

Pathways

MAINE ROADS TO QUALITY

Early Care and Education Professional Development Network

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Maine Roads to Quality Presents Symposium 2014: Creating Peace and Honoring Diversity Saturday, June 21st at the Augusta Civic Center

Maine Roads to Quality is excited to announce that we are sponsoring a full-day training event for early childhood professionals – our Symposium 2014! The Symposium will feature a dynamic keynote speaker, Virginia Dearani, who will speak in the morning on the subject of peace and diversity and how these topics touch all aspects of our work with children and families. The afternoon will consist of a choice of breakout sessions, each focused on a different topic related to our main theme of Creating Peace and Honoring Diversity.



Please save the date for this exciting event! Complete registration information will be available in April and will be emailed to Registry members with electronic access. Registration information will also be posted on the Statewide Training Calendar at: <http://ecetrainingcalendar.muskie.usm.maine.edu/public/main.aspx>.

Seeking Nominations for the Marcia Lovell Award for Innovation in Early Care and Education

The Marcia Lovell Award was created by MRTQ to recognize an outstanding individual or organization that makes significant contributions to the development of the early care and education field in Maine, and who embodies the ideals for which Marcia advocated: better lives for children, high quality early education experiences, support for all children, including those most at risk and with disabilities, and the belief that the arts are an integral part of early education programs. Full nomination criteria and the nomination form can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/marcialovellaward>.



Marcia Lovell (1942-2005) was a friend and dedicated advocate for the importance of high-quality early childhood experiences. Marcia cared deeply about young children and their families and worked diligently to support healthy, responsive systems. She worked at the Maine Department of Health and Human Services Office of Child Care and Head Start, where she was a program specialist with more than 20 years of experience. Marcia was instrumental in the development of many early childhood programs and initiatives in the state of Maine.

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Like us on Facebook:
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Do You Know about the Growing Ideas Tipsheets and Resources?

The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) offers a free and popular online resource, *Growing Ideas Tipsheets and Resources for Guiding Early Childhood Practices* <http://ccids.umaine.edu/resources/ec-growingideas/>.

These free materials, in the form of tipsheets, resource pages, and virtual toolkits, provide early childhood and school-age care professionals, parents, and guardians with current information on a variety of topics in the areas of inclusive early care and education, social-emotional development, and program planning and administration.

The entire *Growing Ideas* tipsheet series was recently updated under the leadership of Linda Labas, M.Ed., CCIDS's Early Childhood Coordinator. "Our goal was to provide child care professionals with accurate information that would help them to make informed decisions that support the access and participation of children with disabilities in their settings," notes Labas.

Three **NEW** *Growing Ideas* tipsheets of interest were recently added under the area of program planning and administration at <http://ccids.umaine.edu/resources/ec-growingideas/program-plan-admin/>: *Admissions Policies and Practices that Build Inclusive Child Care Communities*; *Confidentiality: Respecting the Privacy of All Families*; and *Laws that Support Early Childhood Education for All*. These were co-developed by CCIDS and Maine's Protection and Advocacy agency, the Disability Rights Center of Maine, with funding from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services.

For more information about *Growing Ideas*, please contact Linda Labas at linda.labas@umit.maine.edu.



Center for Community Inclusion
and Disability Studies

University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities



The Week of the Young Child™ is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the

Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of the WOTYC is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. (Excerpt from NAEYC's website: <http://www.naeyc.org/woyc>.)

This year the WOTYC will be celebrated during the week of April 6th – 12th.

As part of our celebration of the WOTYC, MRTQ is co-sponsoring MEAEYC's Spring Training Event. MRTQ would love to know how you and your program celebrate the *Week of the Young Child*. Do you plan an event? Partner with other programs or community organizations? Share your plans by posting to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/maineroads!

2014 MEAEYC Spring Conference

featuring Diane E. Levin

Nationally published author of:

Beyond Remote-Controlled Childhood: Teaching Young Children in the Media Age

Do you have concerns about the influence of media on young children? Are you interested in learning how to work with children and families navigating the world of media and its impacts upon childhood? Come learn more at this event!

Date: Saturday, April 5th, 2014; 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: University of Southern Maine, Portland

FMI: Visit MEAEYC's website at

<http://www.maineaeyc.org/events> or

<http://dianeelevin.com> to read more about Diane.

This event is sponsored through collaboration between MRTQ, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services Office of Child and Family Services, and the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children.

SPRING 2014 TRAINING SCHEDULE

For complete training descriptions, driving directions, instructor information, and the link to register, please visit the **Maine Early Care and Education Online Training Calendar** at:

<http://ecetrainingcalendar.muskie.usm.maine.edu>.

For a full list of MRTQ Training Policies, click:

<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/pdfs/TrainingRegistrationPolicies.pdf>

Seeing Stars? Training descriptions that include a star(s) will meet a requirement for one or more of the following Maine Roads to Quality Credentials:



Director Credential



Youth Development Credential



Infant Toddler Credential I

Caring for Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families (30 hours) – Online

This training covers the unique aspects of providing child care for infants and toddlers in a home or center-based setting. Focus will be given to establishing the parent/provider relationship, understanding temperament, curriculum, and setting up and maintaining developmentally appropriate environments.

Dates: April 2nd – June 13th

Curriculum and Development for Preschool Children (30 hours) – Online

This curriculum is designed to introduce participants to planning, developing, and implementing curriculum to meet the unique needs of preschoolers. Even though they are all individuals, preschoolers follow a predictable pattern of development. In this training participants will study these commonalities.

Two Options:

Dates: April 9th – June 20th OR May 7th – July 18th

Foundations of Health, Wellness, and Safety (18 hours) – Online

Participants will be introduced to the importance of health, wellness, and safety through personal care routines, nutrition education, and environmental hazards that could impact the health of children and families.

Dates: April 16th – June 13th

Foundations of Center-based Care (30 hours) – Online

This orientation is geared toward professionals who are new to center-based care. Topics to be covered include: licensing, health and safety, working with families, professionalism, developmentally appropriate practice, child development, and more.

Dates: April 2nd – June 13th

Supporting Maine's Infants and Toddlers: Guidelines for Learning and Development (30 hours) – Online

This training is designed to guide providers through the history, creation, and use of this publication, which outlines learning and development from birth to three. The modules focus on orienting providers to the document and on developing understanding relationships.

Two Options:

Dates: April 2nd – May 30th OR June 11th – August 8th

Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines (30 hours) – Online

This training is an orientation to Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines that covers integrating the guidelines into your current curriculum, adapting the guidelines to children with special needs, observation and assessment of young children using the guidelines and sharing them with families.

Dates: April 2nd – May 30th

Partners in Caring: Families and Caregivers (12 hours) – Online 

Children experience the best quality of care when parent(s) and family and caregivers are partners with the same goals for the child. This training will offer caregivers information about families today – varieties, characteristics, stresses, challenges, and trends.

Dates: May 14th – June 13th

Operating a Family Child Care Business (24 hours) – Online

This eight-part curriculum is designed to develop and improve basic business management skills. Learning activities and take-home action steps encourage participants to practice what they learn to improve the bottom line.

Dates: May 7th – July 4th

Working with School Age Children and Youth (30 hours) – Online 

This training covers the aspects of providing child care for 5-13 year old children and youth in a child care center, before and after school program, or family child care setting.

Dates: April 2nd – June 13th

Teambuilding with Staff: The Collective Wisdom of Teams (6 hours) – Online

This online training will allow staff to learn how to best work as a team. Participants will explore the definition of a team as well as team basics.

Dates: May 7th – 23rd

Stress Happens: Distress or Eustress...Which Will You Choose? (6 hours) – Online

Stress can be all around us – as individuals and professionals. This 6-hour training is a brief journey in exploring and defining those stressors and how to manage the stress in our lives.

Dates: May 7th – 23rd

Your Professional Development Portfolio: The How, When, and Why (9 hours) – Online

This training is a brief exploration into how to create and utilize several of the portfolios found within the field of Early Childhood Education. We will set the path towards a deeper understanding of a professional portfolio, how to create one, and why you might want to have one!

Dates: May 7th – 30th

Introduction to Infant Mental Health: Issues and Practice (18 hours) – Face-to-Face 

This training covers topics concerning personality development, the balance between attachment systems and exploratory system, developmental and environmental aspects, and influences on parent and child's sense of self and developing competencies.

Dates: Saturdays, April 12th and 26th; 9:00am-3:00pm
AND Tuesdays, April 15th and 22nd; 6:00-9:00pm

Location: Trinity Day School, Portland

Linking Assessment to Curriculum in the Preschool Classroom (9 hours) – Online

Center-based providers only. This course has been designed to help increase your knowledge and level of comfort with the process of assessment and curriculum planning in the preschool classroom.

Dates: June 18th – July 11th

Stepping Up with *Quality for ME* (12 hours each) – Online

These online trainings are intended to guide programs through the requirements of Maine's quality rating and improvement system, *Quality for ME*. Trainings are available for a variety of settings – family child care, center-based programs, and school age programs. **More information and registration can be found on the Training Calendar.**

Dates for all settings: May 14th – July 11th (assignments due every other week)



Additional Upcoming Training Opportunities:

- Fostering the Social Emotional Development of Young Children – June, Ellsworth area
- Caring for Infants, Toddlers, and Their Families – June, Lewiston area
- Introduction to Infant Mental Health – summer, Waterville area

Information on these trainings will be posted to the Statewide Training Calendar – stay tuned!

Please Note:

- Registration closes three business days before the start of the training to allow MRTQ and the trainer adequate preparation time. Many trainings fill quickly, so we advise you to register as early as possible.
- MRTQ is sometimes able to add additional training based on demand; if you try to register for a training that is full, we highly recommend that you place your name on the waiting list. If a second session is added, those on the waiting list receive priority registration!

Maine Roads to Quality Child Care Leadership Institutes I, II, and III (30 hour each) – Hybrid (online/in class) ★

The Maine Roads to Quality Child Care Leadership Institutes are designed specifically for child care center directors and administrators. Leadership I presents the foundational skills required for a center director and is designed for those who are relatively new to their leadership position. Leadership II builds on the concepts from Leadership I, focusing on building leadership skills, supervision, communication, and organizational climate. The final Institute in the series is designed for those practitioners who are working to expand their leadership role and begin to focus on advocacy.

All three courses are being offered in a hybrid format. Modules 1, 3, and 5 will be conducted online and Modules 2 and 4 will take place in a classroom setting. **Registration for each Institute is separate.**

Leadership I: Building the Foundation for Quality in Early Childhood Programs

Dates: March 26th – April 23rd; two in-class meetings on April 4th and 18th, 9:00am-4:30pm

Location: Augusta location TBD

Leadership II: Leadership in Early Childhood Education Today

Dates: May 7th – June 4th; two in-class meetings on May 16th and 30th, 9:00am-4:30pm

Location: Augusta location TBD

Leadership III: Transforming Leaders and Programs

Dates: June 18th – July 16th; two in-class meetings on June 27th and July 11th, 9:00am-4:30pm

Location: Augusta location TBD

The Leadership Institutes will be repeated in the summer/fall of 2014. Full details will be listed in the Summer edition of Pathways at the beginning of June.

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Did you know that MRTQ has a Facebook page? We do! Items that you are likely to find on our page include:

- Announcements about upcoming MRTQ training, with links to registration
- Information about local trainings or conferences related to early care and education
- Links to national webinars or online courses from reputable early care and education organizations
- Other professional notices relevant to early care and education practitioners in Maine – feel free to share yours!

On-Site Technical Assistance

MRTQ has trained staff and Consultants available to deliver on-site technical assistance to child care and pre-k programs. Our services can be designed to meet your

program-specific needs, whether it's developing tools for authentic assessment or creating a parent handbook, and whether you're a center, family child care, pre-k, or before and after school program.

If you'd like to learn more about this service, please call Pam Soucy, Project Assistant at 1-888-900-0055 or 207-626-5258. You can also read more on our website at:

<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/maineroads/ta.htm>.



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