactive workshop, we will look at picture books and other stories and talk about how to make them ‘experiences’ that the children will ask for again and again. Participants will learn about inflection, volume, musical instruments, puppets, characters, and more. They will leave with great “take aways” to enhance literacy in the classroom. Bring your favorite books/stories and tips to share with the group.

202 – Playful Inquiry

Kathy Osborne, Kidzone Coordinator (NC Zoo) & Linda Kinney, Manager Play and School Programs

Focus Group: Toddler/Preschool, Beginning, Intermediate

Playful Inquiry explores the value of play and how play is associated with learning. Asking questions, playing with ideas, experimentation and exploration are a part of play and often the beginnings of inquiry. Playful approaches to learning allow children to initiate investigations, which can increase their motivation and engagement, and provide opportunities to explore the questions they care about. When playing and learning outdoors, children develop a relationship with their surroundings and one another, growing into creative thinkers and socially competent, emotionally well-rounded beings. Using strategies employed in the playwork profession, participants will explore ways nature play can connect children and families with the outdoors. The session will include a variety of hands-on activities and opportunities for sharing ideas and reflection.

203 – Conscious Connections; Learning Love through Literacy

within the Preschool Environment (Shubert Reflections (Shubert is a S.T.A.R/Shubert Sees the Best/Shubert uses his Big Voice.

Teryn Jones, Cabarrus County Schools

Focus Group: All

Come learn all about Shubert and how implementing his child guidance techniques can help guide the children towards creating a ‘positive and safe classroom environment’.

204 – 14 Amazing Classroom Materials that keep Students Engaged

Dina M. Gutohes, Ivybrook Academy

Focus Group: Preschoolers, Beginning, Intermediate, Experienced

Participants will learn how to make a variety of learning materials that will make teaching more effective and learning more fun.

Breakout Sessions 2 (continued)

205 – Connections Start Within

Nicole Sessoms, Rowan Cabarrus Community College

Focus Group: All, Beginning

Participants will gain insight into how to teach children to be leaders in the classroom environment and to show appreciation for others.

206 – How to Make the Chaos Stop!

Jessica Hendley, EC Preschool Teacher, Cabarrus County Schools

Focus Group: Toddler/Preschoolers, Beginning, Intermediate

Preschool classrooms can be very busy and sometimes chaotic! Participants will learn strategies to support children in learning schedules, routines, and make transitions run smoothly! This session will provide visual examples and ways to embed strategies naturally throughout the day. The North Carolina Preschool Pyramid Model (SEFEL) will be used referenced and a quick overview of the pyramid will be shared during the session. Participants will gain knowledge on how the schedules, routines, and transitions are vital in the pyramid model!

207 – Facilitating Social and Emotional Growth in Children of Today’s Families

Dr. Pam McIntyre, Senior Lecturer, Department of Special Education, Child, and Family Development; University of North Carolina Charlotte

Focus Group: All

Social and emotional intelligence is vital to children’s success in the world. Participants will discuss the importance of empathy, and practice creative and appropriate ways to facilitate social and emotional growth in young children. Children and families, as well as teachers of young children, experience stress in their lives. Learning to recognize emotions and appropriate ways to express emotions helps children develop social and emotional intelligence, leading to happier and more productive, fulfilled lives.

208 – Adverse Childhood Experiences ACE: How Trauma is Impacting Your Students

Paula Yost, Cabarrus Child Protection & Fatality Team Chair

Focus Group: All

This is an introductory workshop on the ACE Score, the scientific implications of having a high score, and how you can use this knowledge to be a better teacher and advocate for your students.

209 – NC Rules vs. Best Practices

Melissa Jones, RN - CCHC & Debra Pless, RN-CCHC

Focus Group: Infants/Toddlers/Preschoolers

Participants will discuss basic rules for childcare in NC and Rating Scales to gain a better understanding of their importance, implementation and caring for young children.

Coming Together for Children Conference 2020

REGISTRATION FORM

Each person registering must have a separate form. (Please make copies of this form as needed.)

Early Registration deadline is February 7. Late Registration deadline is February 24, 2020.

MAKE CHECK/MO PAYABLE TO: CTFC Coalition (Coming Together for Children Coalition)

No refunds after February 21, 2020.

For questions, please contact Christy Hopkins at chopkins5545@stanly.edu or (704) 991-0316.

**Please enclose a check or money order for:
\$20.00 postmarked by February 7, 2020
\$25.00 postmarked Feb. 8 – 24, 2020**

Mail your **COMPLETE** registration form
and payment to:

**Coming Together For Children
c/o Patricia Sehorn
Cabarrus Partnership for Children
1307 S. Cannon Blvd.
Kannapolis, NC 28083**

PLEASE COMPLETE ENTIRELY & PRINT

Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone or Cell Phone Number _____

Email Address _____ County in which you work _____

Center/FCCH/School Name _____

Center/FCCH/School Phone Number _____

Descriptions for the breakout sessions are included. Please look over these 1-hour and 15 minute workshop presentations and select 3 choices for BOTH of the Breakout Sessions 1 & 2.

Please write the session preceding the description in each blank below. For example: 203, 201, 204.

Preferred Session	Breakout Session #1 9:30 am – 10:45 am (Nos. 101-107)	Breakout Session #2 11:00 am – 12:15 pm (Nos. 201-206)
1 st Choice		
2 nd Choice		
3 rd Choice		

Workshop selections will be given on a first come, first-served basis.

If you do not indicate 3 choices with workshop numbers, you may be given a workshop you do not want.

Most workshops are limited to 20 participants.