



Let's Meet In the Middle!

**Region 3 and Region 4 Parent Center
Conference Agenda**

**June 19-21, 2018
Aertson Hotel
Nashville, Tennessee**

**Tuesday
June 19, 2018**

8:00 – 9:00	
Patterson Foyer	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	
Patterson Ballroom	Welcome <i>Your Region 3 and 4 PTAC staff</i>
9:30 – 11:30	
Patterson Ballroom	<p style="text-align: center;">The Power of Valued Social Roles for Students: Accessing the Good Life</p> <p><i>Leslie Lipson</i></p> <p>When students are included in their classroom and community, they are more likely to have increased quality of academic instruction, stronger friendships and access to the good things in school: clubs, sports teams, field trips, parties and academic content knowledge. If we can assist people, specifically students, to move into valued roles, we increase the likelihood that they will have access to these good things. This is Social Role Valorization, and this philosophy is deeply embedded in the very idea of a quality education for all students. Using powerful stories of students who have experienced valued social roles in their community/school and the impact to their life as a result of experiencing belonging and membership, Parent Centers can help families focus on the vision needed to guide our actions to effectively support students to be active, engaged, and to make contributions during the day.</p>
11:30 – 12:30	
Patterson Ballroom	Lunch and Learn: How's Your Self Care? Grab Some Lunch and Find Out <i>Jacey Tramutt</i>
1:00-4:30	
Patterson A	<p style="text-align: center;">Nonprofit Management Certificate Program: Time Management - Controlling the Time Robbers</p> <p><i>Shirley Burks</i></p> <p>Time management is about organizing the use of your most precious resource, your time. One common goal that most of us share is to be our most productive throughout the day. This session will identify ways to better utilize and structure your daily time to maximize your contribution to your team's continued success. We will take a look at strategies to efficiently navigate through your day from managing and responding to emails; to planning and running effective meetings; to dealing with multiple demands and prioritizing your workload.</p>
Patterson B	<p style="text-align: center;">Understanding Financial Viability: Do you feel lost and confused when you look at nonprofit financial statements?</p> <p><i>Glenda Hicks</i></p> <p>Are you confident that your agency will survive if you lose your Parent Center funding? Are you familiar with key metrics that help indicate your financial viability? Join us in this session to demystify nonprofit financial information and become more comfortable with fiscal responsibilities of Board Members and Executive Directors. This session will introduce resources from the Board Professional Development Tool Kit and other sources. Standards in the Uniform Guidance and newly effective accounting standards impacting reporting and compliance will also be discussed. Come prepared to play a few games, engage in peer-to-peer learning, ask your most perplexing questions, and increase your financial knowledge.</p>



**Tuesday
June 19, 2018**

<p>Patterson C</p>	<p>Developing Compassion, Strategy and Resiliency when Assisting Families to Support New Behaviors <i>Leslie Lipson and Daniel Parker</i> Part 1: This session is meant to inform staff about methods to support families seeking a plan to access meaningful supports when their child exhibits behavior problems in school including difficulties with anxiety, self-regulation, or behaviors that may be triggered based on a traumatic event. We will provide you with ideas to help the family understand their rights, the processes to address behavior for students with IEPs, and the possibilities for their child. We will examine Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) within the context of students who experience many services focused on behavioral control and not many services focused on meaningful academic progress.</p> <p>Part 2: There is a heavy emotional toll on anyone who frequently responds to families whose children have been sent home from school, segregated from peers, suspended, expelled, shown aggression towards others, or have other significant behaviors that interfere with learning, family life, and navigating the community. This session will allow participants to share their stories as we provide resources and language that Parent Center staff can utilize when responding to parents. We will also discuss strategies to improve our compassion resiliency that can be shared with families.</p>
<p>Adams</p>	<p>Supporting Families in a Climate of Perpetual Trauma and Fear <i>Tery Medina and Kori Hamilton Biagas</i> As families begin to experience more persistent and explicit social and emotional trauma, we find that our roles must evolve to support this growing climate of fear and unambiguous marginalization of communities. This session will frame the historical patterns of migration to the US, US immigration law, and will highlight some simple yet impactful tools that can support families. The presenters will share key terms related to the discourse shaping our current social climate, provide timely resources, and co-create an environment of trust and collaboration to facilitate co-teaching and learning. This session will build the capacity of participants around immigration, immigrant rights, implicit bias, and the impact of trauma.</p>

**Wednesday
June 20, 2018**

8:30 – 11:45

**Participants will select this session, or two breakout sessions from those on the next page*

<p>Patterson A</p>	<p>Nonprofit Management Certificate Program: Navigating a Multigenerational Workforce <i>Shirley Burks</i> Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Gen Xers, Millennial and Gen 2020, oh my! Put them all in one workplace and what do you do? How do you effectively communicate to each group and promote a culture for collaboration? We are currently in a very unique position in a time where we could very well have as many as five generations actively working in the same workplace at the same time. This session will assist you in identifying the unique factors of each generation to help build and motivate successful teams. We will explore ways to utilize strengths in each group to achieve common goals.</p>
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**Wednesday
June 20, 2018**

8:30 – 10:00

**Participants will select two breakout sessions from these next two time slots, or the larger Nonprofit Management session on the previous page.*

Patterson B	Talk, Tips & Tools: Improving Parent Center Capacity with the Individualized Assistance Toolkit <i>Diana Autin</i> Have you used the Appropriate Written Individualized Assistance Toolkit to train staff? Your Board? Are you looking for tips to move forward with implementation? Have you improved on the toolkit? Added new resources? Do you want to hear from your peers about how to address issues you are facing related to written individualized assistance and/or avoiding the unauthorized practice of law? Join Diana Autin for a facilitated discussion about these and other related topics.
Patterson C	Using the Dual Capacity Building Framework to Partner with Schools & Districts <i>Debra Jennings</i> States, local education agencies (LEAs) and schools need help in authentically engaging parents, especially parents of students with disabilities. In this session, learn about the latest resources on best practices in family engagement; how Parent Centers are using the Dual Capacity Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships with states and districts to design family engagement initiatives that address the capacities of educators and families to partner for student success; and how Parent Centers are receiving funding through ESSA and SPDGs to do this work.
Adams	Stakeholders as Allies: Moving from Participants to Partners <i>Mariola Rosser and Joanne Cashman</i> Have you been invited to attend a meeting where you have been talked to rather than engaged? Join us to explore some tools that can help states and stakeholders become better partners. This session will provide participants with simple, practical tools and approaches to engagement from the stakeholder-developed blueprint, <i>Leading by Convening</i> . Participants will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Identify grounding assumptions around stakeholder engagement with education agencies and ways to build on or overcome those assumptions- Differentiate stakeholder management from stakeholder engagement- Create a definition of an ally relationship Participants will be able to bring tools addressing these objectives back into their networks and apply them to their collaborative efforts.

**Wednesday
June 20, 2018**

10:15 – 11:45

Patterson B	<p>Endrew F – Strengthening the Parent Voice at the IEP Table <i>Diana Autin</i></p> <p>Join Diana Autin, Esq. for a review of the key components of the Endrew F. decision and strategies for Parent Centers to ensure implementation in the field. How has your Parent Center incorporated Endrew F. into your Parent Center services (training for families and professionals, individualized assistance, etc.)? Find out some of the tools that have already been developed by Understood, the Center for Parent Information and Resources, and your peers at other Parent Centers, and share the tools you have developed or are using with families and professionals.</p>
Patterson C	<p>Becoming a More Trauma-Informed Organization <i>Carolyn Hayer and Nora Thompson</i></p> <p>Many of the families that Parent Centers serve have faced and are facing significant trauma. This session will increase Parent Center knowledge in the area of trauma-informed care and build their capacity to adopt trauma-informed care practices. Participants will learn how to find and use resources to support individual and organizational self-assessments to develop and implement an action plan designed to help them become more trauma-informed individuals and organizations.</p>
Adams	<p>Mindfulness Meditation: What is it and How Does It Relate to Parent Centers? <i>Jacey Tramutt</i></p> <p>The news is full of articles and research on mindfulness meditation. Everyone from Oprah to ABC News anchor Dan Harris is talking about it. But what is it, and how is it relevant to the work of Parent Centers? This session will include: 1) The latest research on mindfulness meditation as it applies to health, relationships, schools, conflict reduction, and parenting; 2) Mindfulness instruction and practice; and 3) A discussion of the application of mindfulness to reduce conflict in varied settings, including IEP meetings.</p>
12:00 – 1:30	
Patterson A/B/C	<p>Lunch and Learn: Favorite Resource Show and Tell</p> <p>Grab your lunch and your favorite resource and join us for some sharing with colleagues across our two regions.</p>



**Wednesday
June 20, 2018**

1:30-5:00

Patterson A	<p>General Staff Orientation/Onboarding Work Group <i>Nora Thompson and Laura Weber</i></p> <p>The hiring and the onboarding processes are never really fun for Center Leaders and Managers...and yet, we find ourselves there almost on a year-round basis. Adhering to rigid legal mandates on new hires, training on general policies and procedures, and ensuring that you build a positive and productive culture for your organization can be very challenging. How do you hire the right person and then train them to fit into your organization? Come join us for lively discussions on how Parent Centers are onboarding new staff and let's create some ideas that we can take back and use!</p>
Patterson B	<p>Keeping Up with What's Going Down: Effective Professional Development & Supervision Strategies for Staff Work Group <i>Diana Autin and Carolyn Hayer</i></p> <p>Laws, regulations, US Department of Education guidance, and court interpretations are changing all the time. How can we ensure that Parent Center staff are aware of new resources, case law, OSEP guidance and policy letters, state complaint decisions, and other developments that influence the information parents need? How can supervisors monitor the extent to which "line staff" are up-to-date on federal and state laws, policies, etc.? What are some effective/cost-effective/time-effective strategies to make sure Parent Center staff "keep up with what's going down?" Join us for some tips and tools and facilitated conversation with your peers.</p>
Patterson C	<p>Managing Complex Cases Work Group <i>Nelsenia Ramos, Jacey Tramutt, Debra Jennings</i></p> <p>Parent Center staff can improve their abilities to set appropriate boundaries and take care of themselves while providing intense support to individuals who are experiencing anxiety, depression, and trauma. Come interact with other Parent Center staff to exchange ideas and learn new strategies to support our work through group analysis of real case studies. Hear information on ethical decision making, identifying highly charged cases and recognizing the barriers to ongoing intense support. Learn tips for seeking support from other staff/organizations; knowing how to disengage when the crisis is over; and practicing stress management and ways to reenergize. Participants will receive access to a collection of resources to add to their toolbox.</p>
Adams	<p>Board Training and Board Development Work Group <i>Glenda Hicks and Jan Serak</i></p> <p>What "keeps you up at night" concerning Board performance and engagement? Come hear about the Board Professional Development Tool Kit and how to use it to strengthen Board performance and knowledge of their roles and responsibilities. Role-play serving as facilitator of the materials to increase their knowledge and comfort level in presenting to their center's Board members. Complete a Board self-assessment to identify key areas for improvement and see how this toolkit can help with improvement areas. You will leave with a draft plan of where to begin targeted Board training and engagement for your Center.</p>

**Thursday
June 21, 2018**

8:30 – 10:30	
Patterson Ballroom	Breakfast OSEP and Regional Updates – Region 3 participants <i>David Emenheiser & Region 3 PTAC staff</i>
Adams	Breakfast OSEP and Regional Updates – Region 4 participants <i>David Emenheiser & Region 4 PTAC staff</i>
10:30 – 11:00	
	Break & Check out of Hotel
11:00 – 12:30	
Patterson Ballroom	Closing Plenary – Too Afraid to Learn: Reframing Resilience for Children with Challenging Lives <i>Travis Wright</i> For many children, such as those growing up in the midst of poverty or trauma, the demands of the classroom and home may require very different skills and attitudes to succeed. This inspiring keynote session will focus on the possibilities and challenges of educating children growing up in challenging circumstances. Through the presentation of several case studies, participants will leave motivated and with new perspectives and strategies for educational and clinical practice.
1:00 – 4:30	
Adams	Social Media Boot Camp (by invitation) <i>Joe LaBelle and Eliana Tardio</i> Now that you've had the chance to further understand the power of social media and have assessed your current tools, it's time to decide how to use those tools effectively within your own Parent Center. Participants will finish up our Boot Camp through a hands-on project to create a plan that is going to help your center continue on your path to be a Social Media Guru!

