

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

PURPLE MONTANA: REDUCING SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME

a Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies

Program: 1 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 12:00-2:00)

July 7th (Tues. 2:15-4:15)

Head trauma from abuse is a devastating and potentially lethal form of infant physical abuse. What has been less recognized is the role of the early increase in crying in otherwise normal infants in the first few months of life as a trigger for the abuse. Through the PURPLE Montana Program, parents and caregivers are given the tools to understand the normalcy of infant crying.

BREASTFEED MONTANA: CREATING HEALTHY FAMILIES, CREATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

a Nutrition & Physical Activity Program: 2 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 12:00-2:00)

July 8th (Wed. 1:15-3:15)

The Nutrition and Physical Activity Program will describe its work with organizations around the state to further breastfeeding initiatives and lactation supports. This session will address the Montana Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, Montana State Breastfeeding Coalition, Mothers' Milk Bank of Montana, Montana Breastfeeding law, and community partnerships.

IMPROVING COMMUNICATION AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES FACING THE TRAUMA OF POVERTY

by Dr. Donna M. Beegle: 2 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 12:00-2:00)

Donna Beegle grew up not knowing the words that her teachers would use. She not only did not know the words, but did not understand the examples that were provided to explain the words. She knew she communicated differently, but it was not until she studied communication and social class and learned about the differences in communication across social class, that she realized she needed a second language. Donna provides a highly interactive workshop offering concrete tools for building stronger relationships and communicating more effectively with families who live in the crisis of poverty.

THE PYRAMID MODEL: PROMOTING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE IN INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

by The Early Childhood Project: 2 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 12:00-2:00)

This session will discuss and explore evidence-based, user-friendly training modules, resources and strategies based on the Pyramid Model. This information can help professionals working with parents and families promote positive social and emotional development and address the challenging behaviors and mental health needs of infants and young children.

NURTURING SECURE RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOVE AND RESPECT

by Florence Crittenton Home & Services: 2 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 2:15-4:15)

This session provides an engaging overview of three models of parenting and life skills support, highlighting common themes and leading participants through basic concepts using research, humor, and hands-on skill building.

BUILDING A CONNECTED APPROACH FOR SUPPORTING FAMILIES EXPERIENCING THE TRAUMA OF POVERTY

by Dr. Donna M. Beegle: 2 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 2:15-4:15)

Participants will learn about proven models for building the capacity of children and families to move out of poverty. Dr. Beegle will walk participants through a research based Opportunity Community model that has proven success in breaking poverty barriers. This model will assist participants in 1) removing the shame/judgment inflicted by poverty; 2) rebuilding the hope for families in poverty and helping professionals; 3) reducing the isolation of poverty which perpetuates it; and 4) connecting children and families to a poverty-informed community to increase access to resources and supports. This session is for helping professionals who need tools to assist families who face the most trauma from poverty.

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DARKNESS TO LIGHT: STEWARDS OF CHILDREN

by The Parenting Place: 2 hour session

July 7th (Tues. 2:15-4:15)

July 8th (Wed. 10:30-12:30)

Participants in this session will be trained in the Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children child sexual abuse prevention curriculum. During the presentation, participants will learn concrete strategies to create the conditions and contexts for keeping children safe from child sexual abuse. At the end of the training, participants will receive a certificate of completion.

ENGAGING FAMILIES: BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CHANGE

by Kids Count: 2 hour session

July 8th (Wed. 10:30-12:30)

July 8th (Wed. 1:15-3:15)

Effective family engagement requires that we build the capacity of professionals and families to work together. How do we do this? Together we will introduce and explore concepts of relationships, trust and change and consider their role in our work. Specific strategies and resources for Head Start family advocates, home visitors and liaisons will be shared.

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACES)

by ChildWise Institute: 2 hour session

July 8th (Wed. 10:30-12:30)

July 9th (Thur. 9:00-11:00)

The ACE Study (Adverse Childhood Experiences Study) is deep, scientific research directly linking childhood adversity to poor school performance, negative health and social outcomes. This presentation is intended to inform, inspire, and motivate actions that will better equip counselors, educators and schools to create a more effective learning environment which will help children become higher achievers.

THE GOOD ROAD OF LIFE

**a Native P.R.I.D.E. Program:
2 hour session**

July 8th (Wed. 10:30-12:30)

The Good Road of Life (GRL) session will provide an overview of the strengths and culture-based curriculum that uses sources of strength such as spirituality, humor, and healing to assist Native families address unresolved conflicts in relationships, improve communication skills, and keep Native families together.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE GRAPE: THE GRADUATION MATTERS MONTANA FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY IMPACT

**by the Office of Public Instruction:
2 hour session**

July 8th (Wed. 1:15-3:15)

Graduation Matters Montana is an initiative of Superintendent Denise Juneau, and has been adopted by over 50 communities that work with schools, students, and community and business leaders to support every student graduating from high school. Join this interactive workshop to explore the theory and the practice of GMM and discover how it connects to the work you do supporting families.

NATIVE H.O.P.E.

**a Native P.R.I.D.E. Program:
2 hour session**

July 8th (Wed. 1:15-3:15)

The process in the Native H.O.P.E. program intentionally creates a safe and sacred place through culture, spirituality and humor for participants to address suicide, depression, trauma, violence, and substance abuse. The Native H.O.P.E. session will provide an overview of this peer-counseling approach that has proven to be highly effective for Native youth to break the "code of silence."

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR CROSS-CULTURAL ADVOCACY

**by National Coalition Building Institute
Missoula: 2 hour session**

July 8th (Wed. 3:30-5:30)

July 9th (Thur. 9:00-11:00)

A workplace doesn't work unless everyone feels safe, valued or respected. This prejudice-reduction workshop will consist of a series of incremental, experiential activities that help participants celebrate their identities, recognize the misinformation they have learned, understand the personal impact of discrimination, and learn hands-on tools to interrupt prejudice comments.

“Connecting families and communities for a child's Best Beginning.”

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POVERTY SIMULATION EXPERIENCE

a Rural Dynamics Inc. Program:
2 hour session

July 8th (Wed. 3:30-5:30)

Understanding the day-to-day reality of poverty is important for everyone involved in fighting poverty—from policy makers to service providers. The Poverty Simulation is a unique tool that helps people begin to understand what life is like with a shortage of money and an abundance of stress.

THE IMPACTS OF TRAUMA ON YOUNG CHILDREN AND STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORTING RESILIENCY

by Institute for Educational Research:
2 hour session

July 9th (Thur. 9:00-11:00)

This session will explore the impact of trauma on young children, including the impact on development and learning across domains as well as a description of child traumatic stress symptoms. Strategies to support the development of resiliency will be shared.

COLLECTED IMPACT: REGARDING THE INFLUENCE OF POVERTY, CULTURE AND TRAUMA ON THE BEHAVIOR AND HEALTH DISPARITIES OF AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH

by Pearl Yellowman: 2 hour session

July 9th (Thur. 9:00-11:00)

This session will provide an integrated look at adolescent behaviors from culturally enriched settings to families living in extreme poverty. Participants will incorporate the use of an ecological approach, which will assist in understanding the setting and experiences that shape subsequent cognitive, emotional, and behavioral development of adolescents.

The purpose of this conference is to increase the knowledge of early childhood systems and infrastructure in order to create methods to enhance family support best practices. The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services is the provider of this educational activity. There is no conflict of interest or commercial interest for any conference planner or presenter. This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Montana Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Criteria for contact hours: attendance at entire event and submission of conference evaluation form which will be available for attendees at the conference.

The 2015 Great Beginnings, Great Families conference has been approved by the Board of Social Work Examiner, Professional Counselors and Marriage & Family Therapists for 14.5 hours for LCSW, LCPC, LMFT and LAC. Approval #SWP/MFT/LAC-0351-2015. Conference attendees are also encouraged to apply for Early Childhood Training Hours through The Early Childhood Project.

