Friday, Session 1: Reflective Leadership: Three directors tell their stories. Panel Presentation: Program Directors: Cheri Lindsley, Susan Todd, and Amy Worley. Facilitator Nikki Dolan

Participants will explore reflective leadership principles and strategies that address challenges facing early childhood program leaders today. Come hear stories from three directors who transformed their centers into collaborative environments where learning communities for families/teachers are used to create exemplary programs for children.


Stressful events during childhood can have critical implications throughout the lifespan. Loraine will review the findings of the associations between ACES and outcomes among Tennesseans, including educational attainment and discuss ways to minimize ACES.

Friday Session 2: What Changes can we expect with the reauthorized CCDBG? Presented by Katari Coleman, Ph.D., Child Care Services Director, Tennessee Department of Human Services

Peer Networking Lunch Conversation: If it’s to be it’s up to me vs. If it’s to be it’s all on me. Facilitated by Laurie Clements, MSHA


Explore the role of the early childhood leader in setting the stage for an anti-bias education approach. Drawing on many years of experience in teacher education and directing, John will offer a framework and detailed practical strategies for the leader’s role in working strategically with staff, families and the community.

Friday Session 5: Transparency in the Workplace Yields Magical Results, Presented by Dr. Linda Sitton

Learn about the concept of “transparency” to open all lines of communication between management and staff! Implement “transparency” using this communication tool to help your business thrive!

Friday Session 6: 10 Business Tips You don’t want to Overlook!, Presented by Dr. Linda Sitton

Business is business! Explore what other entrepreneurs say are key components to making a small business a success. Then, get ready to share some of your own “tried and true” best practices in early childhood education.