

# TACEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

## be the change / be a difference maker

september 8th + 9th @ mtsu



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the President.....	3
Acknowledgements .....	4
Governing Board .....	5
Regional Presidents .....	5
Conference Committee .....	6
Sponsors .....	7
Conference Schedule .....	8
Sessions Descriptions .....	9
Exhibitors .....	18
Election .....	19
Presenter Contact Information .....	20
Map and Directions .....	21

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2023 TACEE Conference! Your attendance is proof of your dedication to the quality of early childhood education. Our conference leaders have planned opportunities for you to learn more about yourself, the young children you serve, and the professionals supporting our work with young children. Join me as we learn new things, make new friends, and refresh ourselves with a break from our usual routines. I look forward to meeting during conference and sharing this experience with you. Bless you for all that you do!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Cathy Waggoner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cathy" and last name "Waggoner" clearly legible.

Cathy Waggoner  
TACEE President

**This conference was made possible by:**



**TACEE would like to extend a heartfelt thank  
you to MTSU for contributing its beautiful  
facilities and considerable resources.  
Without their assistance, this conference  
would not have been the same.**



**Lakeshore®**

**TACEE would also like to thank Lakeshore  
for generously providing food and drink for  
the members of the board during its  
meetings.**



# TACEE EXECUTIVE BOARD 2023

**Cathy Waggoner**  
President

**Anthony Creasy**  
Vice President

**Tracy Bryant**  
Secretary

**Alyssa Dituro**  
President Elect

**Precious Newbell**  
Nominating Chair [Middle]

**Leah Mangrum**  
Treasurer

**Misha Davydov**  
SECA Representative

**Keosha Perry**  
Nominating Chair [West]

**Lori DuBois**  
TACEE Office Manager

## REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

**Aimee Harrison**  
RACEE Co-President

**Beth Huber**  
AACEE Acting President

**Nikole Cox**  
RACEE Co-President

**Lisa Maddox-Vinson**  
TRACEE President

**Tracy Liebermann**  
KACEE President

**Jane Baker**  
URECA President

**Josie Wallace**  
MACEE President

**Teena Jarmon**  
WTACEE Acting President

**Tania Henson**  
ChACEE President

# TACEE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE 2023

**Connie Casha**  
**Conference Chair**

**Misha Davydov**

**Cathy Waggoner**

**Nikole Cox**

**Beth Huber**

**Aimee Harrison**

**Ashmin Small**

**Precious Newbell**

**Lisa Maddox-Vinson**

**Keosha Perry**

**Rhonda Laird**

**Alyssa Dituto**

**Leah Mangrum**

**Tracy Bryant**

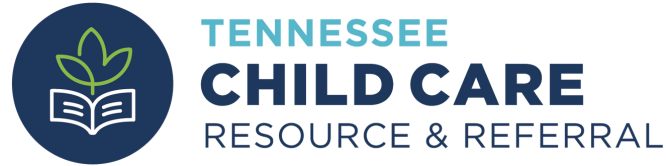
**Teena Jarmon**

**Lori DuBois**

**Debbie Kallaher**

# SPONSORS

## EARTH SHAKERS



## DIFFERENCE MAKERS



## DREAM MAKERS



# REGIONAL SPONSORS

**AACEE & WTACEE**  
(attendee gifts)

**RACEE**  
(Saturday morning  
coffee)

**TRACEE & KACEE**  
(monetary donations)

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

7:00 am - 8:00 am: Registration

7:30 am - 8:00 am: Regional Presidents' Meeting

8:00 am - 9:15 am: Session Block A

9:25 am - 11:00 am: Opening Keynote

**Creating Caring Communities: Inclusion and  
Belonging for Each and Every Child**

Dr. Mary Louise Hemmeter

11:00 am - 12:10 pm: Lunch / Exhibitors / Silent Auction

11:50 am - 12:10 pm: Conversation with DHS

Gwen Laaser, Room 145

12:10 - 12:25: Annual Membership Meeting

Room 145

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm: Session Block B

1:30 pm - 1:55 pm: Silent Auction Countdown/Snack

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm: Session Block C

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm: Closing Keynote

**Top Ingredient for Making a Difference --  
Your Well-Being!**

Patti van Eys, PhD

# PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Friday, September 8th

## BUILDING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS: PYRAMID MODEL 101

Room 141, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Presenters: Ashley MacNish and Taylor Thurnau

Want to learn more about the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children (Pyramid Model)? Join us as we start at the very beginning introducing the Pyramid Model framework and how it provides adults with the foundation to teach social and emotional skills to children 0 - 3 in a variety of settings. Highlights will include how prevention, equity, inclusion, trauma informed care, anti-bias practice, the use of data, and understanding behavior are integrated into the Pyramid Model. Learn where to find resources to begin implementation of the Pyramid model.

This session is intended for infant teachers, toddler teachers, family child care providers, directors, and administrators.

## BUILDING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS IN PRESCHOOLERS: PYRAMID MODEL 101

Room 145, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Presenters: Beth Vorhaus and Gracie Stubbs

Want to learn more about the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children (Pyramid Model)? Join us as we start at the very beginning introducing the Pyramid Model framework and how it provides adults with the foundation to teach social and emotional skills to children 3 - 5 in a variety of settings. Highlights will include how prevention, equity, inclusion, trauma informed care, anti-bias practice, the use of data, and understanding behavior are integrated into the Pyramid Model. Learn where to find resources to begin implementation of the Pyramid model.

This session is intended for preschool teachers, family child care providers, directors, and administrators.

## "GET THE TEACHER TO HER CHAIR!": EARLY CODING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE FUNDAMENTALS, ON AND OFF DEVICE, WITH PRESCHOOLERS

Room 149, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Presenters: Alissa Lange and Amie Craven

Really? Coding with 3-to-5-year-olds? Yes! Young children are already thinking like computer scientists. They can identify a challenge, think logically, and find multiple solutions to a problem. We can enhance this by providing activities and language to build on what we are already doing in the classroom, and to encourage the foundational skills that underly early coding - and so much of early S.T.E.M. and integrated learning! The presenters have over 15 years of experience facilitating early STEM workshops for educators, and they will share resources, ideas, and tips from multiple existing organizations to enhance teaching practice. Attendees will get ideas to use both on and off-device, and they will get a materials kit to take back to the classroom to use right away. This session is intended for preschool, and primary grade teachers.

## RAIN OR SHINE: CREATING A CULTURE OF PREPAREDNESS

Room 153, 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Presenter: Shonna Trinidad

Emergency preparedness is everyone's business. We will explore the requirements for an emergency preparedness plan and how to put it into action. We will also learn strategies to create a culture of preparedness.

# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

## Infant Mental Health Practices (Room 153)

**Session A: 8:00 - 9:15**

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: AN EARLY RELATIONAL APPROACH

Presenters: Katie Woodard & Keena Friday-Gilbert

The toolkit is designed to help home visitors understand the early relational impact of disasters on families. While also providing early relational techniques for helping caregivers create comprehensive emergency response plans. We will provide guidance on how to utilize the toolkit to work with families on preparing, responding, and recovering from emergency events. This includes natural disasters, but also tools for responding to events such as gun violence or grieving.

**Session B: 12:30 - 1:30**

### HOW RELATIONSHIPS SHAPE WHO WE BECOME

Presenter: Beth Huber

This training will help to explain how a child's early relationship experiences set the stage for future brain functioning. We will show how healthy brain relationships depend on the quality and reliability of a young child's relationships with the most important people in his or her life.

**Session C: 2:00 - 3:00**

### FILLING YOUR TOOLBOX: CO-REGULATION TOOLS FOR INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Presenter: Kristin Williams & Josie Davis

Self-regulation is a learned skill that does not come naturally to children. It is up to caregivers to teach children healthy tools that help manage their emotions through co-regulation. Presenters will discuss how to co-regulate in three steps: provide a warm, responsive relationship; structure the environment; and teach self-regulation skills. Attendees will leave with co-regulation tools they can use in their classroom when big feelings arise. Children all learn and grow differently, therefore, not all tools work for every child. The more tools in our toolbox, the more resources, and techniques we have to utilize successfully.

# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

## Inclusion and Family Support (Room 250)

**Session A: 8:00 - 9:15**

### **FOSTERING INCLUSION: BUILDING A THRIVING CLASSROOM COMMUNITY FOR ALL**

**Presenter: Diane Iovino**

In this workshop, we will explore the concept of an inclusion classroom and discuss effective strategies for fostering a thriving classroom community where every student feels valued, respected, and included. We will delve into the importance of embracing diversity, promoting equity, and creating an inclusive learning environment that caters to the unique needs of all students.

**Session B: 12:30 - 1:30**

### **IT MAKES "SENSE": UTILIZING SENSORY STRATEGIES TO INCREASE POSITIVE BEHAVIORS**

**Presenters: Monica Stone & Sarah Moore**

This presentation will explore the connection between meeting a child's sensory needs and increasing positive behaviors. Through lecture, discussion and activities, an overview of sensory systems and practical strategies will be discussed. Participants will leave with inclusive approaches to use with all children, especially children with disabilities.

**Session C: 2:00 - 3:00**

### **WORKING WITH FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESS: ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT**

**Presenters: Nikki Baker & April Bryant**

During this workshop, participants will be able to define Homelessness according to the McKinney-Vento Act as well as understand some of the causes and effects of homelessness on children and families. Participants will also be able to recognize signs families and children may experience and learn about resources to provide support.

# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

Leadership (Room 251)

Session A: 8:00 - 9:15

## BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS MATTERS

Presenter: Crystal Campbell

Join me in a robust and transparent discussion on the importance of relationships in the early care workplace. We will discuss how to build and maintain relationships with parents, children and colleagues. This session will immerse you in self-reflection and humor.

Session B: 12:30 - 1:30

## BUILDING FOUNDATIONS: NURTURING THE LEADERSHIP PIPELINE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Presenters: Alyssa Dituro & Travis Burnett

Unlock the potential within your early childhood education institution by joining our empowering workshop on "Building Leadership Pipelines in Early Childhood Education." Designed for educators and administrators, this transformative session will delve into strategies for cultivating a strong and sustainable leadership pipeline. Learn how to identify emerging leaders, foster their professional growth, and create pathways for advancement within your organization. Explore effective mentoring techniques, succession planning, and the importance of empowering leadership at all levels. Leave inspired and equipped with practical tools to shape the future of early childhood education through the development of a robust leadership pipeline.

Session C: 2:00 - 3:00

## THE MAGIC OF WONDER

Presenter: Susan Frizsell

Gather ideas for your teachers and go on an educational adventure with Susan as she shares her proven, creative techniques for keeping children's attention throughout a whole lesson. Kids are actively engaged wondering, what's next? You will too as you visit a jungle inside a tent, watch as characters from books appear out of a magic bag and become a rain cloud during story play time.



# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

## Early Literacy (Room 149)

**Session A: 8:00 - 9:15**

### HOW TO BRING A BOOK TO LIFE!

Presenters: Shannon Albee and Elizabeth Attack

Dramatic play is one of the most engaging ways for preschool students to learn. These workshops will show how to use books to create dramatic play "adventures" for students to play and learn all sorts of subjects while also learning literacy skills.

**Session B: 12:30 - 1:30**

### SUPPORTING SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLNESS THROUGH EARLY LITERACY

Presenter: Dr. Natalie Griffin

Children's literature is one of the most effective tools for promoting various forms of learning in early childhood. In addition to cognitive development and growth of academic skills, literacy can benefit young children as they learn social and emotional skills, and cultivate wellness in these areas. This session will focus on using literacy in the birth through PreKindergarten years to build social and emotional well-being. Current research will be presented as well as ways to apply this knowledge in the early childhood classroom.

**Session C: 2:00 - 3:00**

### GREAT BOOKS TO READ TO INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Presenter: Lisa Maddox-Vinson

This session will address why we must support early literacy and language development. We will discuss the differences between reading to infants and toddlers compared to preschoolers and the associated challenges. These books will be great additions to your infant/toddler classrooms.

# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

Art, Music, Action (Room 145)

Session A: 8:00 - 9:15

## ART EXPLORATION THROUGH FOLK TALES AND FAIRY TALES

Presenters: Ashmin Small & Ashley Holman

Join us on a journey of combining Folk Tales and Fairy Tales with explorations in Art Experiences. When you walk into our room you will walk into a library full of literary joy as we go back in time to explore some classics from around the world. You will then travel to the world of art as we connect each story with an artistic experience. Join us.

Session B: 12:30 - 1:30

## GO WITH THE FLOW: MAXIMIZING STEM THROUGH NATURAL TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Presenter: Misha Davydov

Children are drawn to the natural world. They are often confused and captivated by the plants, animals, and natural phenomenon that they come across in their daily lives. This session is focused on learning to harness these moments of natural curiosity to enrich and support STEM education.

Session C: 2:00 - 3:00

## MUSIC AND MOVEMENT FOR INFANTS, TODDLERS, AND PRESCHOOLERS

Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall

Whether used to build community or offer opportunities for creativity, self expression, and enjoyment, music and movement are critical components of excellent early childhood teaching (NAEYC, 2021). This session will explore how teachers and caregivers can incorporate music and movement into everyday play and activities for children ages birth through 5. Participants will actively engage in and experience music and movement activities that you can incorporate with young children.

# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

Early Grades (Room 105)

Session A: 8:00 - 9:15

## AN INTRODUCTION TO TRUST-BASED RELATIONAL INTERVENTION: PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR HELPING TRAUMA-IMPACTED STUDENTS

Presenter: Dr. Pamela Kramer Ertel

Children who have experienced adversity, early harm, toxic stress, and/or trauma often have complex needs that impact their behavior and learning.

This session will introduce the practical strategies of Trust-Based Relational Intervention to support anyone that works with children to help them meet their highest potential.

Session B: 12:30 - 1:30

## DIVERSE INTERACTIVE READ ALOUDS FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS

Presenter: Dr. Bonnie Barksdale

In this session, participants will actively participate in exploring diverse texts, reviewing Lexile reading levels, tiered vocabulary, higher order thinking questions, and think alouds. Using the read aloud planning framework, participants will select a diverse text, and work through how to plan an interactive read aloud experience and walk out with a lesson to be used in their classroom.

Session C: 2:00 - 3:00

## TELLING THEIR STORIES: READING MOTIVATION AND ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNG BLACK BOYS

Presenter: Dr. Natalie Griffin

Dr. Natalie Griffin will provide an overview of research on reading motivation and engagement in young Black males. With an early childhood education focus, this session will discuss inclusive literacy practices for young learners, especially those representing historically marginalized groups. Dr. Griffin will share some of her work in helping teachers create culturally relevant classrooms through children's literature.

# CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Saturday, September 9, 2023

## Continuous Sessions

**Session A: 8:00 - 9:15**

### **IT TAKES A TEAM! BEHAVIOR HAS MEANING**

Presenters: Beth Vorhaus and Gracie Stubbs

Room 164

**Session B: 12:30 - 1:30**

When challenges happen, preschoolers use behavior to communicate their wants and needs, intentions, and emotions. Participants will learn how they can effectively respond to these communicative attempts and offer appropriate responses to behaviors that challenge for all children, including those with disabilities or suspected delays. Starting with identifying the function of behaviors participants will explore a variety of prevention of strategies, replacement skills, and responses to address challenging behaviors through a strength-based approach. All strategies and responses to challenging behavior will be through a lens of a team approach.

**Session C: 2:00 - 3:00**

THIS PRESENTATION IS CONTINUOUS ACROSS ALL THREE BREAKOUT SESSIONS. PARTICIPANTS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND ALL THREE.

**Session A: 8:00 - 9:15**

### **UNDERSTANDING INFANT AND TODDLER BEHAVIOR**

Presenters: Ashley MacNish and Taylor Thurnau

Room 141

**Session B: 12:30 - 1:30**

Infants and toddlers communicate their needs, intentions, and emotions through their behavior. Participants will learn how they can effectively respond to these communicative attempts and offer appropriate responses to behaviors that challenge for all children. Join us as we explore the many influences affecting behavior, learn individualized teaching strategies to support children who have delays in social emotional development, understand why challenging behavior occurs and identify strategies to prevent it!

**Session C: 2:00 - 3:00**

THIS PRESENTATION IS CONTINUOUS ACROSS ALL THREE BREAKOUT SESSIONS. PARTICIPANTS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND ALL THREE.

# KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

## OPENING KEYNOTE

### CREATING CARING COMMUNITIES: INCLUSION AND BELONGING FOR EACH AND EVERY CHILD

Is your early childhood space created for each and every child and family? Building early childhood spaces with your children and families in mind, is the beginning of creating a community where each and every child and family feel like they are valued, respected, and belong.

In this session, learn how to create community through the design of your physical and social environment, engaging and partnering with families, and providing supports to ensure all children are included in meaningful ways.



Dr. Mary Louise Hemmeter is a professor of Special Education at Vanderbilt University and the Nicholas Hobbs Chair in Special Education and Human Development. Her research focuses on effective instruction, supporting social emotional development and addressing challenging behavior, and coaching teachers. She has directed numerous multi-site projects funded by the US Departments of Education and Health and Human Services. Through her work on the National Center on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning and IES-funded research projects, she was involved in the development of the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Young Children and the Practice Based Coaching Model. She is currently leading projects focused on addressing children's social, emotional, and behavioral health in community based early childhood programs and pre-k and kindergarten classrooms in public schools. She has a specific interest in reducing the use of exclusionary discipline practices in early childhood settings. She is a co-author on the Connect4Learning Early Childhood Curriculum, the Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool (TPOT) and the Teaching Pyramid Infant Toddler Observation Tool (TPITOS). She has received several awards including the Merle B. Karnes Service to the Division Award and the Mary McEvoy Service to the Field Award.

## CLOSING KEYNOTE

### TOP INGREDIENT FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE -- YOUR WELL-BEING!

Drawn to Early Education due to our values of compassion, service, and dedication to shaping positive futures, we likely have deep-rooted identity formation around helping. We entered our roles discovering the joy of “compassion satisfaction” – feeling good about making a difference through relationship. When we experience compassion fatigue or burnout, it's in conflict with our values. This closing session reminds us to care for ourselves as we care for others so that we can avoid burnout and find a renewed passion and energy. Come and learn hands-on techniques to access your “super powers” for daily renewal!



Patti van Eys, PhD is a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in the complexities of traumatic experience and mental health challenges. She offers consultation, supervision, legal expertise, training, and evaluation services for individuals and systems. She began her career as a clinician at the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, Alabama where she gained formative experience working with children and adults with complex maltreatment trauma. She draws on experience as a full-time psychology professor at Vanderbilt University; as clinical director of the Vanderbilt University Center of Excellence for Children in State Custody, a center serving high risk, complex youth and providing intensive trauma training for the service system; as Chief Clinical Officer of Omni Visions, Inc., serving foster youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and as Manager of Behavioral Health at BlueCare Tennessee, serving TennCare recipients. Dr. van Eys has trained extensively at the local, regional, and national level on trauma informed care and mental health issues. She is an active advocate for changing person-serving systems toward a more inclusive, compassionate, healing centered approach.

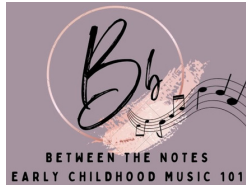
# COMMERICAL EXHIBITORS

**Lakeshore®**



**Our Daily Bread®**

**KAPLAN®**  
EARLY LEARNING COMPANY



**DISCOUNT  
SCHOOL SUPPLY®**

# NON-COMMERCIAL EXHIBITORS



**TENNESSEE  
CHILD CARE**  
RESOURCE & REFERRAL



**TN VOICES**



**TECH GOES HOME  
TENNESSEE**

**SIGNAL  
CENTERS**  
BUILDING FUTURES, CHANGING LIVES

**SECA**

**tecta**  
TENNESSEE EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAINING ALLIANCE  
Tennessee State University

**AIMHiTN**



children's kindness network



MID-CUMBERLAND  
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

*Head Start &  
Early Head Start*

**MIDDLE  
TENNESSEE**

STATE UNIVERSITY

*Home and Community-Based  
Early Intervention Program*



GOVERNOR'S  
**EARLY  
LITERACY**  
FOUNDATION



*College of Education*

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



**MIDDLE TENNESSEE  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

*Department of Social Work*

Child Care  
**WAGES**  
Tennessee



**Save the Children**  
Action Network™

# TACEE ELECTIONS 2023

## Tracy Bryant

Candidate for Secretary



Tracy has served in the field of social services and early education since 1998. Currently, she serves as the Deputy Program Officer of Signal Centers, serves as Past President of the Chattanooga Association of Children's Early Education, and has served as the TACEE Secretary for the last two years. When she's not working, Tracy enjoys outdoor activities, reading and spending time with her almost 17-year-old son, husband and family.

## Melissa Joiner

Candidate for Secretary



Melissa Joiner, a native of Memphis, is a life-long children's advocate. She holds a Bachelors in Professional Studies [Child Development] from the University of Memphis. Joiner has a broad 15 year career in early childhood education and has become a leading voice in the field. Currently, she serves as the West Tennessee Leadership Advisor at Tennessee State University under the Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance grant. In addition to child advocacy, Joiner spends her time raising awareness about Alzheimer's disease by working with her local Alzheimer's Association.

## Olivia Larkins

Candidate for Nominating  
Chair (East)



Growing up in Upper East Tennessee provided Olivia with the gift of being able to appreciate the simple joys of childhood. During her time at East Tennessee State University, she worked in infant and toddler classrooms while studying Early Childhood Education. After graduation, she began teaching in an elementary school in Kingsport, TN where she learned what it means to be an advocate for the whole child. Olivia received her Master's in Education from ETSU in 2020. After six and a half years in the classroom, she joined Tech Goes Home TN, becoming a technology coach to assist educators in feeling more confident in their digital skills. Currently, she works as the East Tennessee Field Coordinator, training others on how to lead technology classes for both early childhood educators and older adults.

## Sabra Marshall

Candidate for Nominating  
Chair (East)



Sabra Marshall has been serving children and their families for over 22 years. She currently works at Chattanooga State Community College Child Development Center as the Director. She has a B.A. in Early Childhood Education from Covenant College University. She has served as the president of Chattanooga Association for Children's Early Education (ChACEE) from 2016-2018. Before that, she served on the board for 8 years in many different capacities. She also co-chaired local and state conferences for TACEE in 2014. Sabra has created workshops for local directors and trained teachers with new and exciting ideas. She enjoys the culture and connections that ECE brings with it. Educating and learning from others is her inspiration.

## Leah Mangrum

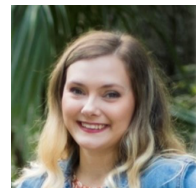
Candidate for Treasurer



Leah Mangrum is a Small Business Support Specialist with TN Child Care Resource & Referral where she provides coaching and training to prospective and existing childcare owners and directors in the Central and Mid-Cumberland regions. Her passion for leadership development and growth in the profession grew exponentially during her experience as a director of a licensed childcare agency in Nashville, though she has held a variety of roles in early childhood education over the past two decades. Leah has contributed to the profession in recent years by serving on the Executive Board as Treasurer of NAAEYC and has been fulfilling the role of Treasurer of TACEE since January 2023. Outside of ECE, Leah enjoys exercising and traveling with family and friends.

## Taylor Thurnau

Candidate for  
Vice President Elect



Taylor is an Early Childhood professional with over 8 years of experience in the field. She began her career in Florida as an Infant/Toddler Specialist teaching Early Head Start Students in the classroom. After moving to Nashville, Taylor worked as Mental Health/Behavior Intervention Specialist supporting Metro Action Commission Head Start and Early Head Start Programs. Currently, Taylor works at TN Voices, a mental health non-profit located in Goodlettsville, Tennessee. In her current role, Taylor serves as the Ready Set Grow! Program Manager for Middle and East Tennessee. She holds a B.A. in Psychology and a M.Ed in Applied Behavior Analysis. When she is not working, Taylor enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with family!

To vote online, just scan the QR code on this page. Don't forget, in order for your vote to be counted you must include your SECA membership ID number.





# PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

**Shannon Albee**

shannon.albee@nashville.gov

**Nikki Baker**

nikki\_baker@signalcenters.org

**Dr. Bonnie Barksdale**

bonnie.barksdale@mtsu.edu

**Crystal Campbell**

crystal.campbell@dorchesterfirststeps.com

**Aimee Craven**

perryaa@etsu.edu

**Misha Davydov**

davydovmr@gmail.com

**Alyssa Dituro**

alyssadituro@gmail.com

**Dr. Pamela Kramer Ertel**

pamela.ertel@mtsu.edu

**Susan Frizsell**

susanlwf@mac.com

**Dr. Natalie Griffin**

natalie.griffin@mtsu.edu

**Diane Iovino**

diovino@midcumberland.org

**Alyssa Lange**

langea@etsu.edu

**Beth Huber**

huberea225@gmail.com

**Ashley MacNish**

ashley.c.n.macnish@vanderbilt.edu

**Lisa Maddox-Vinson**

emaddoxv@tnstate.edu

**Sarah Moore**

sarah\_moore@signalcenters.org

**Ashmin Small**

ashmin\_small@signalcenters.org

**Monica Stone**

monica\_stone@signalcenters.org

**Gracie Stubbs**

gstubbs@tnvoices.org

**Taylor Thurnau**

taylor.thurnau@tnvoices.org

**Shonna Trinidad**

shonna\_trinidad@signalcenters.org

**Dr. Jennifer Vannata-Hall**

jennifer.vannatta-hall@mtsu.edu

**Beth Vorhaus**

beth.a.vorhaus@vanderbilt.edu

**Kristin Williams**

kristinw@aimhitn.org

**Katie Woodard**

katiew@aimhitn.org








*Save* the date for SECA 2024!

**JOIN US** in Atlanta, Georgia  
for the **75<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE** of the  
**Southern Early Childhood Association**

---

**March 7-9, 2024**

Crown Plaza Atlanta Perimeter – Georgia



The Nashville Area Early  
Childhood Training  
Collaborative presents:



2024

**IGNITE!**

**Save the Date**  
for next year's free event!

JULY  
**23 - 26**

2024

Support our educators by  
sponsoring this event!  
Contact Elandriel Lewis at  
[elandriel.lewis@unitedwaygn.org](mailto:elandriel.lewis@unitedwaygn.org)