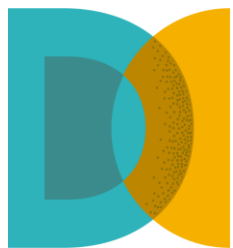


Tuesday, June 10, 2025

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| <p>9:30 am - 11:30 am</p> | <p>Registration Opens (no registration on Monday) Breakfast on Your Own Visit Exhibitors Tues.& Wed. – Complete Passport for Raffle Drawing Wed. 4:15</p> |
| <p>11:30 am - 12:30 pm</p> | <p>Directors Conference Begins - Buffet Luncheon Announcements - Dawn Ault</p> |
| <p>12:30 pm - 4:30 pm</p> <p>Stretch breaks, time TBA as needed, coffee, tea, sodas provided.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Day 1 is Focused on “Me” The Leader in Head Start</p> <p><i>We’ll dive deep into personal leadership development specifically tailored to Head Start professionals. This day is all about empowering you as the leader—building self-awareness, refining your leadership skills, and gaining the tools needed to lead with confidence and clarity in your unique educational setting. We’ll explore how to strengthen your mindset, improve communication with staff and families, and make impactful decisions to guide your team effectively through challenges.</i></p> <p>Title: From Chaos to Calm - A Reflection in Leadership Presenter – Beth Cannon</p> <p>Workshop Description: Leadership in Head Start and early childhood programs can often feel like navigating through chaos. This workshop is designed to help you move from uncertainty to clarity by refining your leadership approach, clarifying your "Staff Brand," and building a resilient, passionate, and effective team. In this dynamic and interactive workshop, we'll explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarifying Your "Staff Brand": Understand and define the unique culture you want to create for your team, ensuring alignment with your values and mission• Coaching Approach to Leading Your Team: Adopt a coaching mindset to empower and guide your team toward success, fostering a culture of trust and collaboration• Leading Out of a Crisis: Effective strategies to lead with clarity and resilience when your team faces challenges, shifting from crisis management to strategic recovery• Organizing Your Onboarding Process: Build a streamlined, welcoming, and impactful onboarding process that sets new hires up for long-term success• Pouring Your Passion into Your Staff: Learn how to inspire and motivate your team through genuine leadership and passionate support• Recruit to Retain/Onboarding with Excellence: Discover strategies for attracting top talent and keeping them engaged and committed through an excellent onboarding experience |

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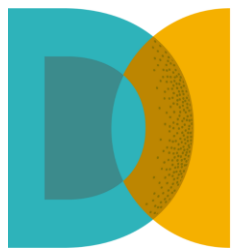


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| 5:00 – 6:00 pm | Please feel free to join us at hotel pool bar for socializing with colleagues on your way to dinner. This informal, non-sponsored, and pay-your-own-way-gathering is a great time to meet new people and even join up for dinner with groups. |
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Wednesday, June 11, 2025

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| Breakfast on Your Own | |
| 9:00 am to 12:00 am Stretch breaks, time TBA as needed, coffee & tea provided. | <p style="text-align: center;">Day 2 is Focused on “We” The Staff in your Program</p> <p>The focus shifts to the dynamics of your team as a whole, and how your leadership style plays a vital role. We’ll examine how to build and sustain a thriving, high-performance team within the context of Head Start. This day is about fostering a positive organizational culture, improving team dynamics, and aligning staff with your program’s vision, mission, and goals. We’ll discuss strategies to ensure your program runs smoothly, supports both children and families, and thrives in a constantly evolving landscape.</p> <p>Title: The Workplace in 2025 is... DIFFERENT!! Presenter: Prell Gross, LPC- VA & DC of Peace’In’It Counseling, LLC Description: The workplace is evolving, and for professionals in early childhood education and Head Start programs, these changes bring both challenges and opportunities. As we are a quarter of the way through the 21st Century, this workshop will explore how the landscape of work is shifting and how Head Start and early childhood professionals can adapt to these changes. We’ll dive into the unique challenges faced by educators and support staff, from pandemic aftereffects to generational shifts, and offer strategies for maintaining wellness, fostering effective teams, and navigating workplace trauma.</p> <p>In this interactive session, we’ll cover topics like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pandemic People & Life After COVID: How the pandemic has reshaped early childhood and Head Start work environments and how we can move forward• Generational and Cultural Differences: Understanding and bridging generational gaps between Millennials, Gen Z, and seasoned professionals in the early childhood field• Conflict in the Workplace: Addressing the fight-or-flight response and how it impacts both educators and families; how to have difficult conversations |
| 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm | Boxed Lunch – feel free to take outside to enjoy the ocean air |

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| <p>1:00 pm - 4:15 pm Break TBA as needed; coffee, tea, sodas provided.</p> | <p>Building upon the morning workshop, the afternoon includes breakout discussions, real-world scenarios, and practical tools to help you thrive in the evolving workplace. You will gain insights into how to create a more resilient, effective, and collaborative work environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Communication in Early Childhood Teams: Strategies for clear communication, collaboration, and conflict resolution with colleagues, families, and communities • Workplace Traumas & Burnout: Recognizing and managing trauma and burnout in early childhood professionals, with a focus on occupational wellness and self-care • Building Effective Teams in Early Childhood: Fostering collaboration and creating supportive environments for children, staff, and families • Professionalism in Early Childhood: Navigating the changing expectations of professionalism in a field that is constantly adapting |
| <p>4:15 pm – 4:30 pm</p> | <p>RAFFLE Prize Drawing! Thank you to our Corporate Partners for the Prizes. Must be present and submit a completed passport card to win.</p> |

Thursday, June 12, 2025

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| <p>7:30 am – 8:30 am</p> | <p>Breakfast Buffet in Ocean Grand Foyer</p> |
| <p>8:30 am - 10:00 am</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Day 3 is Focused on “Thee” The Federal & State Aspects of Head Start</p> <p><i>We shift our focus to the Office of Head Start and the current political landscape under the Trump administration, particularly with regards to the early childhood landscape in Virginia. In this context, we will explore the latest NHSA updates and how we move forward as an organization. We will engage in discussions around strategies to ensure our programs operate effectively and continue to thrive in a rapidly changing environment. By examining the intersection of policy, leadership, and community needs, we will identify key steps to navigate challenges and continue to build a resilient, impactful Head Start community for the future.</i></p> <p>Title: The Current National Head Start Landscape, Tommy Style! Presenter: Tommy Sheridan, Deputy Director, NHSA Description: Back by popular demand every year, Tommy will provide NHSA updates, updates on the President’s Budget Proposal, Budget Appropriations, ongoing issues related to Covid19, Reauthorization, time for Q & A etc.</p> |

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| 10:00 am – 10:15 am | Stretch / Coffee Break |
| 10:15 am to 11:45 am | Strategic Group Brainstorming & Networking Time; Where do we go from here? Led by Taundwa Jeffries, HSCO Executive Director and Dawn Ault, VAHSA Executive Director – TBD - the exact content is evolving and will be finalized closer to June as we know more about the political landscape at that time. |

The conference evaluation will be emailed to you at the conclusion of the conference.
Please fill out by deadline Friday, June 20th to receive your certificate of training hours.
Thank you for joining us for our Directors' Conference 2025!

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