Celebrating Passion and Persistence.

April 17-20, 2018
Marriott Marquis
Washington, DC
### TUESDAY
#### APRIL 17, 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Information Desk Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Children’s Environmental Health: Choosing and Safeguarding Places for Child Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Intensive Breakout Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Vroom Ambassadors Meeting <em>(invitation-only session)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Joint State Network and Membership Council Meeting <em>(council members only)</em> Meeting starts at 3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Newcomer Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Opening Plenary Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Meet the Board Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session <em>(sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn <em>(dinner on your own)</em></td>
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### WEDNESDAY
#### APRIL 18, 2018
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Information Desk Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Networking Breakfast and One-on-One TA Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Plenary Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Break and One-on-One TA Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Luncheon Plenary and Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Break and One-on-One TA Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Day on the Hill Prep</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Networking Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn <em>(dinner on your own)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session <em>(sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10)</em></td>
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### THURSDAY
#### APRIL 19, 2018
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast on the Go / Pick Up Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Information Desk Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15 a.m.</td>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Rally on the Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Visits with Elected Officials</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Boxed Lunch / Hill Debrief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Information Desk Open, One-on-One TA Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn <em>(dinner on your own)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session <em>(sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10)</em></td>
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**FRIDAY APRIL 20 2018**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration and Information Desk Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast and One-on-One TA Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning Break and One-on-One TA Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Luncheon Plenary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session (sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10) (tentative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>30th Anniversary Reception and Gala Celebration (separate registration required)</td>
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**Ignite STUDIO**

We know that people who include fun in all aspects of their lives, including work lives, tend to be happier, healthier, and less stressed. Fun and learning should go together – and that’s why we’re introducing Ignite Studio during this year's Symposium. Stop by the Ignite Studio, to unwind or enjoy the company of friends while you paint your very own masterpiece or create a mural together. We will have snacks and soft drinks available for you to enjoy.

During the evenings, join us in Ignite Studio to have an artist walk you through the steps of creating your own dragonfly masterpiece on canvas. Please visit our registration desk to sign up for your time slot. Cost to create a dragonfly canvas is $10.

**Ignite Studio – General Hours**

- **Wednesday, April 18**
  - 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, April 19**
  - 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- **Friday, April 20**
  - 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Dragonfly Canvas Painting Sessions**

- **Tuesday, April 17**
  - 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, April 18**
  - 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, April 19**
  - 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
  - 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- **Friday, April 20**
  - 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (tentative)
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018

1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Registration and Information Desk Open

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Children’s Environmental Health: Choosing and Safeguarding Places for Child Care

Many children spend 40+ hours weekly in an early learning environment; yet, environmental health considerations for protecting children within and around child care settings are not comprehensively addressed. As such, the Eco-Healthy Child Care® program was created to partner with child care professionals to eliminate or reduce environmental health hazards found in and around child care facilities. This session will discuss efforts to implement state safe siting programs. The majority of states do not require a site-specific environmental assessment of child care facilities; thus, providers could be unknowingly locating their programs in or near contaminated places. Children in these programs may be exposed to hazardous substances, if the programs are located near or on sites that have environmental contamination. The Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has worked on dozens of sites where children were exposed to hazardous environmental exposures because of where their child care center was located. This presentation will discuss the background and burden of the problem and give case examples of child care centers being placed on inappropriate sites. In addition to the potential for physical harm, the mere presence of contaminants at a child care program can cause stress, worry, and fear among staff and parents when the contamination is discovered. The Children’s Environmental Health Network and ATSDR will describe the importance of protecting children’s environmental health, and present current efforts that are underway to help providers choose safe places for early care and education facilities.

Presenters: Robin Joseph, MPH, EHCC Engagement Manager, Children’s Environmental Health Network (CEHN); and Tarsh Somers, RN, MSN/MPH Regional Director, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Historical Milestones

Early 1970s
The very first child care resource and referral agencies (CCR&Rs) were founded in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Rochester, Minnesota; and San Francisco, California. Over the next 15 years, as more CCR&Rs appear across the country, the need for a national organizing body that can support and lobby on behalf of the child care system becomes clear.
Celebrating Passion and Persistence. Igniting Possibilities.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018 CONTINUED

2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Intensive Breakout Sessions

Child Care Access is a Health Equity Issue

Access to affordable, quality child care is a critical issue facing many families in this country. And while we know that there are costs to families and the workforce when there are challenges with child care access, there are very real health and development impacts too.

In this session, we will explore the positive (or negative) impacts that child care settings have on a child and family’s health. We will discuss how existing regulatory and QRIS systems do and do not promote healthy child care settings, and we will discuss how to use data and GIS mapping to make smart investments that support child care and health in communities that need it most.

*Presenters:* Natasha Frost, Senior Staff Attorney, Public Health Law Center; Krista Scott, Senior Director of Child Care Health Policy, Child Care Aware® of America; and Dionne Dobbins, Ph.D., Senior Director of Research, Child Care Aware® of America

An Intensive Deep Dive Into Digital Marketing and Social Media for Organizations

Get a deep dive into social media and online marketing tactics and strategies with online digital and marketing experts! You’ll hear about how to find the most appropriate social media channels for your organization or business; how to effectively market your organization to parents and/or providers on platforms like Facebook, Google, and more; how to make sure your target audience can find you online; and how to foster a vibrant digital community. After this informative discussion we’ll break out into working groups for hands-on instruction and tactics on either marketing your R&R or program effectively online, or curating a vibrant digital community for parent and family engagement.

*Presenter:* Abhas Jain, Adjunct MBA faculty, Johnson & Wales University

Investing in African American Children’s Early Childhood Experiences

This session will unpack the lessons learned from the book “African American Children in Early Childhood Education: Making the Case for Policy Investments in Families, Schools, and Communities.” We will engage in a discussion about the educational opportunity gap African American children face and learn how changes to teacher practices related to equity and social justice and strong home-school partnerships can promote children’s success and healthy well-being.

*Presenters:* Stephanie Curenton, Associate Professor, Boston University; Tonia Durden, Clinical Associate Professor, Georgia State University; and Iheoma Iruka, Chief of Innovation & Research, High Scope Foundation

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1985

Plans for National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) are initially published in CCR&R Issues, the newsletter of the California CCR&R State Network, which later becomes NACCRRA’s newsletter.

1987

NACCRRA is incorporated on February 23 in San Francisco through the support of Patty Siegel. The Incorporating Board of Directors is appointed in May and holds its first meeting in Boston in June.
Partnering for Child Care Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery: How CCDF and CCR&Rs Can Support Providers, Children, and Families

The series of natural disasters that took place in 2017 had devastating impacts on children, families, and the community infrastructure, including child care programs. Partnerships with CCDF state/territory lead agencies can take many forms during such times. How are CCR&Rs involved in planning for aspects of the plan related to disaster planning, response, and recovery? What services can/does CCR&R provide before, during, and after disaster? Panelists will include representatives from areas among the most devastated by the natural disasters of 2017.

**Presenters:** Gail B Kelso, M.S., State Systems Specialist, Region VI, Office of Child Care Project State Capacity Building Center ICF, Fairfax, VA; Christina Triantphyllis, MS, Chief Officer of Public & Strategic Initiatives Collaborative for Children, Houston, TX; Pamela Hollingsworth, M.Ed., Senior Vice President, Office of Strategic Initiatives and Program Development, Early Learning Coalition of Miami Dade and Monroe Counties, Coral Gables, FL; Lara Magnusdottir, MPA, Public Policy Director, Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs), Santa Rosa, CA; and Iran Rodriguez, MSW, President, Region II Head Start Association

Power to the Profession: Contribute to Advancing ECE as a Unified Profession

Power to the Profession is a two-year collaborative initiative to establish the shared framework of knowledge and competencies, qualifications, standards of practice, and compensation for all early childhood educators who work with children birth through age eight across a variety of early learning settings. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in the national dialogue and inform the development of the shared framework for a unified early childhood education profession.

**Presenter:** Katherine Kempe, Senior Director, Professional Recognition and Advancement, NAEYC

The Growing Brain and Social–Emotional Development

This interactive session provides early childhood educators with a firm grounding in how social–emotional development unfolds in the first five years and concrete ways to support it. Take a deep dive into the areas of the brain involved in social interactions and emotional reactions. Explore the importance of relationships and attachment, and the impacts of stress. Learn specific competencies and approaches that support optimal social–emotional development. Gain insights into national competency models and additional resources that can continue to support your practice.

**Presenter:** Aidan Bohlander, PhD, UCSW, Senior Content Specialist, ZERO TO THREE
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018 CONTINUED

Vroom Ambassadors Meeting (invitation only)
This session will be a unique opportunity for the original Vroom Ambassador visionaries and other Vroom national partners to informally meet, mingle, and network based on their shared focus on changing the way we understand how young children learn.

2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
State Network and Membership Council Meeting (Council members only)
Selected leaders from each state who serve on the State Network Council or the Membership Council will meet for a closed-door joint meeting.

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Newcomer Session
This is an introductory and networking session designed for first-time Child Care Aware® of America Symposium participants. Learn how to make your entire Symposium experience successful with tips that will include the foundations you need to make your Day on the Hill experience effective. The session will “warm you up” as you get ready to plunge into an advocacy opportunity that will make changes for safer, healthier child care.

Presenter: Brenda Zedlitz, Sr. Director, Client Success, Child Care Aware® of America

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Opening Plenary Session
Join us as we celebrate your passion and persistence on behalf of children, and get ready to ignite even more possibilities! Until every family in the United States has access to quality, affordable child care, we must remain committed to working together and holding strong!

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Meet the Board Reception

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session (sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10)

8:00 p.m.
Adjourn (dinner on your own)
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018

7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Registration and Information Desk Open

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Networking Breakfast and One-on-One TA Sessions

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Ignite Studio Open

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Morning Plenary Session
A Framework for Financing Early Care and Education in the United States

Join us for a special plenary session with panelists from The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Committee on Financing Early Care and Education with a Highly Qualified Workforce. Learn about the groundbreaking report released in February and how it impacts the child care community.

Christina A. Samuels, Associate Editor, Education Week, Moderator
Harriet Dichter, Fellow, ICF
Kathy Glazer, President, Virginia Early Childhood Foundation
Lynn A. Karoly, Senior Economist, RAND Corporation; Professor, Pardee RAND Graduate School

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Morning Break and One-on-One TA Sessions
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018 CONTINUED**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Concurrent Sessions A**

![BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS](image)

**CCR&R Role in QRIS Implementation, Enhancement, and Revision**

As states and territories implement Quality Rating and Improvement Systems (QRIS), they build partnerships with CCR&Rs to implement significant aspects of the QRIS, including provider recruitment, training, and technical assistance. CCR&Rs are geographically positioned and structured to handle the unique needs of providers within regions and local communities. In this session, we will examine a framework of an effective CCR&R and QRIS manager relationship and how it can help build and sustain the QRIS.

*Presenters: Pattie Ryan, Early Education Training and Technical Assistance Manager, National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance; and Zelda Boyd, Senior Technical Assistance Specialist, National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance*

![BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS](image)

**Creating a High-Performing, Inclusive Organization**

What does it mean to be a high-performing, inclusive organization? A high-performing, inclusive organization understands and creates the conditions that bring out the best in their employees. Facilitators will explore how the role of neurobiology, social connectedness, and aligned motivation create these conditions and allow organizations to “liberate the energy, imagination, and momentum needed to create the best beyond measure,” according to international businesswoman, author, and TED speaker Margaret Heffernan.

*Presenters: Lauren Peterson, Project Specialist, The Research Institute at Western Oregon University; and Cori Brownell, Project Specialist, The Research Institute at Western Oregon University*

![PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY](image)

**Creating Linguistically and Culturally Accessible Materials: The Do’s and Don’ts of Equitable Translation**

Providing access to children furthest from opportunity is a cornerstone value in Oregon’s Early Childhood system. Providing linguistically relevant materials is a key strategy to achieving increased equity. We’ll discuss leading translation efforts in complex state systems using Oregon’s experience in the translation of QRIS materials into multiple languages. Discussion will include the complexity of creating culturally relevant materials and the maximization of time and cost expenditures, as well as who should translate and when translation isn’t the answer for equity.

*Presenters: Nathan Winegardner, Bilingual Early Learning Project Specialist, The Research Institute, Western Oregon University; and Debbie Kenyon, Early Learning Project Specialist, The Research Institute, Western Oregon University*
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018 CONTINUED

Family Advocate Session (invitation only)
This session is a closed meeting designed for the Family Advocates who are joining us at Symposium.

Presenter: TBD

HEALTH
Helping Parents and Caregivers Understand, Prevent, and Respond to Infant, Toddler, and Young Children’s Challenging Behaviors
When young children have significant challenging behavior they are more likely to experience peer rejection, punitive contacts with teachers, more conflict in their family interactions, and problems in school. Effectively addressing a child’s challenging behavior requires an individualized approach to instruction based on a comprehensive assessment of their environment and behavior. In this session we will explore tools and tips for supporting young children with challenging behavior.

Presenter: Neal Horen, PhD, Director of Early Childhood, Georgetown’s Center for Child and Human Development, Georgetown University

HEALTH
Making Early Education Environments Healthier: A Local Approach
This session highlights a local approach to strengthening health and obesity prevention policies and practices in early care and education environments. This session will include lessons learned along with strategies, tools, and resources to support implementation of a community-level technical assistance intervention program.

Presenters: Jennifer Weber, Director, American Heart Association; and Brianna Holmes, Technical Trainer, Nemours

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
The ACT Raising Safe Kids Program: A New Approach to Parent Engagement
This research-evidenced, informed parent education and violence prevention program was developed by the American Psychological Association. It helps parents learn positive parenting skills and ways to support resilience in young children while strengthening relationships between teachers and parents. This field study presentation will emphasize the key characteristics of ACT RSK, highlight the role of APA in program delivery, and call attention to how the NJ CCR&R infrastructure played a role in statewide expansion of the program, including Head Start.

Presenters: Julia de Silva, Director, Violence Prevention Office, American Psychological Association; Jeffrey Segal, Licensed Psychologist; and Rebekka Zydel, Executive Director, Child & Family Resources

1993
NACCRRA becomes a member of the April 19th Group, a national coalition of early care and education organizations formed to speak with one voice on issues and to develop a set of guiding principles for an early care and education system.

NACCRRA forms the Diversity Task Force.

The Quality Enhancement Project is initiated with a package of key NACCRRA products.

NACCRRA becomes a member of the April 19th Group, a national coalition of early care and education organizations formed to speak with one voice on issues and to develop a set of guiding principles for an early care and education system.
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018 CONTINUED**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Playful Explorations: Building a Foundation for Development and Learning**

This session looks specifically at play as a strategy to facilitate learning any content area (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) in the infant, toddler, or preschool classroom. Speakers will also discuss play as a vehicle for enhancing brain and cognitive development and provide information on how play can encourage and promote building a “community of learners.”

**Presenter:** Keith Pentz, M.A., National Early Childhood Specialist, Kaplan Early Learning Company

**PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY**

**The Ins and Outs, Rights and Lefts, of Federal Child Care Policy**

This session will serve as a training to attendees on how to become successful public policy advocates and make sure your voice can rise above the political noise. CCAoA staff will demonstrate how advocacy is used to influence federal officials and will offer tips on how attendees can lead efforts back home. Join us for an in-depth summary of the legislative process, overview of key child care legislation, and an opportunity to participate in live audience advocacy simulations. The session will also summarize legislative priorities for the meetings on Capitol Hill the following day.

**Presenters:** Jay Nichols, Director, Federal Policy and Governmental Affairs, Child Care Aware® of America; and Michelle McCready, Chief, Policy and Research, Child Care Aware® of America

**EARLY CHILDHOOD / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**The Role of CCR&Rs in an Ever-Changing ECE Landscape**

Child care providers in all settings face constant change. Whether it is national or state regulations, new research about what it means to provide quality care, or the changing demographics of children and their families, providers face the implications of change on a daily basis. Child Care Resource and Referral agencies are frequently the first line of support for providers to help navigate these changes. This session will highlight some factors driving changes at the national, state, and local levels, and open a discussion with session participants about the CCR&R’s role in supporting providers through a changing landscape. Resources developed by the National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, & Learning on a variety of topics facing providers will also be shared and discussed.

**Presenters:** Awuse Tama, MPH, State T/TA Specialist, National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching & Learning; and Brandi N. King, PhD, Project Director, National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, & Learning
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Vroom Track—The Brainy Science Foundation of Vroom

New science tells us that our children’s first years are when they develop their foundation for all future learning. This documented evidence has the power to change the way we work with children, the way we lead future early childhood professionals, and the way we engage with our families and communities. Discover more about how Vroom was created and how it can support the work you do with children and families.

Presenter: TBD

12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Luncheon Plenary and Annual Meeting

PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY

Child Care and Child Welfare: An Innovative Service Collaboration for Vulnerable Children

Child care and child welfare systems are both concerned about the safety and well-being of young children and yet rarely collaborate in a systematic way. This new strategy for providing child care services to children and resources to parents will help meet their complex needs. This session will highlight a pilot and statewide model based on research, information sharing, and collaboration. This model has implications for child welfare and child care policy throughout the nation.

Presenters: Susan Savage, Director of Research, Child Care Resource Center; and Michael Olenick, President & CEO, Child Care Resource Center
PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY

CCR&Rs as Community Resilience Hubs

In 2016, Child Care Aware® of America launched a two-year training, technical assistance, and funding opportunity for Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies as Resilience Hubs. The goal of this training program is to increase the capacity of CCR&Rs to serve as resilience hubs in their communities in the event of emergencies or natural disasters. This session will provide details on the pilot projects and lessons learned, and will provide resources for other agencies who want to implement varied projects in their own communities.

Presenters: Kami Cohorst, Director of Quality Initiatives, Child Care Aware® of Kansas; Valerie Peterson, MA, Director of Financial Supports, Child Care Aware® of Minnesota; and Melinda Belcher M.ED. CIRS, Program Manager, Child Care Resource Center, Tulsa, OK

BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS

Equity First: Revising Early Learning Systems to Reduce Disparities and Increase Access

Equity is not a buzzword. Lifelong disparities start in early childhood, and early learning systems are perpetuating those disparities. Oregon has revised and re-built our Early Learning Systems with an explicit focus on equity to ensure that all children have equitable access to high-quality early learning opportunities in their communities. Engage with panelists in exploring how guiding principles, data and community engagement, and equity-focused leadership build equitable systemic changes.

Presenters: Robyn Lopez Melton, Co-Director QRIS and CCR&R System, The Research Institute at Western Oregon University; Hannah Annonson, Early Learning Project Specialist, The Research Institute at Western Oregon University; and Cheri Freedman, Early Learning Database Specialist, The Research Institute at Western Oregon University

Family Advocate Session (invitation only)

This session is a closed meeting designed for the Family Advocates who are joining us at Symposium.

Presenter: TBD
PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY

Q&A session with members of The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Committee on Financing Early Care and Education With a Highly Qualified Workforce

Do you have questions about the Financing Early Care and Education report? Join us for an intimate conversation with members of this committee.

Presenter: TBD

HEALTH

Integrating Health into ECE State Systems

For five years, Nemours Children’s Health System and the CDC have been working with state partners in 10 states to weave obesity prevention into state ECE systems. Presenters will share state- and topic-based case studies (e.g., CACFP, QRIS) and present ideas given about ways to support the maximum number of ECE providers with improvements in child health.

Presenter: Julie Shuell, Project Director, ECE, Nemours National Office of Policy & Prevention

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Supporting CCDBG Implementation: A Toolkit for School-Age Consumer Engagement

The National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE) will demonstrate a new interactive toolkit designed to assist states, territories, and tribes in meeting CCDBG requirements for Consumer Education specific to school-age child care. Participants will explore this toolkit and will be invited to provide feedback, strategize uses and methods for dissemination, and suggest potential connections to existing consumer education products and methods currently used by Child Care Aware® of America and CCR&Rs.

Presenters: Pritay Washington, Project Director, National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment; Siobhan Bredin, Director of Training and Technical Assistance, National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment; and April Dodge-Ostendorf, MSW, Family Engagement Specialist, Child Care Aware® of America
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Supporting License-Exempt Care: An Opportunity for CCR&Rs

As states and jurisdictions work to more stringently regulate and monitor license-exempt homes, they may rely on CCR&Rs to provide critical support to these providers in the form of consultation, resources, training, networking opportunities or other innovative practices. In this session, we’ll explore the potential role of CCR&Rs in supporting license-exempt homes focusing not only on innovative ideas but on the practical implementation of those ideas.

**Presenters:** Nina Johnson, Senior Technical Assistance Specialist, National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance; and Pattie Ryan, Early Education Training and Technical Assistance Manager, National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance

EARLY CHILDHOOD / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Understanding the Impact of a Multigenerational Workforce: Implications for Professional Development and Staff Management

A multigenerational workforce can be very powerful! Explore the influences which shape and define a generation and how this translates to observable behaviors and characteristics. Learn strategies for effectively interacting within a multigenerational workforce, including communication, management, and professional development approaches. Come learn how to build on the strengths of every colleague, regardless of age, to create a stronger program. Plus, learn about your own strengths and needs.

**Presenters:** Lacey Tsonis, Assistant Deputy Director, Maryland Family Network; and Bunny Egerton, General Manager, Youth Services, Columbia Association

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Vroom Track — Vroom in Action

Listen to and explore the best practices for sharing Vroom in CCR&R outreach services, trainings, and community events. Whether you’re presenting to a board of directors, community partners, colleagues, child care providers, or children’s first teachers, parents, you are sure to leave this session with adoptable and adaptable activities to grow your outreach with unique strategies for bringing Vroom to your community.

**Presenter:** TBD
HEALTH

Working Collaboratively to Promote and Support Health, Safety, and Wellness in Early Childhood through Professional Development, Health Consultation, and Advocacy

Healthy Child Care Colorado is a collaborative initiative that serves as a statewide hub for child care health consultants, provides professional development experiences for early childhood professionals, and advocates for health, safety, and wellness policies and practices. We will delve into the organizational structure of our initiative and how we leverage partnerships to maximize our collective impact. We will share methods and findings from our 2017 research on child care health consultation and licensed early childhood programs as it relates to best practices in health, safety, and wellness. Lastly, we will explore the utilization of innovative, data-driven approaches to our work in obesity prevention, oral health, injury prevention, and child care health consultation.

**Presenter:** Taran Schneider, MA, Director, Healthy Child Care Colorado; and Theresa Rapstine, MS, RN, Coordinator & Child Care Health Consultant, Healthy Child Care Colorado

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Afternoon Break and One-on-One TA Sessions

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Afternoon Plenary Session

After the 2016 Presidential election, the public is skeptical about the value of polls. What do polls mean and why do they matter? And with midterm elections on the horizon, what will the election results mean for child care? How do we as early childhood leaders ensure that child care remains a priority for both policymakers and the public? This session will explore all these questions.

**Celinda Lake, President, Lake Research Partners**

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Day on the Hill Prep

We will spend the last 30 minutes of the day reviewing logistics and messaging for your visits to your federal legislators.
2005

NACCRA releases its first issue of Capitol Connection: CCR&R’s weekly source for federal child care policy news.

NACCRA’s first Air Force Training and Technical Assistance program for child care providers begins with 12 Air Force bases.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018 CONTINUED

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Networking Reception

7:30 p.m.

Adjourn (dinner on your own)

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session (sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10)
THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Information Desk Open

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast on the Go

7:15 a.m. | 7:45 a.m. | 8:15 a.m.
Departure Bus Travel to the Hill from the Marriott Marquis

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Rally on the Hill
Before meeting with your congressional delegations, Child Care Aware® of America will host an event rallying for investments in child care at the U.S. Capitol. Guest speakers will include Members of Congress and national child care advocates.

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Visits with Elected Officials

11:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. | 4:00 p.m.
Return Bus Travel from the Hill to Marriott Marquis

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Boxed Lunch / Hill Debrief

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Registration and Information Desk Open, One-on-One TA Sessions

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Ignite Studio Open
Celebrating Passion and Persistence. Igniting Possibilities.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018 CONTINUED

5:00 p.m.
Adjourn (dinner on your own)

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session
(sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10)

2006
NACCRRA releases its first annual editions of Parents and the High Cost of Child Care Report and State Facts Sheets.
FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018

7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Registration and Information Desk Open

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast and One-on-One TA Sessions

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Ignite Studio Open

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Concurrent Sessions C

HEALTH
Active Play! Fun Physical Activities for Young Children
Learn fun, inclusive, developmentally appropriate physical activities that use inexpensive equipment and small spaces, and that work well in both home-based and center-based child care settings. Lead these activities with 18-month to five-year-old children to develop their fundamental movement skills and fitness as well as rehearse varied academic concepts. This workshop is for child care providers, pre-K teachers, policymakers, parents, and ECE trainers. View videos of young children playing these fun activities and try a few, too!

Presenter: Diane Craft, Ph.D., Professor of Physical Education, SUNY Cortland

HEALTH
Health, Safety, and Wellness—Resources and Listening Session
Child care professionals, we want to hear from you! Join the National Center on Early Childhood Health and Wellness (NCECHW) in a discussion about current and desired resources, health and wellness challenges facing Head Start families and children, and the types of support that you, your colleagues, and your families find most helpful. You will have an opportunity to review and provide feedback on existing resources and test drive some of the products currently available.

Presenters: National Center for Early Childhood Health and Wellness Staff
**PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY**

**CCDBG: Our Hopes, Dreams, and Fears**

Here we go! March 1 kicked off the latest round of Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) state plans. Join multi-state providers for a robust discussion on key policy actions states are taking to adhere to the new regulations and how providers are gearing up to meet them. We will facilitate an active discussion on what participants need to know, where to go for support, and how to be involved for future state plans.

*Presenters:* September Jones, Manager, Government Relations, KinderCare Education; and Celia Sims, V.P. Government Relations, KinderCare Education

**BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS**

**CCR&Rs in America: The Ignite Initiative—Exploring and Informing the Evolving Role of CCR&Rs in States and Local Communities Across the Nation**

Changes in federal child care policies coupled with increased investments in quality initiatives have states and communities reimagining the future of their child care infrastructure. This session will share insights about the current status of CCR&Rs in America and offer solutions to enhance the perception of the “value add” provided by CCR&Rs in the minds of key policymakers, public and private funders, community and business leaders, child care providers, families, and the CCR&R field itself. Now is the time for the CCR&R field to reinvent itself, to redefine its mission and purpose, and to reclaim its role as the foundation of the child care system.

*Presenter:* Jen Bump, Senior Advisor, Child Care Aware® of America; and Elizabeth Bonbright, Principal, Bonbright Strategic Solutions

**PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY**

**Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and Racial Equity**

This conference session will focus on opportunities to support racial equity through CCDBG implementation. The goals of CCDBG include providing equal access to stable, high-quality child care for low-income children and implementing quality improvements “to address the needs of all children, including children of all ages, families of all cultural-socio-economic backgrounds, and practitioners.” This workshop will outline policy recommendations and advocacy strategies to implement CCDBG in a way that addresses, not exacerbates, racial disparities.

*Presenters:* Cemere James, Vice President of Policy, National Black Child Development Institute; and Ameshia Cross, Director of Policy and External Relations, National Black Child Development Institute
PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY

Child Care Works
Child Care Works is committed to improving child care through legislative victories, policy solutions, and shifting public opinion. Child Care Works is a movement that collaborates with Family Networks, CCR&Rs, and advocates across the country to support policies that build a system of affordable, quality child care for all families. Learn how the movement works to drive action and how your organization can get involved.

Presenters: Chrisi West, Director of Advocacy, Child Care Aware® of America; Jay Nichols, Director, Federal Policy and Governmental Affairs, Child Care Aware® of America; and Yvette Sanchez Fuentes, Deputy Chief, Public Policy and Research, Child Care Aware® of America

BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS

ECE Shared Services: CCR&R Innovation to Improve Quality and Strengthen Sustainability among ECE Providers
ECE Shared Services can help meet many of the new requirements under CCDBG reauthorization. At its core, the shared services’ knowledge hub in 28 states offers practical tools that address common challenges, coupled with resources to strengthen the quality of care and help ECE providers save time and money. This session describes innovative approaches used by CCR&Rs to assist providers in attaining financial stability, reducing turnover, and strengthening quality within each program.

Presenter: Denise Sayer, Vice President, CCA for Social Good

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Meeting the Challenges of Creating an Early Learning Coalition in a Rural Community
Rural communities that rely on unlicensed care for young children struggle to provide high-quality care that families can afford. Learn how one rural community decided to form an early learning coalition to address the lack of high-quality programs. Find out how they are weaving together a mix of stakeholders from all sectors, a mix of funding that can be sustained, and a mix of care that meets a wide variety of needs.

Presenters: Amanda Lopez, President, Transform Consulting Group; and Julie Garber, Program Director, Community Foundation of Wabash County, IN
Celebrating Passion and Persistence.  Igniting Possibilities.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Family Empowerment Matters

The National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) developed the nation’s first culturally responsive, culturally relevant, and trauma-informed Family Empowerment Program (FEP). This strengths-based program helps parents become leaders of their families, equipping them to build the capacity of their children as learners, and advocate for them from birth. This presentation will provide an overview of the program, its current implementation, as well as policy implications.

Presenter: Georgia Thompson, Vice President, Programs and National Affiliate Network, National Black Child Development Institute

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Vroom Track—Ready! Set! Vroom! CCR&R Ambassadors Show You How It Can Be Done

Now that you have an understanding of the brainy science, step up to the next stage by discovering just how the original Vroom Ambassadors envisioned and enacted Vroom in their services. Integrating Vroom into your work is easy. It is not intended to be a new task for you but rather a tool to reinforce your daily outreach strategies. Learn how to integrate Vroom, process those strategies, and design how you can launch your own Vroom initiative.

Presenter: TBD

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Morning Break and One-on-One TA Sessions
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Concurrent Sessions D

🌟 EARLY CHILDHOOD / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACF’s National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Centers and You

Join us to learn about opportunities for CCR&Rs through the lens of the National Centers. Have you heard about the National Technical Assistance Centers, but still aren’t sure what they do or how to access their resources? Or maybe you are familiar with them but interested in hearing their perspective on how CCR&Rs can be an even greater contributor in state early childhood systems? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then this session is for you!

**Presenters:** Melanie Brizzi, Program Director, State Capacity Building Center; Pritay Washington, Training and Technical Assistance Specialist, National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment; Pattie Ryan, Early Education Training and Technical Assistance Manager, National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance; Kim Engelman, Ph.D., Chief Family and Community Engagement Officer; Krista Scott, Senior Director of Child Care Health Policy; Brandi King, Project Director, National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching & Learning; and Jen Bump, Senior Advisor, Practice Innovation, Child Care Aware® of America

🎈 HEALTH

Celebrating Milestones and Sharing Concerns: New Resources from CDC’s Learn the Signs—Act Early

Developmental disabilities in children are common. CDC estimates that one in six children has a developmental disability. Come learn about CDC’s new Milestone Tracker App, free CE training, new children’s books, and other resources to help child care providers better identify and track developmental milestones, recognize signs of potential delay, and share observations with parents.

**Presenters:** Julia Abercrombie, MPH, Behavioral Scientist, Center for Disease Control and Prevention
FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018 CONTINUED

**HEALTH**

Health-Related Quality Improvement: Success through Child Care Aware® of America

ECE programs have an important role to play in supporting young children’s healthy growth and development. This presentation will explore some of the key best practices for supporting young children’s health and how to help ECE programs adopt these best practices. The evidence-based, Go NAPSACC approach will be presented, and representatives from two states in which Child Care Aware® of America has played a large role in implementation will discuss their successes, challenges, and lessons learned.

**Presenters:** Ellie Morris, Go NAPSACC Outreach Coordinator, UNC Healthy Weight Research Group; Peggy Walkins, Professional Development Coordinator, Child Care Aware® of Virginia; Jodi Roberts, Professional Development Specialist, Child Care Aware® of Virginia; and Erin Olson, Community Health Consultant, Iowa Department of Public Health

**PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY**

Implementing Policies and Practices that Increase Access for Children Experiencing Homelessness

In 2016, the three national early care and education policy platforms (ESSA, CCDF, and HSPPS) expanded opportunities for communities to enhance access and continuity for children experiencing homelessness. As programs implement new rules and standards, working together with colleagues has proven helpful in creating and modeling best practices. Presenters will review policy changes, facilitate discussion of frequently asked questions, and share new resources. Participants will leave with a framework for establishing next steps.

**Presenters:** Grace Whitney, Director, Early Childhood Initiatives, School House Connection; and Marsha Basloe, Senior Policy Advisor, USDHHS ACF Office of Early Childhood

**BUSINESS / ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS**

Improving the Quality of Care through Family Child Care Networks

Family Child Care Networks providing individualized support services, like coaching and training, offer a unique opportunity to increase access to high-quality child care for families, while also strengthening the workforce and supporting small business models. CCR&Rs offer a natural support system for family child providers. This session will highlight five resources that create a basic framework for establishing Family Child Care Networks and examine how local CCR&Rs and state networks can implement support.

**Presenters:** Mary Beth Salomone Testa, Policy Consultant, National Association of Family Child Care; Zelda Boyd, Senior Technical Assistance Specialist, National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance
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FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018 CONTINUED

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Let’s Get Ready for School: Engaging Families

We know families are key in the building of the skills and knowledge children need to enter school ready to succeed. Our role as early childhood education professionals is to partner with and engage families in supporting the development of these skills. Learn strategies to engage families, explore challenges to partnerships and relationships, and develop a plan to take back to your program that will prepare all children and families for successful school experiences.

Presenter: Deb Huestis, Early Childhood Community Coordinator, Family Connections MT

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Meaningful Family Engagement in the Early Child Care Program

Meaningful family engagement in early child care programs is essential to high-quality care and education. Extensive research shows that family involvement supports the development of the whole child, and promotes school readiness. During the presentation, research will be explored and participants will actively engage in creating a plan to increase, sustain, or strengthen family involvement in their program.

Presenter: Natalie Swisse, Educational Director, The Goddard School

EARLY CHILDHOOD / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Thresholds, Averages, and Implementation: How Do I Choose CLASS Goals to Drive Improvement?

This presentation will explore the importance of goal-setting in providing professional development to early educators. We will summarize research on minimum CLASS thresholds and explore real CLASS data from various states and cities. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the benefits and challenges other states/programs have encountered in setting CLASS goals and apply those lessons to their practice.

Presenters: Sarah Hadden, Senior Advisor, Research and Professional Services, Teachstone Training; and Amy Stephens Cubbage, Senior Advisor, Public Policy, Teachstone Training
FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018 CONTINUED

EARLY CHILDHOOD / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Power to the Profession—Round Table Discussion
Join your peers for an open discussion about Power to the Profession. Power to the Profession is a national collaboration to define the early childhood profession by establishing a unifying framework for career pathways, knowledge and competencies, qualifications, standards, and compensation. You are the most important part of this conversation! Your thoughts will be collected and shared with the National Power to the Profession Taskforce to help shape and inform the decision cycles that are framing the conversations around how to transform the complex and heavily fragmented early childhood field as it exists today into a coherent profession in the future.

Presenter: Mindy Bennett, M.A.Ed., Director of Family & Community Engagement Content Manager, Child Care Aware® of America; and Karen Ruprecht, PhD, Content Developer, Child Care Aware® of America

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Vroom Track—Vroom as a Tool in Family and Community Engagement Outreach
Discover how Vroom can help you enrich your family and community engagement efforts to meet your community’s unique needs. You will learn how Vroom was created based on this exciting human-centered design approach. Experience how you can use the human-centered design methods to brainstorm how Vroom will be most useful in your community and address your family and community engagement needs.

Presenter: TBD
FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2018 CONTINUED

12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.

Closing Luncheon Plenary
Communities Working to Meet the Needs of Young Children and Families

Local communities across the country understand that positive experiences in the earliest years of life are critical if children are to become productive members of society and achieve long-term success. Local jurisdictions are often the pace-setters, establishing the standard for what it takes to reach across diverse sectors to create partnerships that lead to positive outcomes for children and families. Hear from a panel of leaders on how mayors, along with key community leaders, can come together, engage families, and collaborate with partners to support children and families. Learn how cities are emphasizing the important role that the early childhood workforce is playing in the city and community economic landscape.

Robert C. White, Jr., At-Large Member of the Council, District of Columbia
Mayor Lovely A. Warren, Rochester, NY
Mayor Andy Berke, Chattanooga, TN

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Ignite Studio Open for Dragonfly Canvas Painting Session
(sign-up at the registration desk - cost $10) (tentative)

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

30th Anniversary Reception and Gala (separate registration required)
2018 Board of Directors

Linda Asato, Director
California CCR&R Network

Todd Barnhouse
Chief Executive Officer
Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association

Patricia (Patty) Barron
Director, Family Programs
Association of the United States Army

Renee Boynton-Jarrett, MD, ScD
Associate Professor
Boston University School of Medicine
Boston Medical Center

Katherine Cothern, Director
Southwest TN CCR&R

Lynette M. Fraga, Ph.D.
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Executive Director
Child Care Aware® of America

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Children’s Service Society

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Asst. Prof. Child Psychiatry & Psychology
Child Study Center—Yale University

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Program Manager, Early Childhood
The National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education and Families

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Director of Healthy Child Care Colorado
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The Family Conservancy

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Tri-County Head Start

Laurie Tarpey, CPA
Chief Operating Officer
Raffa, P.C.

Barbara Thompson
Public Administration and Leadership Consultant

Dan Pedersen
Senior Adviser/Buffett Early Childhood Fund, Founding President (Retired)
The Atlanta Speech School

Steve Rohde, President
Deputy Director for Resource and Referral Services
Maryland Family Network

Child Care Aware® of America Staff:

Lynette M. Fraga, Ph.D.
ex officio
Executive Director
Child Care Aware® of America
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*Executive Director*  
California CCR&R Network

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*Program Director, Learning & Development*  
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**Dean Olson**  
*President & CEO*  
The Family Conservancy

**Karen Abbott**, ECA  
*Lead Child Care Resource & Referral Outreach Coordinator*  
Child Care Aware® of New Hampshire

**Shaquanna McEachern**  
*Training & Technical Assistance Specialist*  
Child Care Aware® of New Hampshire

**Kimberly Y. Taylor**  
*K. Taylor Consulting*

**Susan Wilker**  
*Quality Continuum Outreach Specialist*  
SIEOC CCR&R

**Leslie Sinclair, MA ECE**  
*Program Director*  
Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center, Salisbury University

**Courtneie Wheeless**  
*Director*  
Office of Early Learning CCR&R State Network

**Steve Rohde, President, ex officio**  
*Deputy Director for Resource and Referral Services*  
Maryland Family Network

**Lynette M. Fraga, Ph.D. ex officio**  
*Executive Director*  
Child Care Aware® of America
About Child Care Aware® of America

Child Care Aware® of America is a national membership-based nonprofit organization working to advance the affordability and accessibility of child care, and the development and learning of children in child care settings. Founded in 1987, we advocate for child care policies that improve the lives of children and families, lead research that advances the child care and early learning field, leverage technology to help families make informed decisions about child care, and provide professional development for child care providers. Child Care Aware® of America is the only national nonprofit organization that focuses exclusively on child care and serves as ‘our nation’s leading voice for child care.’ We work with more than 500 state and local Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies nationwide. These community-based agencies assist over 860,000 families a year to secure child care, and they provide training and support to child care providers. Child Care Aware® of America is honored to support all branches of the military in their commitment to providing quality, affordable, community-based child care for all military families.

usa.childcareaware.org | Invest in Our Nation’s Future

About Child Care Works

#ChildCareWorks is not a campaign but a long-term movement for families, grandparents, child care providers, state leaders, policymakers, and advocates who want better policies that support quality child care for all. Child Care Works is a product of Child Care Aware® of America.

Our Commitment

Our mission is to mobilize individuals at the local, state, and federal level to make child care a priority through legislative victories, and by shifting public opinion about the urgent need for improved child care.

Childcareworks.org | Join The Movement