



# Celebrate the Young Child Conference

Shaping the Future, Together

MARCH 22 & MARCH 23, 2024

RENAISSANCE PHOENIX GLENDALE HOTEL AND SPA

## OUR MISSION

**We champion children everywhere by providing resources and support to anyone who impacts them, helping every kid achieve the brightest outlook possible.**

## NUESTRA MISIÓN

**Defendemos a los niños de todo el mundo al proporcionar recursos y apoyo a cualquier persona que los impacte, ayudando a cada niño a lograr la perspectiva más brillante posible.**

# WELCOME

Thank you for attending Celebrate the Young Child Conference (CYCC), the Southwest's premier early childhood conference, hosted by Candelen. We commend your dedication to improving the lives of young children everywhere, every day.

Candelen hopes you learn and grow in every workshop this year. We cannot wait for you to see what we have in store! A special thanks to our presenters, sponsors, and vendors.

# BIENVENIDOS

Gracias por asistir a la Conferencia Anual Celebrate the Young Child (CYCC), la principal conferencia de cuidado infantil de Arizona, organizada por Candelen. Elogiamos su dedicación para mejorar las vidas de los niños pequeños en todas partes, todos los días.

Candelen espera que aprendas y crezcas en cada taller de este año. Un agradecimiento especial a nuestros presentadores, patrocinadores y proveedores. ¡Estamos muy emocionados de volver en persona y no podemos esperar a que veas lo que tenemos en la tienda!





# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR 2024 SPONSORS!

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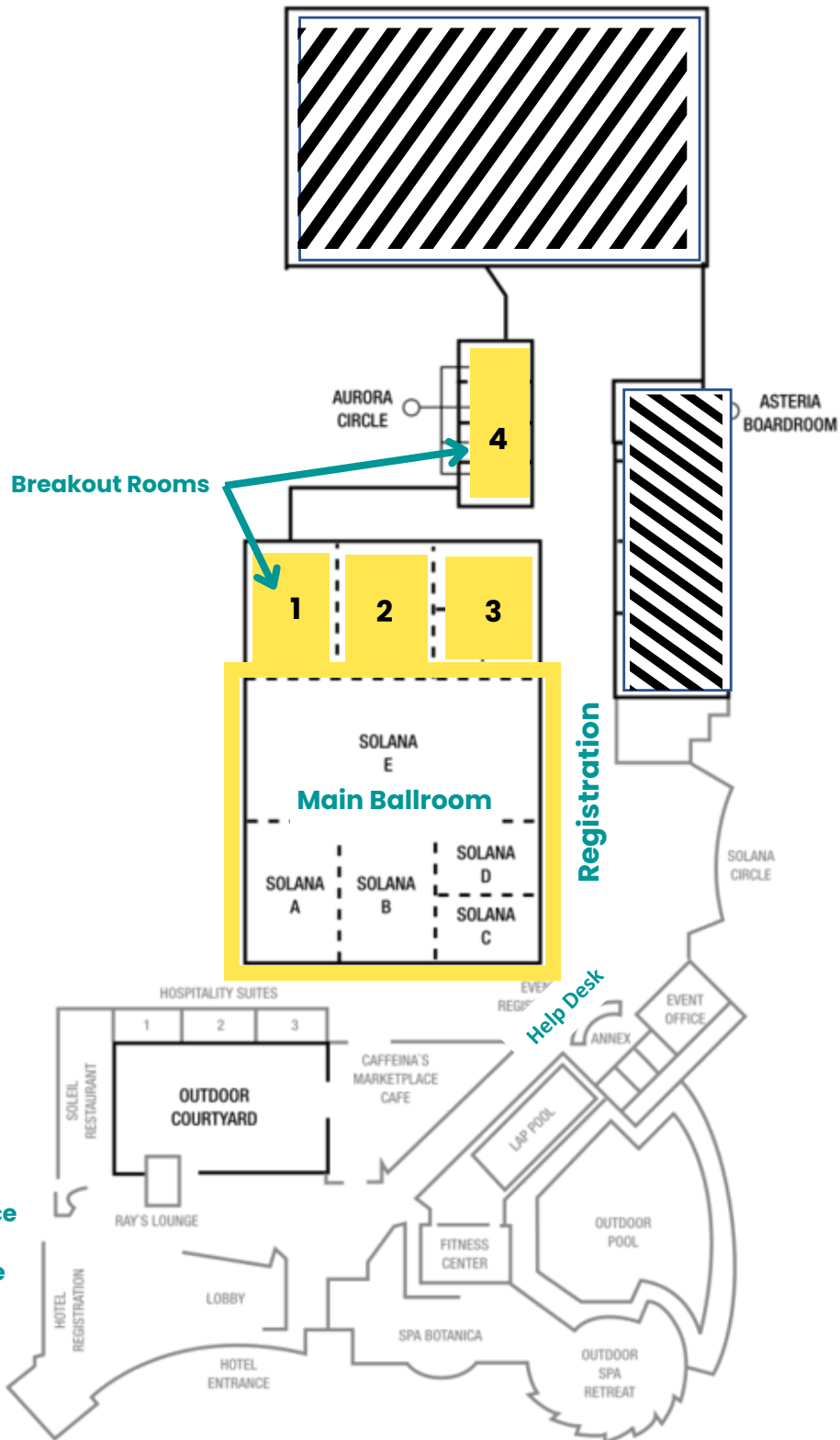
## COMMUNITY SPONSOR



# CONFERENCE MAP



## LOBBY LEVEL



Entrance from Garage



# Celebrate the Young Child Conference

## FRIDAY EVENING

### WITH AZAEYC

**4:00PM: Registration**

**5:00PM: Leadership Forum & Dinner**

Guest Speaker: **Dr. Alissa Mwenelupembe**, Managing Director of Early Learning at NAEYC and author of *Stories of Resistance: Learning from Black Women in Early Care and Education!*



**SHAPING  
THE FUTURE,  
TOGETHER**

 **candelen**

## SATURDAY AGENDA

**7:00AM: Registration**

*Light Breakfast provided*

**7:50AM: Welcome Introductions**

*Hear from Candelen's CEO, Rob Podlogar and CYCC's Keynote Sponsor, Southwest Human Development*

**8:00AM: Keynote with Jen Shirkani**

**9:00AM: Break & Visit with Exhibitors**

**9:30AM: Breakout Session 1**

**11:15AM: Lunch**

**12:15PM: Networking & Zine Workshop with Wasted Ink**

**12:45PM: Breakout Session 2**

**2:30PM: Breakout Session 3**

**4:00PM: Raffle Prize Giveaway**

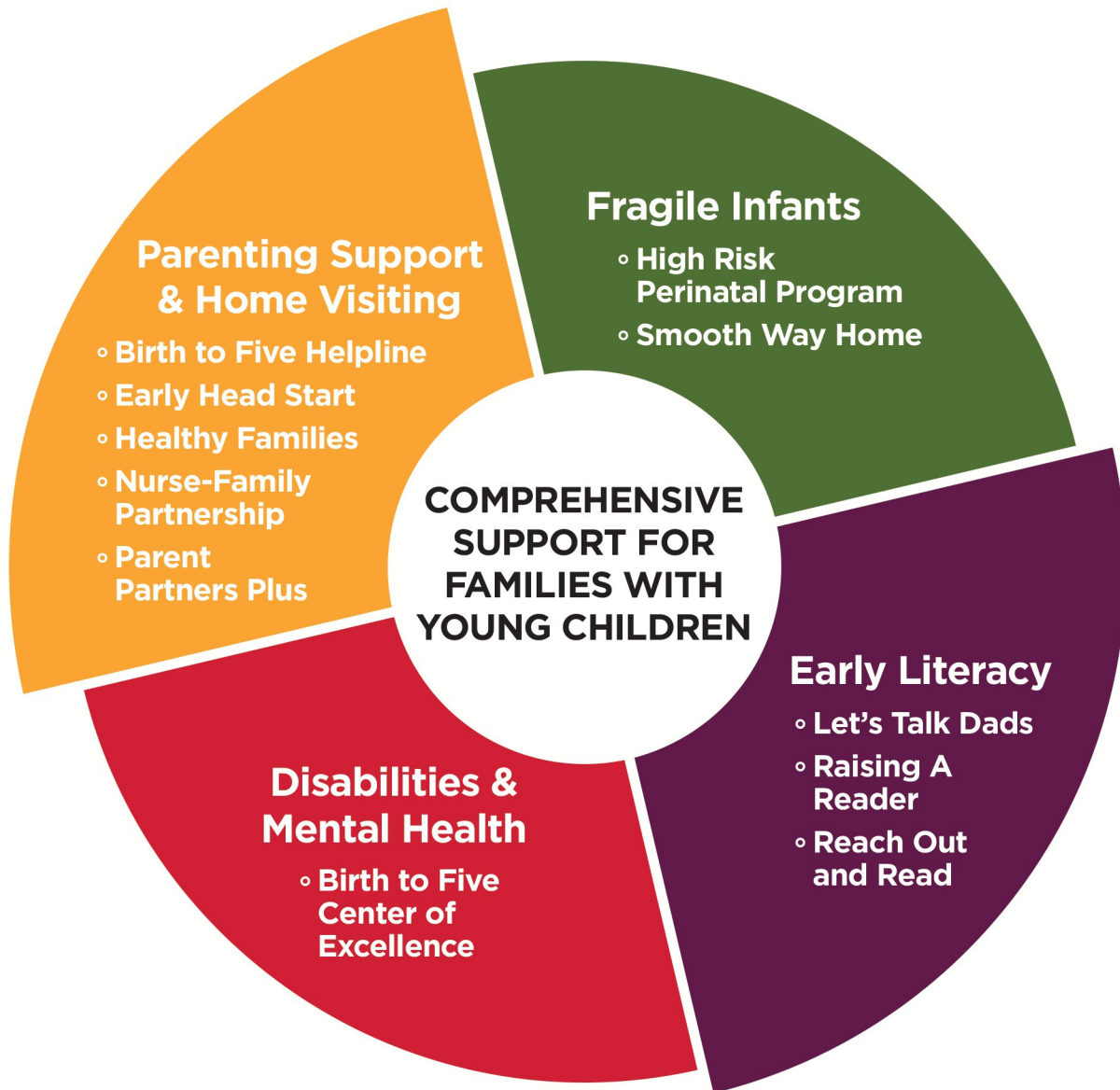


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# BREAKOUT SESSION 1

9:30AM-11:00AM

## **Leveraging the Power of Emotional Intelligence** Jen Shirvani (Main Ballroom)

The Leveraging the Power of Emotional Intelligence presentation provides details on it as a critical behavioral science, includes examples of using emotional intelligence as a leader and to influence others, and gives audience members with an opportunity to take a self-assessment to have more insight into behavioral responses.

## **Books and Bots: How to use Robots as a Tool for Teaching Early Math and Literacy Skills for PreK Students** AJ Long, Claire Parker, Jill Strawder-Bubala, Rebecca Kufeld (Room 1)

To best support early literacy and school readiness and to build a foundation in computer science, science, technology, engineering, and math (CS-STEM) for PreK students, Nevada Robotics presents a unique and innovative program called Books and Bots that combines reading, math, and robots. Robots are educational tools that teach critical skills such as creativity, collaboration, verbal communication, and computational thinking, problem-solving; all competencies that are a part of how children become learners and build foundational literacy skills.

Partnering robotics education (a CS-STEM skill) with literacy and math is a perfect combination of what are widely considered to be the most critical subject areas for young students. Early learners will make literacy and math gains through hands-on CS-STEM lessons that use robots as a learning tool.

## **Exploring the Power of Play: How our Interactions During Play can Promote Children's Thinking** Bonnie Spencer (Room 2)

Together let's investigate the stages of play, why play in our classroom is important for student learning, and our role while interacting with students in their play. Come away with strategies to scaffold your questioning to extend children's thinking further and inspire high-quality interactions.

## **Using N.E.A.R. Science to Understand the Impact of Trauma on the Developing Brain** Veronica Chacon (Room 3)

Experiencing trauma during critical periods of brain development can significantly disrupt neural pathways, impairing cognitive functions, emotional regulation, and the formation of secure attachments. The enduring impact of such disruptions underscores the urgent need for a comprehensive understanding of the neurobiological consequences of trauma, guiding effective interventions to support healthy brain development in at-risk populations.

## **Interviewing, Hiring and Retaining like the Big Dogs**

### Ronnie Armstrong & Barbie Prinster (Room 4)

Ever wish your program had the resources of corporate providers of early childhood education like a huge advertising budget, recruiters, interview panels, and training departments? If so, this workshop is for you. Please join us to explore how any program can develop a hiring and training process to interview, hire, and retain new staff.

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# BREAKOUT SESSION 2

## 12:45PM-2:15PM

### **What is Brain Capital?: Building 21st Century Skills Through Arts Education** Genein Letford **(Main Ballroom)**

Building the leaders of tomorrow begins by knowing how the brain, the arts and social connection are intertwined in a unique symphony of creative development. Join us for an interactive, jovial session that will teach you the newest methodologies, backed by neuroscience, to develop creative thinking and other essential life skills for our littlest leaders.

### **Engineering in the Early Years**

Noortje Nelissen & Brenna Chambers with Arizona Science **(Room 1)**

Experience how to introduce the foundations of engineering to children to effectively engage them in problem-solving challenges.

### **Phonological “Fun”dations** Wendy Logue & Deanna Jergensen **(Room 2)**

This workshop will describe the developmental progression of phonological awareness skills and connect them to success as a reader. Participants will walk away with instructional activities and embedded routines for supporting young children with these critical skills.

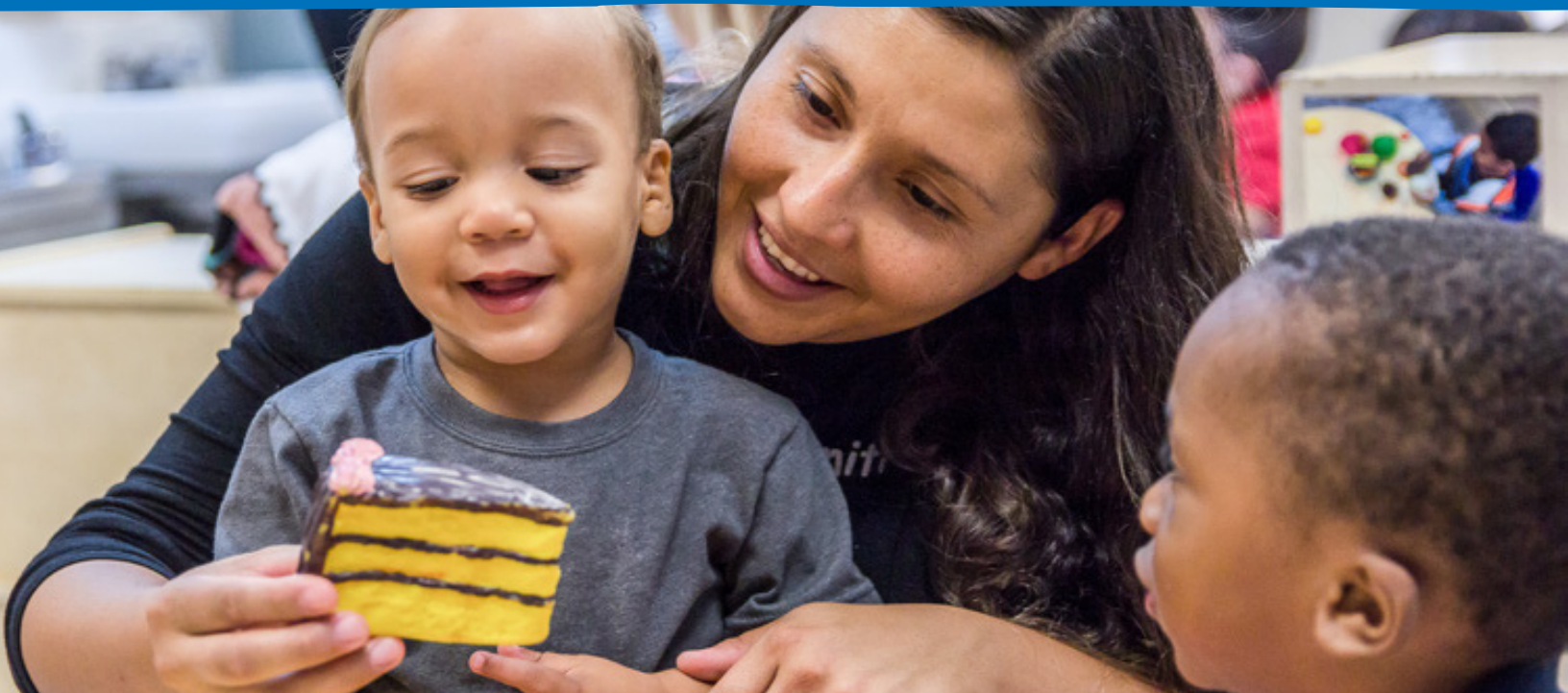
### **Healing at the Intersection of Attachment and ACEs** Iya Affo **(Room 3)**

This experiential workshop will utilize storytelling, self-reflection, and participation to: explore different attachment patterns, learn how our attachment pattern shows up in relationships, and discover how to interact effectively with different Attachment styles.

### **ECE Advocacy: State of Funding Updates & Strategies to Become a Champion for Children** Eric Bucher & Barbie Prinster **(Room 4)**

Together, the voices of early childhood educators, parents, and other champions for children are powerful. Join us to hear updates on early childhood funding in Arizona and to explore successful strategies for building your voice to advocate on behalf of children and the profession. You will learn how to craft your story, connect with your lawmakers, and collaborate with others to maximize your impact.





# THE PATH TO SCHOOL SUCCESS

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## STARTS EARLY

Babies, toddlers and preschoolers learn and grow through their relationships with the caring adults in their lives.

Thank you for helping Arizona's young children on the path to a bright future.

# BREAKOUT SESSION 3

2:30PM-4:00PM

## **Considering Yourself a “Mandated Supporter”** [Claire Louge \(Main Ballroom\)](#)

You may be a mandated reporter, but could you consider yourself a mandated supporter, too? In this session, we'll discuss how we can protect children from adversity by connecting families to what they need. The strategies and techniques explored are rooted in the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors Framework, an approach that recognizes when families have access to the supports needed to deal with life's stressors, children thrive.

## **Math Adventures: Dice and Card Delights for Preschoolers** [Amanda McPherson \(Room 1\)](#)

Make learning math fun for preschoolers with these hands-on, minds-on activities. Participants will receive developmentally appropriate math lessons and the materials to implement the lessons in their classrooms. You will walk away from this workshop with easy to make, fun math activities to engage preschoolers. The math lessons utilize many ways to use dice and playing cards in the classroom with your students.

## **Indigenous Cultures, Family & Community Engagement and Early Literacy**

[Margine Bawden, Katherine Speirs, & Ashley Dixon \(Room 2\)](#)

This session will highlight activities of an early literacy program on two tribal lands in Arizona that utilize community resources with a focus on indigenous culture and emphasize the role of the caregiver in developing early literacy skills. This session will highlight activities developed and book lists identified by an early literacy program on two tribal lands in Arizona that utilize community resources with a focus on indigenous culture and emphasize the role of the caregiver in developing early literacy skills.

## **Burnout 911: Reclaiming your Zest for our Profession** [Camille Lachar & Diane Salazar \(Room 3\)](#)

During this interactive presentation participants will explore what it means to experience burnout in various roles; classroom staff, administration, and student. We will define burnout, share reflective practices to determine burnout type and stage, and assist participants in beginning to create their own personal burnout recovery action plan.

## **Adverse Childhood Experiences Policy and Program Review** [Erica Quintana \(Room 4\)](#)

ADHS collaborated with the Morrison Institute for Public Policy to (1) identify ACEs that are challenges in Arizona (2) review policies and programs in the state related to those ACEs and (3) identify policies and programs in other states that aim to reduce or mitigate ACEs. This presentation will focus on highlighting the policies and programs identified for the top 6 ACEs that are challenging in Arizona: poverty, divorce, neighborhood violence, domestic violence, mental illness in families, and parental incarceration.



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What we do together in the next five years will impact student outcomes for the next 25 years.



**Ensure students are reading at grade level by third grade**



**Increase college enrollment**



**Increase attainment of two- and four-year degrees**





# Celebrate the Young Child Conference

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## EXHIBITORS/EXPOSITORES

Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry

Arizona PBS Kids LEARN!

Boulder Journey School

CAFFE Strategies

Children's Action Alliance

ChildCare Careers

Discount School Supply

First Things First

Grand Canyon University

Helios Education Foundation

Infant Toddler Mental Health Coalition of Arizona (ITMHCA)

Kodo Kids

Lakeshore Learning Materials

Maricopa County Department of Public Health

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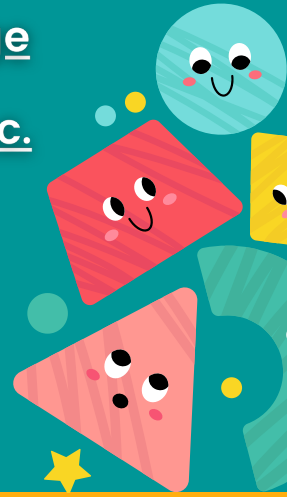
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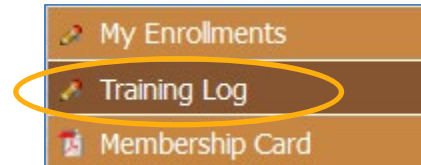


## Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry Training Log for non-verified Trainings

This feature of the Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry will allow Registry Users to document training hours from professional development taken outside of Registry enrollment.

These training hours will be considered **Unverified**, although hours will be listed on a user's Education and Training Report under an Unverified Section. **Please do not upload training certificates into your Registry File Manager. The training certificates are not needed.**

1. Log into the Arizona Early Childhood Registry at [www.azearlychildhood.org](http://www.azearlychildhood.org).
2. Under **My Tools & Settings**, click on **Training Log**.



3. Click on **Add Training**.



Date of Training	# of Hours	Training Name	Category	Type of Training	Offered By
No data available in table					
Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries					
Previous Next					
<a href="#">Add Training</a>					

4. From the data on your training certificate, fill in Date of Training, Hours, choose a Category for the Training, Type of Training, Training Name and Offered By. Click on **Add Training** if you have additional trainings to add. When finished, click on **Save**.

Date of Training	09/14/2022	# of Hours	2.5
Category	Availability of community services and resources, including those available Child growth and development, which may include sudden infant death pr Detecting, preventing, and reporting child abuse or neglect Developmental psychology Developmentally appropriate activities and areas		
Type of Training	Face to Face		
Training Name	Age Appropriate Strategies for Literacy		
Offered By	Outstanding Training Organization, Inc		
<a href="#">Add Training</a>			
<a href="#">Save</a>			



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Thank you Educators.

You play a pivotal role in the lives of our children. By continuing to evolve your skill set with our programs, you'll be able to provide the best education possible to every kid you serve and positively impact their future.

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