

2018

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE



*Building Resilience  
in Children and Families*

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



### DR. DALE CALDWELL

Executive Director  
Farleigh Dickerson University  
Rothman Institute for Innovation  
and Entrepreneurship

Thursday, November 8, 2018

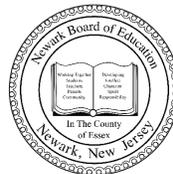
8:30-3:30PM

**Belmont Runyon  
Elementary School**

1 Belmont Runyon Way  
Newark, New Jersey 07108



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Comprehensive Services for Families and Children



**Dear Family Engagement Leader,**

We are excited to host the 4th Annual Family Engagement Conference in partnership with the Newark Board of Education's Office of Early Childhood. Each year, this conference gives us a chance to focus on the important work that family workers are doing to advance the learning and development of our children and support families. This year's conference is no different – we want to celebrate by investing in your professional development.

Children are exposed to violence, abuse, homelessness and food insecurity at alarming rates. These “adverse childhood experiences” or ACE's causes psychological trauma that stunts the growth of the developing brain. This overexposure to trauma creates high levels of toxic stress in children that can affect attention, learning and behavior.

But we can reverse this trend by fostering positive, caring learning environments and connecting families with supports to end this intergenerational transmission of trauma. Use this as an opportunity to reflect, and think about your own self-care, and walk away from this year's conference with tools you can use to support your families.

Sincerely,  
*Beverly Lynn, Ed.D*  
Chief Executive Officer



**Dear Newark Public Schools Family,**

I have had the great pleasure of working alongside you for several years now and what I have seen you do to support our families is nothing short of remarkable. We ask more of you. Each year, we ask you to set goals, measure the impacts of your work and tie what you do day-to-day to improving student achievement. And you continue to step up for the challenge! For that, I say thank you, on behalf of the Newark Board of Education.



This year's conference is yet another investment we are making in your professional development and growth. As we look at our data, we know that in order to help our children achieve academically, we have to address the social issues their families experience that create real barriers to learning. You are on the front lines of that work!

At the end of the conference, you will have learned more about Adverse Childhood Experiences and the impacts of trauma on the developing child. You will also have connected with community resources to help you build resilience in children and families. Take these practical examples of every day practice and incorporate them in your work. We stand ready to continue supporting you to be the very best support you can be to our families!

Sincerely,  
*Samantha Lott-Velez*  
Acting Executive Director  
Office of Early Childhood



## Conference Goals

*Conference participants will learn more about the impacts of trauma on the developing child and connect with community resources to help families build resilience and reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences.*



# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**8:00 – 8:50AM Registration & Breakfast**

**9:00 – 9:30AM Welcome Remarks**

Dr. Beverly Lynn, Chief Executive Officer  
*Programs for Parents*

Samantha Lott-Velez, Acting Executive Director  
*Newark Public Schools, Office of Early Childhood*

**9:30 – 10:00AM Keynote: “Understanding the Trauma all Around Us”**

Dr. Dale Caldwell, Executive Director  
*Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rothman Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship*

**10:00 – 11:00AM Panel Discussion: “Empowering Family Workers to Take Action”**

**Moderator**

Keri Logosso-Misurell, Executive Director  
*Greater Newark Health Care Coalition*

**Panelists**

Dr. Corrine Catalano, Assistant Director  
*Montclair State University, Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health*

Dr. Dale Caldwell, Executive Director  
*Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rothman Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship*

Dr. Faheem Lateef, Director  
*Community and Parent Involvement, East Orange Public Schools*

**11:00 – 11:30AM What is my ACE Score?**

Dr. Faheem Lateef, Director  
*Community and Parent Involvement, East Orange Public Schools*

**Self-Care Reflection**

D'TaRelle F. Tullis, Owner  
*Creative Movement and Dance for Children*

**11:30 – 12:00PM BREAK**

*Visit the Exhibitor Tables*

**12:00 – 12:40PM LUNCH**

**12:40 – 1:00PM Transition to Workshops**

**1:00 – 1:55PM Workshops Round I**

**2:00 – 2:55PM Workshops Round II**

**3:00 – 3:20PM Mindfulness & Movement Exercise**

D'TaRelle F. Tullis, Owner  
*Creative Movement and Dance for Children*

**3:20 – 3:30PM Closing Remarks**

Nayibe Capellan, Special Assistant  
*Office of Early Childhood, Newark Public Schools*



## **Dr. Dale Caldwell, “Urban Post Traumatic Stress Disorder”**

Fairleigh Dickinson University announced the appointment of Dr. Dale G. Caldwell as Executive Director of the Rothman Institute of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Caldwell, the author of “Intelligent Influence: The 4 Steps of Highly Successful Leaders and Organizations,” has more than 15 years of experience as an entrepreneur and 20 years of experience as a management consultant and executive coach. His professional background includes roles as a senior manager at Deloitte Consulting, deputy commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and executive director of the Newark Alliance. Caldwell also taught graduate courses at Rutgers University. Caldwell graduated from Princeton University with a degree in economics, received an MBA in finance from the

Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and earned an Ed.D. in education administration from Seton Hall University. Caldwell is an accomplished athlete who has completed three marathons and earned national rankings in duathlon, tennis and triathlon.



**Programs  
for Parents**

Comprehensive Services for Families and Children

Programs for Parents (PfP) is a non-profit organization which works to ensure that children get the best start in life. We support children, families and child care providers, in Essex County, through advocacy and action; offering education, referrals, sharing best practices and access to available financial resources.

## CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

*Chair*

**Twana Thompson**

Parent Education Coordinator,  
Programs for Parents

*Members*

**Nayibe Capellan**

Special Assistant,  
Office of Early Childhood,  
Newark Public Schools

**Samantha Lott-Velez**

Acting Executive Director,  
Office of Early Childhood,  
Newark Public Schools

**Beverly Lynn**

Chief Executive Officer,  
Programs for Parents

**Khaatim Sherrer EI**

President  
ResultsDriven Consulting, LLC



**2018 Family Engagement Conference**  
*Building Resilience in Children and Families*  
**Breakout Sessions**

- Track A:**     **Immigration and Childhood Trauma: Exploring its Connection to ACEs/Trauma**  
**Trainer: Emily Perez, MSW, LSW**  
This workshop will identify distressing circumstances (environmental dangers, fears, food insecurity, isolation, and mental health issues) faced by many immigrant children and families which can result in trauma. Participants will discuss and examine best practices for community responsiveness and involvement.
- Domestic Violence (DV) and its impact on Children and Families: How it correlates to Aces/Trauma**  
**Presenter: Pamela McCauley, New Jersey Essex County Prosecutor's Office**  
This workshop will increase awareness about the effects of Domestic Violence on women; and how it impacts children who are exposed to the battering. Participants will improve their responsiveness to children and Women experiencing DV and how to locate trauma –informed DV programs, resources and services.
- Track B:**     **Mental Illness and its impact on Children and Families: Examining the link between Mental Health and ACEs/Trauma**  
**Presenter: Dr. Cheryl Hardy**  
The workshop is designed to raise awareness about the impact of traumatic events on children's mental health. Participants will learn how to engage family members using trauma sensitive strategies to support children and families. They will also learn how to integrate trauma informed practices into family engagement.
- Child Abuse and Neglect, How it Correlates to Aces/Trauma**  
**Presenter: Donnette Green, Division of Child Protection and Permanency**  
This workshop will teach participants to recognize the signs and symptoms of child abuse and neglect; and how child maltreatment is linked to ACEs. Participants will also explore preventative methods and resources to support safe, stable and nurturing environments for children in an effort to decrease the incidence of child abuse and neglect.
- Track: C**     **Effects of Community Violence on Children and Families and its Connection to ACEs/Trauma**  
**Presenter: Dr. Leslie Lester, Psy.D IMH-E® Infant Mental Health Specialist**  
This workshop will examine community violence and its relationship to trauma; and how it impacts learning, health and behavior. Participants will learn some basic skills for recognizing and addressing children and families exhibiting symptoms of trauma; and how to appropriately identify and connect them to community based intervention services.
- Effects of Substance Abuse on Children and Families and Identifying its Relationship to ACEs/Trauma**  
**Presenter: Jose Nieves, LCSW Parent –Infant Services Clinician**  
This workshop will explore the connection between substance abuse and traumatic stress. Participants will learn how prenatal and parental substance abuse impacts a child's physical, cognitive, behavioral and social and emotional development before birth and throughout his/her life span. Participants will also obtain information and become more knowledgeable about Behavioral Rehabilitation Services in our community.