JULY 28-31, 2020

SYNERGY
CONFERENCE 2020

FUTURE IN FOCUS

JULY 28-31, 2020
The VIRTUAL SYNERGY CONFERENCE 2020 is hosted and sponsored by a number of collaborative partnerships.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS
I am delighted to welcome our state’s afterschool professionals, educators and community partners to the 16th annual Synergy Conference! This is North Carolina’s only annual event dedicated to afterschool, summer and out-of-school time learning. It is designed to serve as a platform wherein you can exchange ideas, discover novel opportunities, connect with colleagues statewide, meet new friends, and broaden your knowledge.

Although the current state of the Coronavirus pandemic prevents us from convening in-person, the four days of this year’s virtual conference are filled with live plenaries, an exhibit hall, networking opportunities and an array of workshops on best practices and new developments in afterschool and summer learning. The theme of this year’s conference is “Future In Focus”. This theme highlights the infinite ways afterschool, before school and summer programs introduce youth to new interests and open their eyes to potential career pathways across North Carolina and beyond.

It is my sincerest hope that the information and resources available through the conference serve as a source of inspiration for you. I also hope that you are able to utilize the wide array of new ideas in your programs to engage youth and families through virtual and in-person delivery methods. I thank you for all that you do every day to demonstrate the resilience of our field and to rise to the moment. It is because of you that North Carolina is a wonderful place for all of our youth!

If you are on social media, be sure to tweet or post using #Synergy2020 so that we can share in the virtual conference experience together at home.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Sheronda Witter Fleming,
NC Center for Afterschool Programs
NC Center for Afterschool Programs Team

DIRECTOR: Dr. Sheronda Fleming

Dr. Sheronda W. Fleming is the Director of the North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs, NC CAP. As a college student, Sheronda founded the Ladies of Distinction mentoring program for middle school girls, which ignited a passion within her regarding the necessity for access to out-of-school time learning opportunities for all youth. Following that trajectory, Sheronda has spent the last 13 years serving youth in South and North Carolina through an array of roles in out-of-school time programs and youth serving organizations. Since 2017, Sheronda has been at the helm of NC CAP, working to support afterschool professionals and advocate for out-of-school time opportunities for youth statewide. Through her role, she has learned that how a child spends their time before school, after school and during the summer has an impact on their outcomes in school and in life. A proud graduate of Furman University, Sheronda also holds a Master’s Degree in Youth Development Leadership from Clemson University and a Doctorate of Philosophy in K-12 Education Research and Policy Analysis from North Carolina State University.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Sheneika Simmons

As the Program Coordinator for North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs (NC CAP), Sheneika works with the NC CAP Director to develop, lead, coordinate, and drive the NC Network’s initiatives. She supports the design and delivery of various professional development opportunities, advocacy, and the shaping policy that assists in the advancement of out-of-school time learning. Prior to joining NC CAP, Sheneika earned a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Psychology from Ferrum College and a Masters of Science in Educational Studies from Johns Hopkins University. Currently, she is working towards her Ph.D. in Human Services with an emphasis in Community Intervention and Intervention from Walden University. Sheneika is a Teach For America, Eastern North Carolina Corps Member Alumini (2015), and a StartingBloc Raleigh-Durham (2018) Fellow. Since joining Teach For America, Sheneika remained in the classroom until joining NC CAP. She has been able to work with youth, communities, and programs in various capacities. Sheneika is passionate about the future of youth in North Carolina and supporting them. As a former educator, she still continues to focus on fostering positive relationships for youth and promoting strategic programming that enhances the whole child.

Keeping kids safe, engaged and learning so parents can return to work.

This is Afterschool
Rising to the moment.
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE LOGISTICS

DEVICE REQUIREMENTS
We recommend laptop or desktop computers for the best conference experience.

WEB BROWSERS
For maximum performance, security, and stability during the conference, download the latest version of your preferred Web browser. If asked by the system, allow pop-up windows to display. We recommend the following browsers:
• Chrome (PC and Mac)
• Mozilla Firefox (PC and Mac)
• Apple Safari (Mac)

INTERNET CONNECTION
We recommend using a wired broadband connection – wireless, mobile, satellite, and dial-up connections are not always as fast or stable. On rare occasions, disruptions to your internet connection can result in sessions freezing or closing abruptly. If this occurs, simply rejoin the session.

CONFERENCE SOCIAL MEDIA
Follow the NC Center for Afterschool Programs via Twitter at @ncafterschool and via Facebook at facebook.com/ncafterschool. Use the hashtag #Synergy2020 on Twitter to show us what you are learning, selfies with your families and new coworkers and how you are making the most of this virtual conference experience at home. Check out the Synergy on Twitter tab in the virtual platform to see if your twitter post has been spotlighted. Don’t forget to participate in the virtual conference contests for door prizes.

WORKSHOP & CONFERENCE EVALUATION FORMS
After viewing each pre-recorded workshop video, please complete the evaluation form for that workshop. Your comments help us provide quality sessions at future conferences. After completing each workshop evaluation, the duration of the workshop will be added to your transcript. An overall conference evaluation will be available to conference attendees on Friday, July 31st. Please complete the conference evaluation for a chance to win prizes, including a $50 Target Gift Card. After the conference, you will be able to download your transcript and conference attendance certificate to share with your employer.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND HANDOUTS
Resources from the conference will be posted in the Virtual Tote Bag of the conference platform. Feel free to download any of the resources and workshop handouts as a reference after the conference.

DISCLAIMER
The contents of live plenaries and workshop sessions reflect the views of the presenters who are responsible for the facts and accuracy of the information presented therein and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NC Center for Afterschool Programs, the Public School Forum of North Carolina or the NC Department of Public Instruction.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Need technical assistance? Technical support will be available throughout the conference week. For technical assistance, please contact the Help Desk, support@icohere.com and include a detailed description of the issue. Support will be available Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 4 pm Pacific.
21st CCLC Statewide Technical Assistance Meeting

TUESDAY, JULY 28th, 2020
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Cohort 14 Onboarding
This meeting is to welcome all of the new 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs from Cohort 14. All essential staff representing each program are encouraged to attend.

Presenters: Dr. LaTricia Townsend; Susan Brigman; Tina Letchworth; Katrina Blount; Melissa Eddy; Anita Harris; Tammorah Mathis; Tara Powe; Jennifer Smith; Melba Strickland; and Richard Trantham

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Cohort 14 Onboarding
This meeting is to continue the onboarding for all of our new 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs from Cohort 14. Each program will select the session that best describes their organization. All essential staff representing each program are encouraged to attend.

Focus Group #1: All Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
[School-Based Programs]

Presenters: Dr. LaTricia Townsend; Susan Brigman; Tina Letchworth; Katrina Blount; Melissa Eddy; Tammorah Mathis; and Melba Strickland

Focus Group #2: All Non-Local Education Agencies
[Non School-Based Programs]

Presenters: Dr. LaTricia Townsend; Susan Brigman; Tina Letchworth; Anita Harris; Tara Powe; Jennifer Smith; and Richard Trantham

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29th, 2020
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Cohorts 12-13 TA Overview
*Note: Optional for Cohort 14.
This meeting is for all of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Programs from Cohort 12 and 13. All essential staff representing each program are encouraged to attend.

Presenters: Dr. LaTricia Townsend; Susan Brigman; Tina Letchworth; Katrina Blount; Melissa Eddy; Anita Harris; Tammorah Mathis; Tara Powe; Jennifer Smith; Melba Strickland; Richard Trantham; Dr. Bryan Hutchins; and Kathleen Mooney

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Cohorts 12-14 TA Overview
This meeting is for all of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Programs from Cohorts 12, 13 and 14. All essential staff representing each program are encouraged to attend.

Presenters: Dr. LaTricia Townsend; Susan Brigman; Tina Letchworth; Katrina Blount; Melissa Eddy; Anita Harris; Tammorah Mathis; Tara Powe; Jennifer Smith; Melba Strickland; and Richard Trantham
Dr. Townsend currently serves as the Director of Federal Programs at the North Carolina Department of Instruction (NCDPI). She joined NC DPI from the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at North Carolina State University, where she served as the Director of Evaluation Programs for the Research and Evaluation Team. She led a strong team of professionals focused on education innovation and she has extensive experience in leadership development, grant management, and work focused on improving educational outcomes for students. She has 24 years of experience in the field of education. Her primary research interests include program evaluation, STEM education in formal and informal spaces, and the digital divide. Dr. Townsend currently serves as an associate teaching professor in the College of Education at North Carolina State University, where she has taught research methods courses for the past five years. Before coming to the Friday Institute in 2008, Dr. Townsend served as a Science Content Specialist with Technical Outreach to Public Schools (TOPS) at the Center for Urban Affairs and Community Services at North Carolina State University, where she aided in the development of statewide standardized science assessments. She also worked as a research chemist for the Dow Corning Corporation in Midland, Michigan for two years before becoming a science and math teacher. She taught Chemistry, as well as Algebra I and II for nearly ten years with both Saginaw City Schools and Wake County Public Schools. Dr. Townsend received a Bachelor of Science degree in Textile Chemistry with a concentration in Polymer Chemistry at North Carolina State University, followed by teacher licensure from Saginaw Valley State University. She earned a Master of School Administration and a Doctorate in Educational Administration and Supervision from North Carolina State University.

Susan Brigman is currently the Interim Assistant Director for the Federal Program Monitoring and Support (FPMS) Division at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Prior to assuming this role in January of 2020, Susan has served in various capacities within the FPMS Division including Section Chief for 21st Century Community Learning Centers; Section Chief for the East; Consolidated Program Administrator for the Sandhills Region; and School Improvement Grant (SIG) Coordinator for the East. Susan has over 20 years of experience in the field of education. She has served in a variety of roles including Administrative Assistant, Home-School Liaison, Classroom Teacher, and Child Care Resource and Referral Director. Susan served as the Assistant Principal of Richmond Senior High School for 1 year before becoming the Principal at Richmond Transitional School from 2008-2013 and Principal at Ashley Chapel Educational Center from 2013-2017. During her tenure at Ashley Chapel Educational Center, she was a Turnaround Principal in the SIG III cohort. Susan holds a Masters in School Administration and Curriculum and Instruction from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Middle Grades Education from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and an Associate of Arts Degree from Richmond Community College. She has been married to Chip Brigman for 14 years and together they have five children, Tori, 24; Dylan, 20; Tripp, 17; Carter, 17 and Maddy, 7.

Tina Letchworth has served as an elementary teacher; elementary, middle, and high school principal; served as the Director of Federal Programs for an eastern North Carolina school district; Federal Program Monitoring and Support Administrator for the Piedmont-Triad region of North Carolina; and most recently serves as the Interim Section Chief for 21st CCLC for North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. She has over 26 years of educational experience and has four children ranging in age from 18-25 with a grandson soon to arrive this summer.
Katrina joined the Federal Program Monitoring and Support Division in August 2017 as the Fiscal Monitor of the 21st CCLC program. She was truly excited to return to the field of education whereas she could be a part of transforming our school-age children into productive citizens in our communities across the state of North Carolina. Her prior professional experience in Higher Education has shown her the importance of reaching children in our communities at their youngest to foster great potential and the prospect of attending college. Her hope is for all children to have access to an education beyond high school whether it’s a certification program, community college, or 4-year college. She has devoted 20 plus years to the State of NC and 10 plus years to the State of VA in various capacities related to Compliance, Audit, Budget and Finance and Fiscal Monitoring. For most of her career, she has worked with students on the college level ensuring appropriate funding is available to all that qualified in seeking a higher education while ensuring that funds are applied and used in accordance with state and federal regulations. Additionally, she spent several years with the NC Dept. of Health & Human Services reconciling and settling funds disbursed through Substance Abuse Block Grant and Mental Health Block Grant dollars to various entities across the state while working with some of the largest non-profit entities in the country.

Anita joined the Federal Program Monitoring & Support Division at NCDPI in 2007 as a contractor working on IT projects which included data collections for Neglected & Delinquent Students, Targeted Assistance Students, Homeless Students, Eligible Schools Summary Report and NCDPI’s version of PPICS (precursor to 21DC), Migrant Education students, and was the lead Business Analyst who helped deploy CCIP in 2011-12 for the Consolidated Application. Before joining State government, she worked in the private sector for 22 years, as a manufacturing and process engineer, logistics engineer, moving into Federal government contracting for the EPA (wrote technical white papers), and Wake County Public Health. In 2016, she became a State employee. She began her involvement with the 21st CCLC program when the Cohort 11 competition was run in 2014-15. She is involved with training and fiscal monitoring of 21st CCLC organizations for grant management and data collection activities. Anita has a BS in Electrical Engineering and an MBA in technical marketing. She was born and raised in the Bronx but has lived in New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and now North Carolina, for the past 29 years.

Providing valuable educational and experiential learning opportunities to at-risk students is my passion. It is my sincere honor to serve the state of North Carolina in this capacity. I have devoted 17 years of my career to working with at-risk students and Federal Programs. I have served as a classroom teacher, school based, district and state leader for Technology Integration Specialists, Assistant Principal, Executive Director of Federal Programs at Wilson County Schools and worked with Federal Program Monitoring Divisions in two state department entities: West Virginia Department of Education and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction working with Title I, II, III, IV A & B, School Improvement Grants (SIG) and Neglected and Delinquent Programs under Title I, Part D.

I joined the Federal Program Monitoring & Support Division at NCDPI in 2019 as the 21st CCLC Federal Program Administrator for the Sandhills and Southeast Regions. I am extremely excited about 21st CCLC programs and working with grantees in collaboration to ensure children of North Carolina continue to receive the best extended learning educational services possible. My professional experience has afforded me the vision to see the importance of extending learning opportunities as well as the benefits it provides students, families and the community in partnership.

PRESENTER: Katrina Blount, NC Department of Public Instruction

PRESENTER: Melissa Eddy, NC Department of Public Instruction

PRESENTER: Anita Harris, NC Department of Public Instruction
Tammorah joined the Federal Programs Monitoring and Support Division of the NC Department of Public Instruction in 2014 as a Program Administrator of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program. She thoroughly enjoys her career working with programs, students and families across North Carolina, along with networking with other entities who are engaged with positive youth development. She is a native of Bladen County, NC via Fort Benning, Georgia. Prior to joining NC DPI, she served as the Dean of Students and Response to Instruction (RtI) Administrator at W.G. Pearson Elementary in Durham Public Schools. She has over 18 years of experience working with 21st CCLC programs, as she started as a 21st CCLC Program Director in Durham, NC. In addition to afterschool, Tammorah has experience working as an Exceptional Children’s classroom teacher and assistant, bus driver, cafeteria staff, out-of-school time group leader, volunteer and member of the PTA for a total of 27 years across North Carolina.

Mrs. Mathis currently serves as the Co-Chair of the NC CAP Advisory Board and a newly appointed member to the Board of Directors of the Public School Forum of North Carolina. She earned a Master’s Degree in School Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an Undergraduate Degree in Political Science, with a concentration in Public Administration, from North Carolina Central University.

Tara Powe joined the NC Department of Public Instruction in the Federal Programs Monitoring and Support Division in 2018 as a Regional Program Administrator. She is responsible for working with 21st Century Community Learning Centers in the North Central/Northeast Regions of the state who are awarded federal funds through ESSA-Title IV, Part B. She truly believes in and supports Out-of-School (OST) programs that provide academic and enrichment opportunities for K-12 students during non-school hours. Tara has committed over 20 years of her career to working with students and families in OST programs through local schools, faith-based, community-based, and higher education entities. She also provides support and training in strategic planning, program development, and risk management to youth programs throughout the state. She holds a Master’s of Public Administration from Central Michigan University, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Family and Community Services from East Carolina University, and an Associate of Science Degree in Accounting from Wayne Community College.

Jennifer Smith is a Program Administrator for 21st Century Community Learning Centers and the State Coordinator for the Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports (ELISS) grant at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. She obtained her Bachelor’s degree in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her Master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Jennifer taught secondary social studies for over ten years and served as a school and district leader for Advanced Placement professional learning communities and a Global Leadership Team. Jennifer was passionately involved in afterschool service learning clubs and summer learning and believes these expanded learning programs provide students with knowledge and skills that complement their traditional classroom settings. She currently supports and monitors the 21st Century Community Learning Center sub-grantees in the Piedmont-Triad and Northwest regions of the state, providing technical assistance in Program Implementation, Family Engagement, and Fiscal Management. She is a North Carolina native and resides in Wake Forest with her husband and three children.
PRESENTER: Melba Strickland, NC Department of Public Instruction

Melba joined NCDPI in January 2016 as a program assistant for the Office of Early Learning then moving to Federal Programs Monitoring and Support Division in January of 2019. She has always had a heart for serving and helping others while continuing to learn. She feels her career pathway has blessed her to do so when she visited NCDPI in 2008 with her daughter who was completing her senior project on the education of homeless children, had no idea that the very programs; Title I, Title II, 21st CCLC, Migrant Education and Homeless Education that she would become a member of the Federal Program Monitoring and Support Division family.

She hails from Wayne County, NC and relocated to Raleigh in 1988. Before coming to NCDPI she has worked as a 911 Dispatcher, a police officer, and over twenty years as administrative support with NCDOT and NCDHHS. Coming from a family of educators, nurses, and law enforcement her willingness to serve others is a passion.

PRESENTER: Richard Trantham, NC Department of Public Instruction

Richard joined the North Carolina Department of Instruction (NCDPI) in June 2006 as the Program Assistant for the Federal Program Monitoring and Support Division. He thoroughly enjoys his career working with the various sections within the Division of Federal Programs: Title I, Title II, 21st CCLC Programs, Migrant Education, Homeless Education, and more. He is a native of Buncombe County, NC but moved to Raleigh in 1977. Before his work with NCDPI, he worked in Christian Ministry, Computer Technology, and Revenue Auditing.

No matter where is working, he continues to strive to make an impact on both internal and external customers and children in North Carolina.

PRESENTER: Dr. Bryan Hutchins, SERVE Center at UNC Greensboro

Bryan Hutchins, Ph.D., is a Senior Research Specialist at the SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. His research interests include high school reform efforts, career and technical education (CTE), and the transition to adulthood. He has worked on multiple state- and federally-funded evaluations for programs including North Carolina’s Career and College Promise, Race to the Top, Read to Achieve, UNCG’s ProjectEnACTed (Engaging and Advancing Community-Centered Teacher Development), North Carolina’s 21st Century Community Learning Center, as well as, multiple federally funded investigations of efforts to implement early college high school strategies in comprehensive high schools.

PRESENTER: Kathleen Mooney, SERVE Center at UNC Greensboro

Kathleen Mooney has experience as a program evaluator with SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro for over a decade, focusing on the use of data to improve educational outcomes and ensure continuous improvement. She has worked on multiple state- and federally-funded evaluations for programs including the Regional Educational Laboratory, Race to the Top, and School Improvement Grants. In addition, since 2015 she has been a member of SERVE Center’s evaluation team providing support for NCDPI’s North Carolina’s Afterschool Quality Improvement Grant (ASQIG), Extended Learning and Integrated Student Supports Program (ELISS), and 21st Century Community Learning Center Program.
10:00 am – 11:30 am

**YOUTH VOICES PANEL**

The theme of this year’s Synergy Conference is Future in Focus. As program providers statewide make plans for the future, it is imperative that the voices of our youth be amplified. During this panel, youth of all ages will discuss their experiences in afterschool, before school, and summer programs in the state of North Carolina. In addition to discussing their experiences in programs, they will describe the impact those programs have had on their future aspirations and self-discovery. Amber Rupinta from ABC 11 Eyewitness News will facilitate the youth panel discussion.

**PANEL FACILITATOR:**

Amber Rupinta  
*ABC 11 Eyewitness News*

Amber Rupinta anchors the 4:00 and 5:00 evening newscasts on ABC 11 Eyewitness News. She is also a meteorologist and reports on various stories throughout the Triangle. Amber joined ABC11 in February 2004 spending the next five years as the weekend morning co-anchor followed by eight years as an early riser for ABC11 Eyewitness News This Morning before moving to the evening team.

Amber is no stranger to the Carolinas having spent several years growing up on the Cherokee Indian Reservation. She is one of 8 children and a “military brat” who spent her childhood in interesting places all over the U.S. Amber’s father joined the U.S. Navy to immigrate to America from the Philippines.

She is a member of the Asian-American Journalists Association, the National Weather Association and a graduate of Towson University. In 2016, she completed Mississippi State’s Meteorology Certificate program and earned a graduate certificate in Technology and Communication from UNC Chapel Hill. In August 2017, she earned a second BS in Geoscience from MSU.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

**AFTERSCHOOL CHAMPION AWARD CEREMONY**

During this award ceremony, the North Carolina Center for Afterschool Programs will recognize individuals, programs and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding work in developing, supporting, and promoting high-quality afterschool and out-of-school time programs to benefit youth and families statewide. The Afterschool Champion Awards are divided into two categories: Emerging Afterschool Champions and Lifetime Afterschool Champions.

The Emerging Afterschool Champion Category spotlights individuals, programs, or organizations whose life or mission has demonstrated considerable work in developing, supporting and promoting high-quality afterschool and out-of-school time programs to benefit youth and families. Recipients of this award have between two (2) and five (5) years of service to youth in the field.

The Lifetime Afterschool Champion Category spotlights individuals, programs, or organizations whose life or mission has demonstrated outstanding work in developing, supporting and promoting high-quality afterschool and out-of-school time programs to benefit youth and families. Awardees within this category have dedicated more than five (5) years of service to youth.

This year’s Emerging Afterschool Champion Awardees include Alvin Hopper and Elizabeth Peterson. This year’s Lifetime Afterschool Champion Awardees include MyiShanka McMillian and Marbles Kids Museum.

**EMERGING CHAMPION AWARDEE**

**Alvin Hopper**  
*Communities In Schools of Cleveland County*

Mr. Alvin Hopper has dedicated his life to helping children. He has been a foster parent in his home for teenage males for more than ten years. He was a Job Coach at Crest High School for twenty years where he lead a group of high school students to form a non-profit organization to raise funds to provide scholarships for under privilege students who wanted to attend college. Mr. Hopper was later hired as a Parent Family Coordinator at West Charlotte High School. His program set and broke records of 70% parent participation in four years in this position. Mr. Hopper has a unique ability to reach all students, regardless of their economic situation. He has a special gift to reach children who are considered to be “at risk”. There is always a waiting list of foster children who want to be placed in his home. Mr. Hopper loves to sing in his church choir, and he loves to talk to anyone, students, staff or parents in the school hallways. Mr. Hopper was recruited by the Program Director of Communities In Schools to implement and operate a 21st CCLC program at Shelby Middle School. After accepting the position, Mr. Hopper immediately met with the school administration and staff to assure them he was there to integrate the afterschool program into the school culture. After two years at this
position in 2016, Mr. Hopper helped the 21st CCLC program receive national recognition by the US Department of Education as one of the 12 best practice family engagement programs in the United States.

Where Mr. Hopper works or lives, children will benefit from his passion and love for one another. He is a special kind of person that makes things better for children and all human beings wherever and whenever he is present.

EMERGING CHAMPION AWARDEE

Elizabeth “Liz” Peterson
North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Pender County

Elizabeth “Liz” Peterson has only been working as the program manager for Pender County 4-H for three years. In those three years, she has established partnerships with the after-school programs serving Pender County, including Communities In Schools (CIS), 21st Century, and Pender Afterschool Care Enrichment Services (PACES), as well as other private afterschool programs. Liz finds ways to serve these programs in numerous ways, including personally teaching monthly afterschool programs for 21st Century and PACES on topics in STEM, embryology, and healthy living, as well as training Communities In Schools Student Support Specialists in STEM and and Healthy Living curriculum so they can provide fun, educational, hands-on programs to their students - all for free! In 2019 alone, Liz reached almost 500 elementary-aged youth through teaching in after-school programs. She trained 10 afterschool staff in a new Health Rocks! curriculum, which teaches youth about the importance of mental health, and how substances like tobacco, alcohol, and drugs can affect your mental and physical health. They can then go teach these programs to their youth to add new programs for their middle and high school students. Liz has also recently created a partnership with the YWCA of Wilmington, as they are trying to offer afterschool programs in the rural part of Pender County. Liz is working with the YWCA to try to bridge the gap and offer support. Last year, Liz joined the Communities In Schools Board of Young Professionals (BYP) to give back even further to this organization. In just her second meeting with this group, Liz volunteered to be the Chair for the Youth Programs Committee, and has led them this past year. She is usually in attendance at the Communities In Schools fundraisers and annual events to continue to support CIS. In her own program, Pender County 4-H offers positive youth development activities for youth ages 5-18. There are some programs that take place in the classroom, but most of her programs are with youth out of school time. Liz manages five 4-H clubs and their adult volunteers. These clubs typically meet once or twice a month and have a specific project focus (college & career readiness, agriculture, STEM, etc.) Every summer, Liz offers a variety of affordable hands-on programs that teach youth life skills, such as food & nutrition, cooking skills, knife skills, environmental health, agriculture, horticulture, STEM, mental health, substance misuse, leadership, citizenship, and more. Liz uses experiential learning principles so youth get the most out of these programs. They are able to try new things, fail in a safe place, explore their interests, have fun, and create life-long friendships. Three years ago, when Liz first started, she created a goal for herself to provide support to afterschool programs first, before anything else. She has worked hard to provide quality, skill-building activities for youth and she shows no signs of slowing down.

LIFETIME CHAMPION AWARDEE

MyiShanka “Mya” McMillian
Hands Of Purpose Childcare

Myi-Shanka “Mya” McMillian has dedicated her life to serving children. Her passion for this service stems from childhood experiences and the birth of her own children, Zione and Ziah, who serve as a daily motivator to pour into the hearts of others. She founded the Hands Of Purpose Childcare Purpose Learning Lab in Durham, NC. She has the utmost belief that the academic atmosphere is designed for “All children to Excel and Pursue Purpose through Play!” Her passion for launching children into purpose stems from childhood paired with the birth of her children, Zione & Ziah Oliver; who serve as daily motivation to pour into the hearts of others. Her favorite quote is, “Why fit in when you were born to stand out?”

Mya is a hands-on team leader that uses solution-oriented thinking to drive profitability, nurture talent, deliver sales growth, and establish strategic partnerships. She is an expert in executing team driven process improvements to increase revenue growth, operational efficiency and excellent stewardship of revenue. She also has strong customer service orientation to work effectively with employees, leadership, volunteers, and donors. Above all, she passionately cares for children.

Mya is known for her trademarked Elementary School S.T.E.M. & Enrichment Lessons. Purpose Learning Lab invites your child, organization, school, and/or business to step outside the box with
one of our mind-blowing in-class/at home field trips. The Mobile/Drop-In Learning Labs are designed exclusively for classrooms, birthday parties, preschools, daycares, and/or organizations. The curriculum-enhancing workshops ignite curiosity while cultivating hands on innovation for both preschool and elementary students.

15% of campers receive full scholarships. Marbles reformatted camps to be able to offer them safely this summer following CDC guidance.

Field Trips: Field trips to Marbles align with and supplement the NC Standard Course of Study, providing engaging, hands-on, play-based learning opportunities for more than 75,000 kids annually from across the state.

Ready Set School: In partnership with WCPSS and our libraries, Marbles provides free, two-generation school readiness experiences. Recruitment prioritizes Hispanic families and students who haven’t attended preschool and are likely to attend a high-needs elementary school.

Family Science Club: This two-generation program provides STEM learning for third graders with a strong interest in STEM but limited out-of-school STEM opportunities. Recruitment prioritizes children from groups underrepresented in STEM careers, like students of color and girls.

Family Fun Nights: 6X per year, Marbles exclusively invites children with disabilities and their families for a free night of sensory-friendly play. Partner organizations connect families with additional resources.

Teen Play Corps: This volunteer program provides youth with leadership training and workforce development.

Marbles’ robust lineup of innovative, immersive play experiences, environments and programs contribute to children’s positive intellectual growth, social and emotional well-being and physical development. Marbles is a leader in providing learning opportunities beyond the classroom and is deserving of recognition as a Lifetime Afterschool Champion.

**REMARKS**

Kari Pardoe  
*Mott Foundation*

Kari Pardoe is an associate program officer at the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation on the Advancing Afterschool and Youth Engagement portfolios. Previously she served as the director of The LEAGUE Michigan, a K-12 service-learning organization. Prior to that, she worked for the NBA Detroit Pistons and the WNBA Detroit Shock as manager of Community Relations and the Council of Michigan Foundations coordinating their youth philanthropy initiative, as well as working with community foundations. She has been involved with philanthropy in a variety of capacities for the past 26 years.
Kari received her bachelor’s degree in community and commercial recreation from Central Michigan University in 2003 and received her master’s degree in public administration with a nonprofit emphasis from Grand Valley State University in 2006. She served as a youth commissioner on the Michigan Community Service Commission for nine years and the America’s Service Commissions board of directors, a national organization which represents and promotes state service commissions across the United States. Kari also serves as treasurer for the Summit Academy School Board in Flat Rock, Michigan.

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

THE FIGHT BEFORE THE HEALING

This keynote focuses on the hardships and strategic tactics necessary to mentor youth and provide them with exposure to various opportunities. The hardships experienced by youth can create feelings of discouragement and failure. However, the fight for youth must continue to provide them with support to develop the whole child. Mentoring is not a short-term fix but a long-term prescription in which you may not see the fruits of your labor immediately. This session is designed to assist in motivating program providers to persevere even when the results are not evident.
10:00 am - 10:45 am

THE WONDER OF SPACE

NASA Astronaut Christina Koch discusses her journey to NASA and her experiences living in space for almost a year aboard the International Space Station (ISS.)

Astronaut Christina Koch
NASA

Selected as part of the 2013 NASA astronaut class, Koch's first space mission included breaking the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman and conducting the first three all-female spacewalks with fellow NASA astronaut Jessica Meir. She launched on March 14, 2019 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome on a Soyuz spacecraft with NASA Astronaut Nick Hague and Russian Cosmonaut Alexey Ovchinin. As part of ISS Expeditions 59, 60 and 61. She returned to Earth on February 6, 2020 with European Space Agency Astronaut Luca Parmitano and Russian Cosmonaut Alexander Skvortsov. As part of ISS Expeditions 59, 60 and 61, she and her crewmates contributed to hundreds of experiments in biology, Earth science, human research, physical sciences and technology development. Some of the scientific highlights from her missions include improvements to the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer, which studies dark matter, growing protein crystals for pharmaceutical research, and testing 3D biological printers to print tissues in microgravity. Koch conducted six spacewalks, totaling 42 hours and 15 minutes. She has spent a total of 328 days living and working in space.

Koch is a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, grew up in Jacksonville, North Carolina and resided in Livingston, Montana before relocating to Houston, Texas to join the Astronaut Corps. Koch attended North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (2001), a Bachelor of Science in Physics and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (2002). She attended high school at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics in Durham, North Carolina (1997) and White Oak High School in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

Koch’s career prior to becoming an Astronaut spanned two general areas: space science instrument development and remote scientific field engineering. Her career began as an Electrical Engineer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Laboratory for High Energy Astrophysics, where she contributed to scientific instruments on several NASA space science missions. Koch then became a Research Associate in the United States Antarctic Program from 2004 to 2007. This included a yearlong stay with a winter-over at the Admunsen-Scott South Pole Station and a season at Palmer Station. While in this role, she served as a member of the Firefighting and Search and Rescue Teams. From 2007 to 2009, Koch returned to space science instrument development as an Electrical Engineer at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory’s Space Department. She contributed to instruments studying radiation for NASA missions, including Juno and the Van Allen Probes. In 2010, Koch returned to remote scientific field work with tours including Palmer Station in Antarctica and multiple winter seasons at Summit Station in Greenland. In 2012, Koch continued work at remote scientific bases with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). She served as a Field Engineer at NOAA’s Global Monitoring Division Baseline Observatory in Utqiagvik, Alaska and then as Station Chief of the American Samoa Observatory. Throughout her career, she was involved in in technical instructing, volunteer tutoring and educational outreach.

Koch participated in the NASA Academy program at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) in 2001 and worked as an Electrical Engineer at GSFC from 2002 to 2004. Koch was selected in June 2013 as one of eight members of the 21st NASA astronaut class. Her Astronaut Candidate Training included scientific and technical briefings, intensive instruction in International Space Station (ISS) systems, plus training and certification in spacewalking, ISS robotics, T-38 and T-6 aircraft flight, and Russian language. In 2018, she was assigned to her first space flight, a long duration mission on the International Space Station.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

STEM COALITION KICKOFF PANEL

The STEM Coalition, or STEMco, is the intentional convening of individuals from varying sectors to discuss the barriers related to diversity, equity, and inclusion within STEM careers and to develop strategies that will ensure more youth, especially girls and minorities, are involved in STEM as early as Kindergarten. During this year’s conference, the STEM Coalition will launch with a Kickoff Panel. To commemorate the commencement of this cross-sector coalition, individuals from a range of STEM-focused entities will serve as panelists to discuss the importance of STEM engagement and exposure for youth in North Carolina. Panelists will also discuss barriers to STEM exposure and engagement that exist across sectors.
PANELIST
Sharmi Albrechtsen
SmartGurlz
Educator, entrepreneur, and mom, Sharmi Albrechtsen, is the CEO and co-founder of SmartGurlz, a company focused on closing the gender gap in technology. SmartGurlz is the first robotics company focused on girls. Sharmi began her career as an author and journalist and spent the last decade in communication and consumer education in STEM companies focusing on health and wellness. She was the Associate Director of the Ida Institute, a non-profit organization whose mission was to empower adults and children to overcome hearing disabilities. In 2015, Sharmi started SmartGurlz after she became frustrated when trying to find educational and fun toys for her daughter, Nina. As CEO, she is the visionary backbone of the company, ensuring that the company develops, markets, and sells innovative products. She has also been named Woman Entrepreneur of the Year in 2018 by the IEEE. She has been featured in countless media interviews including Forbes, Huffington Post, and CNN. In 2017, SmartGurlz was featured on ABC’s Shark Tank and closed a deal with Daymond John.

PANELIST
José Garcia
Greene County Schools
José Garcia has been working for Greene County Schools since he began his teaching career in 2001. He graduated from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science in Science Education and from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Masters of Science in Science Education. Currently, he serves as the district Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Education Director. Mr. Garcia has been a science instructor in all science grades 6-12, and served as an instructional technologist in grades 6-8. In addition, he holds memberships in the Science, Technology, and Mathematics (SMT) Education Center, North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals, North Carolina Science Teachers Association, Industrial Engineering Technology committee at Lenoir Community College, Lenoir County Manufacturing Day Committee, STEM LEAD for the National Organization of STEM Ecosystems, Apple Distinguished Educator, U.S. Department of Education Innovation and Research Program Reviewer, NASA Curriculum Reviewer, and faculty member for the Smithsonian Science Education Center. Mr. Garcia leads two North Carolina “Model” STEM schools, facilitates a regional STEM Teacher Leadership Academy, supervises Summer STEM camps, recognized as a Teacher Ambassador by the Institute for Emerging Issues 2013, Institute for Emerging Issues Featured Educator 2013, Greene County Teacher of the Year 2009–2010, Greene County Middle School Teacher of the Year 2009–2010, Apple Distinguished Educator 2009, Apple Distinguished School (2008-2012), North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Teacher Feature: Teachers of the Year Share Best Practices, and Learn NC Featured Educator. He is currently working on his Ed. D in Educational Leadership at University of North Carolina Wilmington.

PANELIST
Eskabonna Henderson
Kinetic Minds Inc.
Eskabonna Henderson is a proud graduate of North Carolina A & T State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science. His undergraduate studies included work on the swine research farm as well as significant time as a veterinary assistant. In addition, as a licensed science educator, he taught Middle school science and math in the classroom for 15 ½ years. He also earned recognition at his school as the Teacher of the Year during his teaching career. By faith, Eskabonna and his wife, Danice, an educator also founded the non-profit Kinetic Minds Inc. in 2012 to help underserved children in grades K-8 afterschool in their community as well as during the summer through S.T.E.M. enrichment camps in Goldsboro, NC. Kinetic Minds as a strong S.T.E.M. program was selected by the state to participate in the NASA S.T.E.M. Challenge in which students learned and implemented the Engineering Design Process through a 10 weeks long project that culminated with a functional prototype, video and review by NASA scientists. Eskabonna was recognized and selected for the Public School Forum of NC’s Leadership Spotlight segment that appears on the weekly TV program “Education Matters”. A dedicated and active member in his church. In his spare time, he enjoys horticulture and writing poetry.
PANELIST
Pam Hyatt
*The Dream Center*

Pam Hyatt is the Administrative Director at The Dream Center, a nonprofit after school program for at-risk students in Randolph County where she has worked for 8 years. She is originally from Pennsylvania where she received her degree in Elementary Education and Spanish from Shippensburg University. During her time at The Dream Center, she has written and received 3 grants to help sustain and grow the program. During this time she has helped grow the afterschool program from 20 students to over 80+. She also taught for 6 years in 4th and 5th grade in Franklin County and Asheboro City Schools in North Carolina. While there, she earned her National Boards Certification and was on the team for Math, STEM, and Language Arts for Professional Development in Asheboro City Schools. She currently lives in Asheboro with her husband, two children, and her dogs.

PANELIST
Alfred Mays
*Burroughs Wellcome Fund*

Alfred M. Mays currently serves as the Senior Program Officer and Strategist for Education and Diversity Programs at the Burroughs Wellcome Fund. Prior to Alfred assuming this role, he served as an independent consultant with a service delivery that included strategic planning, project incubation, design and implementation. Alfred has served as an enabler within a number of education programs and initiatives to include the Assistant Director of the Collaborative Project, a 21st Century Program supported by the North Carolina General Assembly. In this role, Alfred was primarily responsible for the development and management of information resources, which supported the project’s design through program participation tracking, reporting, and evaluation of impact. Alfred also served as staff advisor (Project Manager) to North Carolina’s eLearning Commission and provided consultation to a number of special committees and focus groups. Other efforts include implementation of youth leadership and empowerment strategies, the Young Minority Male Mentoring Initiative, and the build out of DEI in STEM. Prior to joining the Collaborative Project, Alfred served public education as the Director of Information Resources Affairs and Director of Special Projects at the University of North Carolina - Office of the President (2000 – 2007). During this tenure, Alfred was responsible for the coordination of a number of special initiatives and collaborative efforts within the Division of Information Resources and served as a central liaison for the 16-campus system and various state agencies. Alfred’s other work experience includes service as a regional director for the North Carolina Model Teacher Education Consortium (UNC-General Administration) and State Program Director within the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction.

Alfred currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for a number of organizations to include the Public School Forum of North Carolina and other civic activities. He has been recognized for his contributions with many organizational successes to include recognition for Organization and Government Wide Best Practices.

PANELIST
Ron Ottinger
*STEM Next*

A national leader and expert in STEM learning, Ron Ottinger is known for his expertise in informal and out-of-school time STEM education and in building collaborations among schools, science centers, communities and afterschool programs that increase STEM learning opportunities for young people. Ron is Executive Director of STEM Next and serves as co-chair of the national STEM Funders Network. Additionally, Ron is the co-chair for the National STEM Learning Ecosystem Initiative. As the Executive Editor of STEM Ready America, Ron convened the nation’s leading STEM experts presenting bold and persuasive evidence—as well as real-world examples of effective practices, programs, and partnerships on how science, technology, engineering and mathematics knowledge and skills are preparing young people to be successful in school today and the workforce tomorrow. For the past nine years, he led the Noyce Foundation which for a quarter-century was dedicated to helping young people become curious, thoughtful, and engaged learners. Prior to joining Noyce, Ron served for fourteen years as National Associate Director of the non-profit AVID Center. He was elected to three terms on the San Diego City Schools’ Board of Education from 1992-2004, during a period of major reform of the school system, and was the longest running board president.
PANELIST

Sesha Woodard
*Dropping Seeds in Motion*

Sesha Woodard is a Scientist and Licensed Dancer with over 25 years of experience. She helps the next generation reach academic success...all through ART INTEGRATION (movement and dance). She started Dropping Seeds in Motion with a purpose to propel youth educationally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Sesha brings dynamic science through movement and dance-based programs and professional development to schools, universities, daycare centers, youth groups, and more!

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

LEDERSHIP RE-LEARNED

This fast paced, interactive, and tool filled live plenary will provide organizational leaders with takeaway tools that they can use with their own staff. Specifically, participants will be introduced to two different organizational change modules, an overview of planning for innovative disruption, five virtual management techniques that can immediately implemented... and a human beat-box machine for your team. Yep. You don’t want to miss this

SPEAKER

Fred Baker
*Leading To Change*

Fred is a native of the Bronx, NY and calls Fayetteville, NC home since being stationed at Pope Air Force Base in 1995. A Disabled Veteran of the United States Air Force, Fred served his country for 10+ years. As one of the most senior members of the Leading To Change team, Fred has presented to over 5,000 people – including the New York Mayors Alliance, National Youth At Risk Conference, NC Workforce Development Training Center, Alabama Department of Human Resources, and even the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. When not traveling around the country with Leading To Change Inc., you can find Fred volunteering his time, talent, and treasure in his local community. Mr. Baker is an active member of the Cumberland County Workforce Development Youth Council, Past Chairman of the Board of Directors for the City Rescue Mission Inc., Chairman of the Deacon’s Ministry, Advisor for the Brothers Bridging the Gap, Men’s Ministry, Young Adult Sunday school teacher, and a host of other duties.

SPEAKER

Eric Rowles
*Leading To Change*

Eric Rowles is a nationally recognized trainer, speaker, and consultant who has worked with over 150,000 youth, adults, administrators, professionals, and policymakers within the past 15 years. His presentations are legendary – by combining the energy and innovation of a master trainer, while at the same time reaching each of us through his stories, research, and on-the-ground strategies. One part motivational speaker, one part DJ, and two parts community organizer and parent of 2 daughters, Eric runs a customized consulting and facilitation practice that, through a network of over 20 dynamic and diversely talented trainers, works with for-profit and non-profit organizations to achieve progressive and dynamic change. Eric’s previous experience includes his work as Senior Director of Training with the Youth Leadership Institute where he designed a national training institute that provided over 1,000 days of training in five years to community organizations and coalitions throughout the country. Additionally, Eric through his double bachelors and Master of Science degrees in Ethnic Studies and Educational Leadership, he has served as a faculty member at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte as well as Rutgers University (NJ) and has over a decade of innovative and cutting edge classroom instruction and facilitation experience. Eric has also been a volunteer trainer and partner for a wide range of social change agencies and organizations including the National Conference on Community and Justice, College Leadership Diversity Conference, and Teaching Tolerance Curriculum Instruction.
Synergy Conference 2020 Workshop Strands

**Arts & Literacy**
Workshops on creating opportunities for self-expression through the arts in a creative and constructive manner; leveraging the creative, academic and developmental benefits of arts education; supporting grade-level reading in expanded learning programs, infusing literacy into all areas of programs; and literacy-specific activities to support English-language learners.

**Closing Gaps**
Workshops on effective practices associated with improving academic performance, school attendance, and decreasing misconduct and limiting behaviors among minority youth and students with a low-socioeconomic status in afterschool and extended learning programs.

**College and Career Readiness**
Workshops on affording youth with early exposure to college standards and employability skills; identifying connections between current interests and future aspirations for youth; leveraging partnerships with local colleges, universities, businesses and military branches for college and career exposure; and involving families in post-secondary planning.

**Mentoring**
Workshops on fundraising, grant writing and stewardship of donors and funds; social media outreach; recruitment, retention, supervision, evaluation, development and coaching of staff and volunteers; afterschool advocacy through engagement of elected officials and policymakers; and leveraging parent and family engagement.

**Organizational Capacity**
Workshops on fundraising, grant writing and stewardship of donors and funds; social media outreach; recruitment, retention, supervision, evaluation, development and coaching of staff and volunteers; afterschool advocacy through engagement of elected officials and policymakers; and leveraging parent and family engagement.

**Public & Private Partnerships**
Workshops on developing and sustaining school-community partnerships; cultivating cross-sector collaboration with the health, education, and juvenile justice sectors; recruiting local businesses and corporate partners; rural and urban program models; engaging the faith-based community; higher education organizations or clubs; and working with local foundations and organizations.

**Science, Technology, Engineering & Math**
Workshops on aligning with the school day and incorporating standards into program activities; engaging youth in real world application of STEM concepts and processes; successful local, state, and national models; strategies for implementing inquiry-based learning and project-based learning; and leveraging partnerships to expand content.

**Youth Development**
Workshops on healthy out-of-school time programming; nurturing youth social, emotional and cognitive development; implementing inclusive programs that welcome all youth; civic engagement; trauma-informed practices for working with youth and adults; and equipping youth with tools for advocacy and social change.
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<td>Lead with Your MIND (Mindset, Investment, Necessary Skills, Desire)</td>
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<td>PLEASE HELP PARENTS: Supporting Families During A New Virtual Setting</td>
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SYNERGY 2020 | Future in Focus 19
Addressing the Summer Learning Gap: One Activity at a Time

Strand: Youth Development

To support program providers statewide, NC CAP and the 50 State Afterschool Network, under the leadership of the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network, has developed a suite of fun and engaging activities and challenges designed for the summer amid COVID-19. In this workshop, participants will learn how to access the Summer Activity Guides, general implementation information, and ways to engage youth and families using the guides.

Presenter: Sheneika Simmons, Public School Forum of North Carolina
Co-Presenter: Dr. Sheronda Fleming, Public School Forum of North Carolina

Advocacy 1.0: A North Carolina Perspective

Strands: Organizational Capacity, Public & Private Partnerships

Participants will learn how to advocate for their program and children by engaging with community stakeholders, talking with elected officials, partnering with local businesses, and expanding the scope of recognition for their program.

Presenter: Lauren Fox, Public School Forum of North Carolina

Advocacy 2.0: A National Perspective

Effectively Advocating for Afterschool

Strands: Organizational Capacity, Public & Private Partnerships

Strong advocacy is vital to the long-term sustainability of all afterschool programs. Election years provide the perfect opportunity to showcase the incredible work happening in your afterschool program. In this session, we’ll discuss the differences between advocacy and lobbying, provide insight on how to tell your afterschool story, highlight potential opportunities for advocacy, and share tools and resources to help you reach lawmakers. We’ll provide a national perspective, highlighting the challenges and opportunities facing afterschool in Washington, DC. Come away with confidence to successfully advocate on behalf of your afterschool and summer learning programs!

Presenter: Erik Peterson, Afterschool Alliance
Co-Presenter: Alexis Steines, Afterschool Alliance

Applying NC Foundations with the School Age Activity Plan

Strand: Youth Development

North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development (NCFELD) is a guide that connects goals with activity plans. This fantastic resource, which usage is required in NC licensed school age & early education programs, explains five domains as learning standards and Guiding Principles to consider when creating activity plans with children. This fast-paced session provides in brief overview of NCFELD and a couple of examples of the application of goals with activity plans.

Presenter: Daniel Bates, Region 4 Child Care Resource & Referral/Southeastern Community College

Approaching Out-of-School Time Care in a Post-COVID World

Strands: Organizational Capacity, Public & Private Partnerships

The recent COVID-19 crisis presents a strategic shift in the direction of out-of-school time care in North Carolina. School age programs across the state must now focus on a host of new questions and challenges. In this time of change, being connected to strong support systems is necessary for success. Join us in this informative session as we explore how to approach this change and find viable support resources in a post-COVID school-age environment.

Presenter: Jonathan Williams, Southwestern Child Development Commission
Co-Presenter: Dr. Sheronda Fleming, Public School Forum of North Carolina

Assisting Hispanic Students and their Parents as they Navigate the Path to College

Strand: College & Career Readiness

The workshop will be focused on understanding the challenges that Hispanic students and their families face in accessing higher education. There will be a strong focus on understanding the policies affecting Hispanic students’ access to higher education, such as College admissions, tuition, and financial aid. Participants will learn best practices to support students and their families overcome the various challenges and navigate the college access process including Residency Determination (RDS) and financial aid. Furthermore, participants will explore college planning strategies to minimize the over cost of college, particularity for DACA and Undocumented students. Participants will be better equipped with knowledge and resources to guide Hispanic students and their families as they help them navigate the college access process.

Presenter: Juana Hernandez Urquiza, College Foundation of North Carolina
**Building Relationships with Youth Who Challenge Us**  
**Strand:** Youth Development  
Have you ever been secretly pleased when a child in your school age group is absent? Do you ever struggle with how to build a relationship with this child? Some children are more difficult than others and challenge us on a daily basis. Explore temperaments that are unique to all of us and how these differences affect our relationships. Leave with an easy action plan that works!  
**Presenter:** Angela Pate, Southwestern Child Development Commission, Inc.

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**Building Successful Remote Teams**  
**Strand:** Organizational Capacity  
Remote teams are not new - global organizations have been making use of remote teams for decades. But now, more than ever, it’s a good time to hear from an expert about how to best set up your team for success (whether your team is remote or not). Join this session to explore the interconnectedness and importance of individuals and teams in an organization. Also, learn facilitation techniques that you can apply to your current team structure. Our presenter, Popi Makris, has successfully set up and managed over 200 professional high-performing teams in her career.  
**Presenter:** Popi Makris, After School Brilliance

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**Communicating Science through Movement, Dance... AND...Yes...ART**  
**Strands:** Arts & Literacy, Closing Gaps, STEM, and Youth Development  
Visual ART inspires, uplifts, encourages, and even serves as a calming strategy. Incorporating art in any environment can be beneficial to a child’s overall mindset, health and well-being. Join us and experience the journey of visual art and science. Learn how science, dance, and ART can mesh together to inspire the next generation. Learn practical application you can share with the students you serve AND help them think outside the box to gain a new perspective about the world of science!  
**Presenter:** Sesha Woodard, Dropping Seeds in Motion  
**Co-Presenter:** Tisha Harris, Dropping Seeds in Motion

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**Conéctate: Building Relationships Across the Spanish-Language Barrier**  
**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Organizational Capacity, Youth Development  
Conéctate is a high-impact workshop in which educators are equipped with the tools and supports needed to communicate with students and families whose backgrounds are rooted in the Spanish language and its associated cultures. In 2014, North Carolina ranked 9th in the US for the number of Hispanics enrolled in K-12 schools and Hispanic births accounted for 16% of all births in the state. Given this data and the fact that learning in the classroom is significantly influenced by the relationships educators are able to build with students and families, Conéctate offers participants an opportunity to build language and cultural capacities through quick-hit, value-add activities created with educators in mind.  
During the workshop, participants will engage in opportunities to interact with peers and use the knowledge gained during the instructional portion to practice their newly-found or rediscovered Spanish language capabilities. Participants will also create vision maps that provide them with their “why” and concrete steps for how they will engage with their Spanish-speaking students and families.  
**Presenter:** Tiara Mahoney Paulino, Dual Vida Language Academy

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**Cultivating the Synergy for Building Capacity and Partnerships**  
**Strands:** Organizational Capacity, Public & Private Partnerships  
In this workshop, participants will discuss how they can use social media, stewardship, and communication to build capacity and form varying partnerships. Participants will exit this workshop with tools they can implement today to recruit and retain, obtain funding, and sustain professional relationships with organizations in their area.  
**Presenter:** Anthony DeNino, CORE - Creating Our Reality

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**Family Engagement: Grow It or Enhance It!**  
**Strands:** Organizational Capacity, Public & Private Partnerships, STEM  
This workshop will help participants look at new and fresh ways to help engage families through social media, family nights, and consistent communication. In addition, each participant will leave with a better idea of how to use community outreach to increase
Workshop Sessions

donors, fundraising capacity, volunteers and programmatic support. Strategies for practical ways to host family nights and resources to leverage family and community engagement to expand your organization’s capacity will be shared. Join us for an interactive workshop full of ideas and time to share best practices with organizations from around the state.

**Presenter:** Pam Hyatt, The Dream Center of Randolph County

### Fostering Equity in STEM Programming

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, College & Career Readiness, STEM, Youth Development

Computing skills are the most sought-after and highest-paying in the US job market, with demand growing 3X the national average. Yet fewer than 1 in 5 computer science graduates are women, and that number is declining. To close the gender gap in technology, we must teach girls and boys not only how to positively impact their community through code, but also how to be brave, resilient, and inclusive.

Participants will learn how to foster an inclusive environment within your STEM programs, how to increase female role model representation, how to create holistic STEM programming for building important life skills, how to access free and customizable Girls Who Code Clubs curriculum and resources (like easy mini-grants of $300 per semester) for 3-12th graders of all genders, and learn about real stories from Oregon Girls Who Code Clubs to help you build your own programming.

**Presenter:** Kibret Yebetit, Girls Who Code

### Fun and Games in a Sustainable World

**Strand:** STEM

Discover interdisciplinary, hands-on activities that foster environmental awareness among school-age children while building skills in STEM, literacy, and geography. Participate in games, role-playing, and problem-solving challenges that help students explore their connection to the environment. Activities address natural resource use, population trends, wildlife habit, fresh water and our changing climate.

**Presenter:** Carol Bliese, Population Education

### Grant Award Winning Site Visits #SecureTheBag

**Strand:** Organizational Capacity

In a field where there are so many programs applying for the same grant, how do you set your program apart from the rest? It’ll take more than a stellar application to get the grant! A site visit can be the deciding factor between your program and funding. Learn how to #SecureTheBag from grant writing consultant, Tiyana B. Glenn. As a past grantor and grantees, she’ll walk you through the before, day-of, during, and after stages of a Grant Award Winning Site Visit.

**Presenter:** Tiyana B. Glenn, Grant Writing Consultant

### Hands-On History

**Strand:** Closing Gaps, Youth Development

The use of historical content in out-of-school time programming is scarce. However, in many schools throughout North Carolina, history is an afterthought and is pushed to the wayside because the state testing is optional. In this workshop, participants will learn strategies that can be easily incorporated in their programming that reinforce historical thinking and content.

**Presenter:** Sheneika Simmons, Public School Forum of North Carolina

### HARNESSING LIGHTNING: Strategic Planning Comes Alive

**Strand:** Organizational Capacity

Is your staff inspired… or in transition? How can you support and sustain your organization’s vision and momentum during these times of uncertainty? What can staff PD and strategic planning look like… remotely? Don’t miss this showcase of multiple strategies, techniques, and examples of how (and why) staff development can be the SPARK to keep your organization healthy and moving forward.

**Presenter:** Eric Rowles, Leading To Change

### Healthy Relationships Start with Harmony

**Strand:** Youth Development

Sanford Harmony empowers teachers to foster positive relationships, promote cooperation, communication, inclusion, problem solving, respect, and empathy. Through routines, strategies, lessons and activities, educators will identify relationship building strategies essential for school readiness and academic success. Educators love Harmony as it is flexible, easy to implement, and builds inclusive learning communities where the focus is on teaching and learning. Harmony is a CASEL SELect Program and supports ESSA Social Emotional Goals

**Presenter:** Tammorah Mathis, NC Department of Public Instruction
How to Introduce Systems Thinking in the Classroom and Beyond

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, STEM

In 2017, we partnered with 100Kin10, an organization that was established to train and retain 100,000 STEM teachers in the classroom by 2021, not knowing that it would change the way we serve our students forever. Through a 100Kin10 fellowship program we were introduced to a systems thinking toolkit that we have since adapted for our organization, exploring institutional challenges and generating solutions. In addition to institutional planning, we have also adapted Slice-of-the-System maps in our health sciences courses, creating new learning experiences that are both engaging and relevant for our students. In this session we will share our journey and process, highlighting the challenges, success stories and overall experience in embracing the systems thinking approach. Participants will come away with an adaptable resource that is ready to implement with any audience.

**Presenter:** Candice Chambers, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

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Identifying Staff Needs and Providing Effective In-House Training

**Strand:** Organizational Capacity

Currently youth-serving organizations will need to reassess what their teams need and may need to deliver those trainings in-house. This training will help them rethink the best way provide professional development to their staff.

**Presenters:** Janet Levings, American Institutes for Research

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Identifying and Responding to Trafficking of Youth

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Youth Development

Today’s children and youth are some of the most at-risk, vulnerable, and inadequately served individuals targeted by abuse and exploitation. This training session will focus on identification of and response to the trafficking of minors. Participants will learn about trafficking of children and youth, prevalence, risk factors, warning signs, grooming, impacts of trafficking, how to intervene effectively, and available resources.

After this training session, participants will:
1. Be able to define human trafficking and identify risk factors and vulnerabilities associated with trafficking and minors.
2. Understand the impact of trafficking on the development of children and youth.
3. Identify warning signs and red flags that may indicate that a minor is being trafficking.
4. Have knowledge of reporting responsibilities and how to respond effectively to suspected cases of trafficking.

**Presenter:** Kiricka Yarbough Smith, North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement

**Co-Presenter:** Kendra Underwood, North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement

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In-Depth Roadmap of Need: Interpreting the Data

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Organizational Capacity

This workshop, led by staff from the Public School Forum of North Carolina, will delve into data from the recently released 2020 Roadmap of Need publication. The Roadmap uses data on health, youth behavior and safety, education and economic development to assess the relative well-being of young people living in each of North Carolina’s 100 counties. This workshop will provide an overview of how to understand your county’s data and how to use the data to make productive decisions and communicate with stakeholders in your community.

**Presenter:** Ashley Kazouh, Public School Forum of North Carolina

**Co-Presenter:** Elizabeth Paul, Public School Forum of North Carolina

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Infusing Nutrition Education/SEL into Summer Programs

**Strand:** Youth Development

Summer 2020 is a time of uncertainty. One thing we know for sure is that fun physical activity is a great way to relieve stress and connect with each other! This interactive workshop will get you moving and you’ll leave with simple and inexpensive nutrition enrichment activities to promote wellness. We’ll focus on resources that are free, intergenerational and inclusive to all ages and abilities.

**Presenter:** Michelle Dinnen-Owens, Alliance for a Healthier Generation

**Co-Presenter:** Daniel Hatcher, Alliance for a Healthier Generation
Introduction to Restorative Practices

Strand: Youth Development

Restorative Practices is a framework for being that is grounded in the values of showing respect, taking responsibility, and strengthening relationships. In this workshop, participants will engage with the psychology behind Restorative Practices and learn some of the tangible tools they can use to implement these practices in their classrooms. In this workshop, the presenters will dive into how Restorative Practices promotes community building inside the classroom and can foster positive school wide culture.

Presenter: April Warren, Student U
Co-Presenter: Michelle Norwood, Student U

Introduction to Service-Learning

Strand: Youth Development

Discover how service-learning can help you meet your youth goals, improve engagement, and ignite student passion for their own education. This foundational session provides you with an overview of the service-learning process including the student-centered stage called IPARD (investigation, preparation & planning, action, reflection, and demonstration). Learn how to connect student outcomes to action to ensure a quality service-learning experience. Leave with resources and tools to improve your practice.

Presenter: Julie Rogers Bascom, National Youth Leadership Council
Co-Presenter: Bella Sullivan, National Advisory Council Member - National Youth Leadership Council

IS THIS THING ON: Tips, Tricks, & Tools To Master Your Zoom Meetings

Strand: Organizational Capacity

The world has moved to remote learning - and zoom is the leading technology to provide this kind of service! Join us for this hands on, example filled training to showcase effective ways to make your meetings and trainings come alive!

Presenter: Eric Rowles, Leading To Change

Lead with Your MIND (Mindset, Investment, Necessary Skills, Desire)

Strand: Organizational Capacity

Participants will create a plan to further develop them as Out-of-School Time leaders. Participants will self-asses and discuss the four main components of successful leadership and how this looks in their organization.

Presenter: Katherine Spinney, Katherine Spinney Coaching, LLC.

Let’s Get Moving: Walk, Listen, and Learn with The Walking Classroom

Strands: Closing Gaps, STEM, Youth Development

Participants will have the opportunity to walk, listen, and learn with The Walking Classroom, an award-winning non-profit program that improves young people’s physical, mental, and academic health! This is a great opportunity to experience what it feels like to participate in kinesthetic and auditory learning, and become energized after just fifteen to twenty minutes of aerobic physical activity. The presentation will provide general information on the program including the link between exercise and cognitive function, share the results of recent research studies, and reinforce the importance of creating opportunities to incorporate physical activity into your program in a meaningful way!

Presenter: Laura Fenn, The Walking Classroom

Leveraging the Power of Citizen Science in Out-of-School Time

Strand: STEM

Recognizing that the middle and upper elementary school years present a pivotal opportunity to ignite—or extinguish—a student’s lifelong interest in STEM, Science Action Club (SAC) designs educational resources that leverage the power of citizen science. Participation in citizen science helps spark youth excitement for science and grow a new generation of environmental stewards. Youth in SAC investigate birds, bugs, and clouds in their local environment and use apps like eBird, iNaturalist, and GLOBE Observer to document their discoveries, share data with professional scientists, and design strategies to protect our planet.

In this hands-on workshop, participants will go outdoors to explore how SAC uses citizen science to increase interest in STEM and build environmental literacy among out-of-school time youth. Workshop attendees will learn how to use tools to observe the outdoors and follow a scientific protocol to upload observations to GLOBE Observer, while also discovering ways to bring citizen science and SAC back to their programs and sites.

Presenter: Rachael Van Schoik, California Academy of Sciences
Making Them Visible: Recognizing, Supporting, and Advocating for Children of Incarcerated and Returning Parents

**Strand: Youth Development**

On any given day, there are an estimated 2.7 million children in the United States with at least one incarcerated parent. In North Carolina the best estimate is more than 28,000. The most recent Annie E. Casey Foundation report shows that more than 5 million children (179,000 in NC) have experienced parental incarceration at some point in their lives. This workshop will focus on what known and unknown information about these children (often an invisible group dealing with shame, stigma, and a sense of isolation) and the impact of parental incarceration, strategies that could be developed and implemented to identify and serve these children, ways to engage advocates in a conversation about advancing policies supporting the children (including policies that directly impact incarcerated and returning parents and indirectly impact their children), current gaps in resources and data collection, and new ways to partner and collaborate to better meet the needs of the children. The presenter will discuss the need to gather information and insight from these children themselves to ensure that their voices are heard. Participants will be encouraged to take what they learn back to their own professional settings to continue the conversation there and determine appropriate next steps.

**Presenter:** Melissa Radcliff, Our Children’s Place of Coastal Horizons Center

MARKETING YOUR MOVEMENT: Making The Case For Cause Related Marketing

**Strand: Organizational Capacity**

How do you tell your organization’s story? How do you combine the heart of your agency with the call to action that you hope for your communities and customers to take? Enter the world of Cause Related Marketing - a specific approach to video story telling that will be showcased in five different examples.

**Presenter:** Eric Rowles, Leading To Change

Meet Mizzen by Mott

**Strand: Organizational Capacity**

Open worlds of learning and discovery to young people through the new Mizzen by Mott app. Join a session with President and CEO of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Ridgway White, and Product Strategist, Jason Ricci, for a behind-the-scenes demo of the new Mizzen by Mott app. Built with and for afterschool providers, Mizzen offers high-quality, engaging educational content that inspires learning. Through support from the Mott Foundation, the app is free to afterschool providers who are empowering young people everywhere.

**Presenter:** Ridgway White, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

**Co-Presenter:** Kristina Leonardi, Mizzen by Mott

**Co-Presenter:** Jason Ricci, Product Strategist, T-Minus

National Standards for Including Students with Disabilities in Recreation, Community, and Afterschool Programs

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Mentoring, Organizational Capacity, Public & Private Partnerships, Youth Development

Participants will explore the National Standards for Inclusive Recreation Programs used to guide and accredit camps, afterschool, sport, and community programs on effective implementation of inclusive practices for children with disabilities. Participants will engage in standards alignment activities to enhance program development, activity design, and student engagement. Participants will discuss and apply practical strategies for building friendships, using positive behavior supports, addressing diverse student needs, and serving families of students with special needs.

**Presenter:** Amanda Kloo, National Inclusion Project

PLEASE HELP PARENTS: Supporting Families During A New Virtual Setting

**Strand: Organizational Capacity**

If it takes a village to raise the child, how do you support the village - during this unprecedented time? We know that the key to effective work with young people often also includes engaging the adults and family neighbors that they learn, live, and grow up with. Don’t miss this tool and example filled workshop to showcase multiple strategies, approaches, and practical examples to attract, engage, and support parents, family members, and caretakers! We’ll introduce you to a ton of FREE resources that can be used immediately with your outreach and engagement efforts - from the Period Table of Texting to an awesome onslaught of online tools.

**Presenter:** Eric Rowles, Leading To Change
**Positive Behavior Support for Kids with Disabilities Included in Afterschool Programs**

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Mentoring, Youth Development

By viewing and interacting with the content of this presentation, participants will learn how to apply foundational concepts of effective Positive Behavior Support to meet the needs of children with a wide range of needs in afterschool programs. Participants also will reflect on case examples and scenarios of challenging behaviors to identify escalation patterns, behavioral function, and intervention methods. Finally, participants will understand key differences between reinforcement and punishment and positive and negative intervention strategies to influence behavioral change for all students in their care.

**Presenter:** Dr. Amanda Kloo, National Inclusion Project

**Program Evaluation Made Simple**

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Organizational Capacity, Youth Development

This workshop will provide a basic overview of program evaluation. In this session, participants will also explore the role of logic models in program development, implementation and evaluation. Additionally, participants will learn how to engage youth, families and community members in quantitative and qualitative data collection methods like photo voice, surveys, interviews, and focus groups for program evaluation.

**Presenter:** Dr. Sheronda Fleming, Public School Forum of North Carolina

**Promoting STEM among Hispanic Students and Families: Effective Outreach and Recruitment Strategies**

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Public & Private Partnerships, STEM, Youth Development

In this workshop, participants will learn the strategic approach that is implemented by the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals (NCSHP) to promote STEM programs among Hispanic students and their families, locate information about STEM opportunities, activities participants can implement, and strategies to better serve the Hispanic community. Through this workshop, the audience will learn how NCSHP is working in collaboration with Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF) and Biogen to increase diversity and inclusive representation of Hispanic students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The audience will learn also about valuable STEM resources that after-school providers, teachers and community organizations can share with Hispanic students and their families to increase Hispanic representation in STEM.

**Presenter:** Marisol Garcia-Sandoval, North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals

**Reimaging STEM in your Programming**

**Strand:** STEM

This workshop will explore the benefits of incorporating STEM in your program utilizing the NC CAP STEM Hub resources. The STEM Hub contains a variety of resources including budget-friendly lessons, webinars, and opportunities. In this workshop, participants will also experience a lesson in action and best practices for execution.

**Presenter:** Sheneika Simmons, Public School Forum of North Carolina

**Resilience & Learning: Creating Trauma-Sensitive Spaces**

**Strand:** Youth Development

There is growing awareness of the high prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), along with the trauma reactions that can result. This workshop will delve into the research behind ACEs and more specially, the impact that ACEs have for children in the school and out of school time setting. Then participants will begin thinking about what can be done to promote resilience as well as positive development and long-term well-being, even in the face of trauma. Participants will consider approaches to create safe spaces, foster positive climate, support staff, strengthen relationships, build self-regulation skills, and support families.

**Presenter:** Elizabeth DeKonty, Public School Forum of North Carolina

**School Day Connections**

**Strand:** Public & Private Partnerships

This session provides guidance and resources on how to effectively collaborate with school partners. This is increasingly important with the reopening efforts that are underway.

**Presenters:** Fausto Lopez, American Institutes for Research
**SCIENCE comes ALIVE through MOVEMENT & DANCE!\**
**Dropping the Seeds of Creativity in Your Students!**

**Strands:** Arts & Literacy, Closing Gaps, STEM, Youth Development

Want to learn strategies to help bring out creativity in the students you serve? Do you want to get them interested in pursuing careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math)? Join THE SCIENCE LADY, Sesha Woodard, as she ACTIVELY takes you through practical tips and strategies you can use to help your students develop a love for science...ALL through the ARTS!!

**Presenter:** Sesha Woodard, Dropping Seeds in Motion
**Co-Presenter:** Tisha Harris, Dropping Seeds in Motion

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**Science Take-Out: An Unhealthy Home**

**Strand:** STEM

In this session, attendees will answer the question: “Is the Smith family’s home making them sick?” Follow the case of a family suffering from persistent fatigue, respiratory problems, headaches, and mild nausea that began when they moved to an older home.

- Perform and analyze simulated strep tests, blood tests, lead tests, and mold tests to determine possible causes for the family’s symptoms.
- Learn about hazardous substances in homes that may create unhealthy environments.
- Learn how children are especially susceptible to the effects of hazardous substances.
- Learn about actions that can be taken to reduce exposures to potentially hazardous substances.

**Presenter:** Sheneika Simmons, Public School Forum of North Carolina

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**SEL – Social Emotional Learning, “In My Feelings”**

**Strands:** College & Career Readiness, Youth Development

This session will equip childcare directors, staff, and volunteers, to help understand how emotions can lead to the choices and actions children make. There are six learning topics, my bubble/personal space, my big feelings/learning to cope, sensory processing/understanding sensory needs, safe spaces/creating community, peace tables-cozy corners/conflict resolution spaces, it feels magical/creating comfortable spaces. Each topic helps to give a better understanding of how emotions are triggered, and how staff can help children to cope and thrive in program and social settings.

**Presenter:** Liz Liles, Daughters of Worth

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**Self-Care Tips for Out-of-School Time Staff**

**Strand:** Youth Development

Join Healthier Generation for an interactive session that will give you tools to support your physical and social-emotional health. We will emphasize simple inexpensive self-care practices that can be shared with staff and families.

**Presenter:** Michelle Dinnen-Owens, Alliance for a Healthier Generation
**Co-Presenter:** Daniel Hatcher, Alliance for a Healthier Generation

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**Shifting the Trajectory for At-Risk Girls in Our Communities**

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Mentoring, Youth Development

Daughters of Worth began with only 12 girls in 2015 and today serves more than 1,000 girls each month throughout Eastern NC through six signature programs. In this workshop, Founder/CEO, Liz Liles will share her personal experiences of serving girls who have experienced significant trauma, such as trafficking, sexual/physical abuse, neglect, dire poverty, domestic violence, self-harming/suicidal ideation, homelessness, teen pregnancy and additional life events and the impact that Daughters of Worth is making in the lives of these precious girls through the creation of a program to close the gap of hopelessness.

Through GLAM girls (Girls Living a Mission), Daughters of Worth not only empowers girls by meeting needs at the level of the need, but through providing an opportunity for at-risk girls to discover a safe haven of support and to truly discover their worth and value. This signature program provides at-risk girls with the opportunity to earn scholarships, gain new life experiences, develop leadership skills, and earn prizes and awards while also improving their academic performance, adhering to the school attendance policy, maintaining little or no disciplinary action, developing strong character, and engaging in service learning opportunities. This workshop will provide participants to discover how developing trust, meeting needs, building strong relationships, and providing opportunities typically not accessible to the marginalized population truly can transform the lives of our girls, and ultimately, their community as a whole.

**Presenter:** Liz Liles, Daughters of Worth
SketchNotes 101: A Guide to Visual Note-Taking for Educators

**Strand:** Closing Gaps, Organizational Capacity

Sketchnoting or visual note-taking is a process that enables learners to form connections, simplify complex concepts, and synthesize ideas by activating the whole brain. It provides an opportunity for learners (adults or students) to create and use visual metaphors to fill in gaps in understanding while also increasing attention, engagement, and memory retention. Whether teaching a core course or an elective, participants will learn how a sketchnoting exercise compels students to interact with challenging concepts through a dynamic process that increases understanding and encourages student agency and creativity. In this session, you will be provided with a toolkit that you can easily adapt to your course curriculum. Participants will also leave the session with practical tips for how to get started with sketchnotes in your own professional learning.

**Presenter:** Candice Chambers, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

**Co-Presenter:** Dr. Mariah King, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

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Start a Science Action Club with the Power of Partnerships

**Strands:** Public & Private Partnerships, STEM

Kids crave hands-on, feet-in-the-mud, look-under-rocks science. Recognizing the shortage of high-quality STEM programs for young people—especially those in underserved communities—Science Action Club (SAC) brings exciting, interactive science experiences to middle-schoolers nationwide. In this workshop, STEM East and SAC will outline the ins-and-outs of the program and what SAC partnerships look like in action when activated by invested regional partners. Attendees will leave with an action plan for how to integrate SAC into their own programs and towns, modeled from the lessons learned with STEM East.

**Presenter:** Rachael Van Schoik, California Academy of Sciences

**Co-Presenter:** Bruce Middleton, STEM East

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Strategic Planning for Nonprofit Organizations: Sharpening Your Competitive Edge

**Strand:** Organizational Capacity

Strategic Planning allows nonprofit organizations to achieve two essential outcomes for organizational sustainability and success: focus decision making regarding purpose and strategy and commit to those decisions. Strategic planning establishes organizational direction to set priorities, identify obstacles, and leverage opportunities. By following a structured process, organizations will build alignment to guide the acquisition and allocation of resources to accomplish the mission and deliver value.

**Presenter:** DeWarren K. Langley, Charles Hamilton Houston Foundation, Inc.

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The 12 Basic Rules of Grant Proposals

**Strands:** Organizational Capacity

Did you find the perfect grant to fund your program? Unsure of where to start to complete your grant proposal? This is the workshop for you! In this workshop, you will learn about the 12 Basic Rules to consider when writing grant proposals.

**Presenter:** Dr. Sheronda Fleming, Public School Forum of North Carolina
The Power of Service-Learning
Strand: Youth Development
An informed citizenry is the foundation of a democratic society. With service-learning, students become informed citizens by researching community needs, identifying projects, connecting with experts who can teach them sustainable strategies and applying their academic skills to real world needs. Service-learning answers the question "Why do I need to know this?" with students as the drivers of their goals. Amy leads us through an exploration of this powerful teaching and learning approach that meets not only academic and social and emotional needs of students, but also the needs of our communities and world.

Presenter: Amy Meuers, National Youth Leadership Council

The Secret to Youth Engagement
Strand: Youth Development
This workshop focuses on how to engage youth using practical ways. The youth of all ages desire many things but one thing they all want is to feel like they can trust you and you hear them and what matters. Attendees will participate in building engagement from ground zero group while having fun utilizing hands-on activities that involve communication and teamwork. Attendees will learn how to use practical everyday information to make it engaging fun for youth.

Presenter: Solomon McAuley, Centralina Workforce Development Board

Thinking Constructively: Reggio Emilia and the School Age Classroom
Strand: STEM
Providing students with a productive and engaging indoor environment is a core ideal of Reggio Emilia pedagogy. Strong indoor classrooms offer school age participants with a safe way to ask questions, problem solve, and develop new learning skills. Join other school age professionals as we explore easy and effective methods to bring Reggio Emilia philosophy into the confines of the school age classroom. School age professionals will leave with a stronger understanding of Reggio Emilia practices, and new ways to apply this philosophy to indoor environments.

Presenter: Jonathan Williams, NC CCR&R School Age Initiative

Top Tips for Creating Meaningful Project-Based Learning: Using Reverse-Bloom’s Taxonomy to Create Intentional PBL
Strands: Organizational Capacity, Youth Development
Project Based Learning looks different across the board, depending on who you talk to in K-12 education. How can we create project based learning that will engage students in a deeper and more meaningful way? Bloom’s Taxonomy is one approach that helps teachers to capitalize on their curriculum by creating intentional project-based learning scenarios for learners in their environment. In this session, learners will gain a thorough understanding of how to create project-based learning scenarios for their class or out-of-school time program. Participants will come away with a toolkit including thinking map templates and examples to use in their programs.

Presenter: Douglas Price, Voyager Academy Middle School

Using Data to Support Social and Emotional Learning
Strands: Closing Gaps, Youth Development
The school closures along with other major life changes will require staff to be especially attentive to the social and emotional needs of their young people. This session is about how programs can leverage data about the quality of their program and about young people to inform decisions about how best to support social and emotional learning.

Presenters: Jessica Newman, American Institutes for Research

Using ENGAGE Handbooks to Implement a Service-Learning effort in your Afterschool Program
Strand: Youth Development
The National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) has many free and accessible resources to make it easier to use service-learning in your programs. Learn how to take an issue that young people care about, investigate, plan and take action using the Service-Learning IPARD process.

Presenter: Julie Rogers Bascom, National Youth Leadership Council
Co-Presenter: Maddy Wegner, National Youth Leadership Council
Workshop Sessions

Virtual Service-Learning

**Strand:** Youth Development

When faced with distance learning for the remainder of their senior year, six students from a Minnesota high school used the service-learning process to identify actions they could take to address the impact of social isolation.

**Presenter:** Julie Rogers Bascom, National Youth Leadership Council

**Panelists:** Six Edina High School Students, Edina, MN

WCE STEM LC: Supporting and Creating STEM Opportunities for Youth in Southeastern NC

**Strand:** STEM

In this workshop, the Watson College of Education STEM Learning Cooperative will share insight on its formation and ways each partner supports and creates STEM opportunities in our region. Audience members will engage in interactive activities and share best practices for engaging learners of all ages. WCE STEM Learning Cooperative will highlight and share activities presented to youth during STEM Learning Cooperative events.

**Presenter:** Angelia Reid-Griffin, UNCW & WCE STEM Learning Cooperative

What Happened to Me?

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Youth Development

This interactive workshop will unpack the various challenges associated with school attendance, in an effort to decrease misconduct and limiting behaviors among minority youth and students. Participants will analyze varying perspectives, discuss Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), and evaluate the impact of implicit bias and environmental conditions on academic performance.

**Presenter:** Dr. Wanda Boone, Together for Resilient Youth

Youth Centered Approach to Skill-Building

**Strands:** Closing Gaps, Youth Development

In this session participants will learn how to structure activities so that young people are engaged and develop new skills. It will emphasize practices that work virtually and in-person to promote learning.

**Presenters:** Fausto Lopez, American Institutes for Research

Help us change that.

Afterschool programs stand ready to support working families as businesses re-open. But without support from states and cities, **3 in 4 programs** will close.

Support local afterschool programs.
CHAMPIONSHIP CHESS
Atlanta-based Championship Chess® teaches chess to students in afterschool and other programs in the Greater Atlanta area, as well as runs affiliate chess programs in other states. The Championship Chess® curriculum is used throughout the U.S., and Georgia clubs and their coaches have won local, state, regional and national awards and distinctions. Championship Chess® director, Stephen A. Schneider, taught in Atlanta, Georgia, schools for 12 years, where he introduced computers into the curriculum, and developed afterschool and summer classes in higher math and curriculum for high school computer courses. He has authored books, videos and interactive game disks on scholastic chess, and he works with and supervises coaches and teachers using chess as an educational tool.

www.championshipchess.net

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Are you ready to give your students the BEST opportunities for SUCCESS?!! Brain based research shows integrating movement with learning can INCREASE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE, DEVELOP COGNITION, DECREASE BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS, IMPROVE FOCUS and ultimately support the overall HEALTH and WELLNESS of children! Dropping Seeds in Motion offers fun programs for youth to help them learn about the exciting world of science. By capitalizing on the brain/body connection, through dance & movement, children become more engaged in the learning process. Workshops get children moving, dancing and learning all at the same time! This action-based approach can help to spark their interest in pursuing careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math). Workshops are aligned with the North Carolina Science Standards. Children also develop 21st century skills such as creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication. Let’s get our kids MOVING and LEARNING!

www.droppingseedsinmotion.com

GIRLS WHO CODE
Girls Who Code Clubs are FREE programs for 3rd-12th grade students to learn computer science with a girls-first perspective. Clubs can be hosted at any nonprofit space by a volunteer, teacher, or parent with NO technical experience. Every Club receives $300 in Clubs Funds. Free coding curriculum including Scratch, Python, Javascript, Swift and more!

www.girlswhocode.com

NC TENNIS FOUNDATION
The North Carolina Tennis Foundation (NCTF) was founded in 1961 and supports organizations and programs that enhance the lives of people through tennis and education. The NCTF partners with a variety of out school time programs to introduce tennis to children of all ages and ability levels. The Foundation provides free training and access to grants to cover the cost of equipment for partner organizations.

www.nctennisfoundation.com

PERFECTING DESTINY COACHING SERVICES, INC.
Perfecting Destiny is owned and operated by Lillie Williams, a John Maxwell University Certified Life Coach, Business Consultant, Trainer and Transformational Speaker. They have assisted individuals, teams and organizations to set, monitor and accomplish their desired goals in areas of personal growth and development and leadership skills through customized workshops, seminars, classes and keynote speaking. Lillie Williams, affectionately known as “Coach Lily,” is also an author having launched her book, “Tools for Teen Transformation” in November of 2019. This interactive, character building book is designed to help parents, educators, community leaders, social services and other service providers to raise great children! The tools offered in the book have already been reported to have help teens and young adults to deal more effectively with issues of bullying, low self-esteem, teen pregnancy, opioids, alcohol and drugs and teen suicide. It is their pleasure to walk with their clients along the journey of decreasing their challenges and moving the needle toward their success!

www.perfectingdestiny.com

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS
Providing food to kids and families in need during COVID-19.

Staff at ourBRIDGE for Kids, a 21st CCLC site in Charlotte, NC

This is Afterschool
Rising to the moment.
## Public School Forum Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chanda Battle</td>
<td>Program Coordinator, NC Resilience &amp; Learning Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Bock</td>
<td>Director, Policy &amp; Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marisa Bryant</td>
<td>Director of Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth DeKonty</td>
<td>Director, North Carolina Resilience &amp; Learning Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sheronda Fleming</td>
<td>Director, NC Center for Afterschool Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Lauren Fox</td>
<td>Senior Director of Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Kazouh</td>
<td>Policy Analyst</td>
</tr>
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<td>Christy Lockhart</td>
<td>Program Coordinator, NC Resilience &amp; Learning Project</td>
</tr>
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<td>Elizabeth Paul</td>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheneika Simmons</td>
<td>Program Coordinator, NC Center for Afterschool Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhonda Van Dijk</td>
<td>Finance Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsay Wagner</td>
<td>Senior Writer/Researcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mary Ann Wolf</td>
<td>President &amp; Executive Director</td>
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## NC Center For Afterschool Programs Advisory Board

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<tbody>
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<td>Paul Barnhardt</td>
<td>Chief Operations Officers, Freedom School Partners</td>
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<td>Tom Bradshaw</td>
<td>Board Member, Public School Forum</td>
</tr>
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<td>Director of Strategic Partnerships, Boys &amp; Girls Clubs of the Coastal Plains</td>
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<td>Geoff Coltrane</td>
<td>Senior Education Advisor, Office of the Governor</td>
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<td>Chief Academic Officer, Greene County Schools</td>
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<td>Karen Darby</td>
<td>Early Learning MultiMedia Manager, Southwestern Development Commission</td>
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<td>Jamey Falkenbury</td>
<td>Director of Operations, Office of the Lt. Governor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Franklin</td>
<td>Director of Development and Programs, NC Tennis Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Franks</td>
<td>Education Partnerships Manager, Book Harvest</td>
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<td>Tiyana Glenn</td>
<td>Charlotte NEXT Coordinator, MeckEd</td>
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<td>Kim Keith</td>
<td>Vice President of Youth Development, YMCA of the Triangle</td>
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<td>Richard Lewis</td>
<td>School Community Relations Coordinator, Orange County Schools</td>
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<td>Tammorah Mathis, Board Co-Chair</td>
<td>Program Administrator, NC Department of Public Instruction</td>
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<td>Kim McClure</td>
<td>District Executive Director, YMCA of Northwest North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shannon Weatherly, Board Co-Chair</td>
<td>Director of Business Operations, Catawba Research, LLC</td>
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Powering Those Who Empower Kids

MIZZEN BY MOTT

Heavy Lifting
Activity

Collaboration, Engineering, Science, Space

5 Reviews
45 mins
Age 10 to 14

About this Activity
Students learn about the concepts of lift, thrust, and payload by constructing balloon-powered rockets to launch the greatest payload possible to the classroom ceiling.

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