

Alabama Project LAUNCH Summit
May 3-4, 2016
Bryant Conference Center, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Day One, Tuesday, May 3

Professional Development Institute: Helping Children Soar

Registration: 8:00 am – 8:45 am

Target Audience: *early childhood professionals, mental health practitioners, physicians, educators, home visitors, or any other professionals who work directly with children birth to eight years*

Morning Session 1: 8:45 am – 10:15 am Select One Session

Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (I/ECMHC) Services

Presenter: Dallas Rabig, LPC - Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant, AL Project LAUNCH

I/ECMHC consultants collaborate with educators, care providers, early interventionists and home visitors to help address the developmental, emotional and behavioral challenges of infants, young children and their families to ensure healthy social-emotional wellness and promote school readiness. Consultants offer reflective coaching and support to program staff, as well as partnering with staff and families to work on ways to support young children in the classroom and at home. In this session, participants will learn about the I/ECMHC approach and evidence of its effectiveness. Participants will also develop an understanding of its three-fold framework: Program Focused (systems and policies that promote and sustain evidence based practices), Classroom/Teacher Focus (enhancing supportive, nurturing and responsive adult/child relationships and environments) and Child/Family and Home Visitor Focus (teaching individual children social skills and assessment based interventions that result in behavior support plans).

OR

After the ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire): Tools for Parents and Providers

Presenters: Katie Naman - Help Me Grow AL Director; Jackie Navidad - AL Help Me Grow Professional Development Coordinator; and Arkeisha Thomas – HMG Care Coordinator/Tuscaloosa

Screening is always linked to follow-up when there is a concern about a child's growth and development; however, it is not always clear where to turn for help. Help Me Grow Alabama (HMGA) connects families and young children to health and developmental services so children can start school healthy and ready to succeed. A care coordinator helps caregivers understand their child's unique needs and links them to community resources or provides them with tools to see how their child is growing. In this session, participants will learn best practices surrounding developmental screening and steps to ensure successful linkage to services. In addition, participants will be guided through a demonstration of the HMGA ASQ Enterprise system that provides programs with access to a user-friendly, online tool for managing developmental screening outcomes to analyze both program and child level data.

Morning Session 2: 10:30 am – 12:00 noon Select One Session

Reflective Practice: Relationship-Based Work

Presenter: Dr. Sherry Heller – Associate Professor, Tulane University Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Reflective Practice is important because it puts building and maintaining nurturing relationships with infants, toddlers, parents and co-workers central to how we work. Relationships are valued, not as a nicety, but as a foundation for doing business. It is based on mutual shared goals, commitment to growth and change, respect, open communication and active listening. This approach emphasizes sharing responsibility and control of power. In this session, participants will learn about reflective practice and its use in professional relationships and organizations. Participants will practice identifying sources of power within households and programs such as the ability to lead and inspire, formal positions and titles, spheres of influence, networks of friends and colleagues and, most of all, knowledge. Reflective Practice is an integral component of Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation.

OR

Strengthening Families: A Protective Factors Framework

Presenters: Sallye Longshore - Executive Director, AL Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Tish MacInnis - Coordinator of Family and Community Partnerships, Alabama Partnership for Children

The Strengthening Families Initiative is a research-based strategy to increase family strengths, enhance child development and reduce child abuse and neglect, despite whatever risk factors they might face. It focuses on 5 protective factors: parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support in times of need and social and emotional competence of children. Rather than focusing on “fixing” family problems, it builds on their strengths. Participants will learn about the Alabama Strengthening Families Initiative and where the state is today in regards to this initiative. Also, using the World Café model, participants will engage in small group conversations and be guided through activities useful to increase their knowledge of protective factors. Resources and tools will be provided that can easily be adapted in community or classroom settings.

Afternoon Session 1: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm Select One Session

Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (I/ECMHC) Services

Presenter: Dallas Rabig, LPC - Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant, AL Project LAUNCH

Repeat of Morning Session 1

OR

Social-Emotional Assessment/Evaluation Measure (SEAM™)

Presenter: Sydney Crawford – Service Coordinator, United Cerebral Palsy Hand in Hand Early Intervention Program

The Social-Emotional Assessment/Evaluation Measure (SEAM™) is a functional tool for assessing and monitoring social-emotional and behavioral development in infants, toddlers, and preschoolers at risk for social-emotional delays or problems. SEAM™ yields in-depth information on children’s social-emotional skills and deficits as well as identifying their caregivers’ strengths and developmental stages and behavior they want to learn more about. Used by parents and professionals, it assists in the early identification of social-emotional difficulties and behavior disorders and to optimize positive parent–child interactions in the first years of life. Participants will learn about the SEAM™, how it is used and how it can be integrated into existing programs. This seminar is appropriate for those professionals who are new users, those who are considering adopting the tool for use in their agency, or for individuals or groups in need of a refresher.

Afternoon Session 2: 2: 15 pm – 3:45 pm Select One Session

Reflective Practice: Relationship-Based Work

Presenter: Dr. Sherry Heller – Associate Professor, Tulane University Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Repeat of Morning Session 2

OR

Strengthening Families: A Protective Factors Framework

Presenters: Sallye Longshore - Executive Director, AL Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Tish MacInnis - Coordinator of Family and Community Partnerships, Alabama Partnership for Children

Repeat of Morning Session 2

OR

A Double Session from 12:30 pm – 3:35 pm

Walk a Mile in Their Shoes: An Interactive Experience
Facilitator: TC McLemore – Alabama Possible

The Community Action Poverty Simulation is a unique, interactive experience that helps facilitate understanding of the challenges faced by individuals in our community who are living at or below the poverty level. The simulation increases participants' understanding of hardships, difficult choices and emotional toll experienced by very low income people and the hard work it takes to achieve self-sufficiency. During the simulation, participants role-play the lives of individuals and families experiencing poverty. Volunteers representing community resources and services are located at tables around the perimeter of the room; "families" rotate through the services as needed. The experience includes an introduction and briefing by a facilitator, the simulation exercise and a facilitated debriefing in which participants and volunteers share what they have learned about living in poverty.

Day Two, Wednesday, May 4

Early Childhood Summit: Strengthening Adult Capacities to Ensure Children's Optimal Development

Registration 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Target Audience: anyone with interest and concern about our state's youngest children

Welcome: 10:00 am – 10:30 am

Keynote Address 1: 10:30 am – 12 noon

Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems: Working Together for our Future

**Speaker: David Willis, M.D., FAAP – Director, Division of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems
Maternal and Child Health Bureau, US Department of Health and Human Services**

Advances in the science of early brain and child development point to the critical foundations for health, development and early learning that are established in the first 1,000 days of life. Increasingly federal, state and local programs are joining together in local communities with organized and integrated evidence-based practices that support pregnant mothers, young families and their children in two generational efforts. These efforts, including the expansion of home visiting programs, address the ravages of poverty, trauma, hunger and neglect that drive historical health and educational disparities. What has emerged is a growing national agenda of hope, opportunities and breakthrough discoveries.

Lunch Speaker – 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Building the Business Case for Investing in Young Children

Speaker: Nancy Fishman – Deputy Director, Ready Nation/Council for a Strong America

Ready Nation works to strengthen businesses through better policies for children and youth, since the foundation of many skills needed for the 21st century workforce are established in the earliest years. Participants will learn how the business community educates policymakers and the public about effective investments in young children and explore ways to collaborate with the business sector in their communities.

Keynote Address 2: 1:15 pm – 3:15 pm

Detecting and Buffering Toxic Stress Through Early Relationships

Speaker: Jessica Richards, MS, MSW, LCSW

Toxic Stress and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events that can have negative, lasting effects on health and well-being. These experiences range from physical, emotional or sexual abuse to parental divorce or the incarceration of a parent or guardian. In particular, toxic stress undermines healthy young child development and underlies many physical and mental health disorders into adulthood. Participants will learn

how to help buffer toxic stress and ACEs by building relationships in the lives of young children. In addition, using the Neurorelational Framework, participants will learn to identify the markers of stress responses in infants and young children. Ms. Richards is a licensed psychotherapist who specializes in therapy with young children and families, especially those who have experienced trauma. She uses the Neurorelational Framework, integrating brain based approaches, play therapy and applied child development techniques. Based in Southern California, Ms. Richards is an experienced, multidisciplinary trainer.

Closing Remarks: 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Registration:

Several registration options are available. You may register for one day only or both days. CEUs for Social Workers, Nurses and General are available for an additional charge of \$10. Lunch and parking on The University of Alabama campus will be included in your registration fees. Please follow the link below to access the registration form.

<http://training.ua.edu/launch>

Accommodations:

Hotel Capstone
320 Paul W. Bryant Drive
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
(205) 752-3200

<https://gc.synxis.com/rez.aspx?Hotel=2=0&group=UAPROJ5A2016>

Please call by April 18, 2016 to reserve your room at the Summit rate of \$120.00 per night. Room upgrades are available for an additional charge. This price does not include a 15% lodging tax. **Please make sure to mention the UA Project LAUNCH Summit to receive the discounted summit rate.**

Microtel Inn and Suites by Wyndham
1417 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
(205) 553-4095

<http://www.microtelinn.com/>

Please call by April 18, 2016 to reserve your room at the Summit rate of \$94.99 per night. Room upgrades are available for an additional charge. This price does not include a 15% lodging tax. **Please make sure to mention UA Project LAUNCH Summit to receive the discounted summit rate.**

Exhibitor Booth:

If your organization is interested in having an exhibitor booth, the cost for non-profit organizations is \$150.00 and for-profit is \$250.00. Please follow the link below to access the exhibitor registration form.

<http://training.ua.edu/launch>

Support for the Summit comes from Project LAUNCH (SAMHSA grant) through the Alabama Department of Mental Health, Alabama Department of Public Health, Alabama Partnership for Children, and the University of Alabama/Child Development Resources.

Directions to the Bryant Conference Center:

The Bryant Conference Center is located at 240 Bryant Drive, just across the street from Sewell-Thomas Stadium

Map

Main Number:
205-348-8600

Address:
2400 Paul W. Bryant Drive
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

