

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

**Spring 2016**

AFP Workshops are open to the public and are FREE of charge. Explore a topic with us!

### NAEYC Accreditation Overview



Join the Accreditation Facilitation Project (AFP) as we journey through the four steps of NAEYC Accreditation. This workshop is among several offerings provided by the Connecticut AFP in an effort to support continuous quality improvement through the NAEYC Accreditation process. Educators seeking accreditation or renewal will improve their understanding of the requirements of the system and the steps of the NAEYC Accreditation process.

#### **Participants in this professional development session will:**

- Gain understanding of NAEYC's Program Standards and Accreditation Criteria;
- Learn about or be updated on the self-study materials, four steps of the NAEYC Accreditation process, and accreditation requirements; and
- Learn about current state, local and national resources to support programs engaged in the NAEYC Accreditation process.

**With the transition of AFP services to the United Way, a spring 2016 application process will not be offered. Please watch for the announcement of accreditation support services from the United Way.**

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

	Date and time	Region	Content	Location
1	<b>Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> 9 am - noon</b>	Southeast	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	LEARN 44 Hatchetts Hill Road Old Lyme, CT
2	<b>Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 9 am – noon</b>	Northeast	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	EASTCONN 376 Hartford Tpke. Hampton, CT
3	<b>Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 11 am</b>	South Central	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	Gateway Community College Room S119 20 Church Street New Haven, CT
4	<b>Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> 3 – 5 pm</b>	North Central	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	CREC Central 111 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford, CT
5	<b>Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 1:30 – 3:30 pm</b>	Southwest	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	United Methodist Preschool 165 South Avenue New Canaan, CT
6	<b>Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1 – 3 pm</b>	Southwest	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	Care Around the Clock 500 State St. Bridgeport, CT
7	<b>Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 10 – noon</b>	Northwest	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	Education Connection 355 Goshen Road Litchfield, CT
8	<b>Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 1 – 3 pm</b>	Northwest	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	Education Connection 4 Mountainview Terrace Suite 201 Danbury, CT

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### Introduction to NAEYC Portfolios

Can an Assessor see what your program is like year-round with just one visit? Using classroom and program portfolios, each program has the chance to really 'tell their stories' of excellence by collecting evidence, documenting practices and storytelling according to NAEYC's Portfolio Instructions. Participants are welcome to bring their portfolio items to share strategies, ask questions and answer "Does this piece of evidence fully answer the criterion?" and "Is it the best documentation I can provide?"

Region	Date and Time	Location
Southwest	Wednesday March 30 6 – 8 pm	Black Rock Library 2705 Fairfield Ave. Bridgeport
North Central	Monday May 9 <sup>th</sup> 3 – 5 pm	CREC Central 111 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford

### A Golden Opportunity: NAEYC Portfolios

**Part 1:** The first hour of the session will cover guidelines to maximize organizational strategies, collection time, space, and “story telling”; the NAEYC guidance on portfolio assembly; and how to refine and highlight efficient and effective strategies for presenting portfolios during the accreditation visit. We will discuss ways to utilize portfolios to support parent involvement, program marketing, and professional development.

**Part 2:** The rest of the session will combine networking with work time and discussion. Participants must be able to bring portfolio evidence to review and share. Portfolios do not need to be complete, but experience and actual examples of documentation are necessary to participate. This opportunity will help participants reflect and refine the story of their own classrooms.

Presented by: Carol Annette, SC AFP

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Friday May 6 <sup>th</sup> <b>Part 1:</b> 9 – 10 am <b>Part 2:</b> 10:00 – noon	Gateway Community College Room S119 20 Church Street New Haven

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### NAEYC Standard 2: Curriculum

#### Planning Curriculum with Infants and Toddlers

This workshop will address the value of using curriculum in working with infants, toddlers and their families. Hands on activities will illustrate the importance of curriculum planning for the very young and systems that will support teachers in appropriate curriculum planning using the CT Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS).

Facilitated by: Sandra Fowler, North Central AFP Facilitator, Hartford AEYC at CREC

Region	Date and Time	Location
East	Tuesday May 24 <sup>th</sup> 5 – 7 pm	Dime Savings Bank 290 Norwich Salem Tpke. Norwich

#### Tinkering, Science, Making, STEM, STEAM...What's it all about?

Is your science table dusty and full of crispy leaves from last fall and a magnifying glass? Did you ever think about science when you decided to work in the early childhood field? What's this talk about "tinkering" and "making"? What's STEM and now what's STEAM? Participants will spend two sessions talking, exploring, doing, making – tinkering - with ideas to help your science curriculum come alive and be supportive of children's learning.

This series is limited to 20 participants.

This session focuses on the NAEYC Standard 2 Curriculum, Topic Area 2G Curriculum Content Area for Cognitive Development: Science and Standard 3 Teaching, Topic Area 3G: Using Instruction to Deepen Children's Understanding and Build their Skills and Knowledge. It also supports learning strands in the Science domain of the CT ELDS.

Presented by: Carol Annette, SC AFP

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Wednesdays, 5 – 7 pm  March 30 <sup>th</sup> April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meriden Health Department Training Room 165 Miller Street Meriden

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### NAEYC Standard 3: Teaching

#### Book Study: *The Power of Guidance: Teaching Social-Emotional Skills in the Early Childhood Classrooms*

This 3-part book study is based on the work of Dan Gartrell from his book, *The Power of Guidance: Teaching Social-Emotional Skills in the Early Childhood Classrooms*. Participants will have the opportunity to examine their beliefs and practices around guidance, develop a common understanding of terms, and learn new strategies to implement in their classrooms to support children’s social-emotional skills. Each session will include discussion of the book, goal setting for the implementation of new learning, and a time for sharing. **All participants will receive a copy of the book, complements of the CT Accreditation Facilitation Project.** *This session is applicable to NAEYC topic area 3B Creating Caring Communities for Learning.*

Presented by: Sheri Lambert, Northeast AFP

Region	Date and Time	Location
EAST	Thursdays, 5 – 7 pm March 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 17 <sup>th</sup> March 31 <sup>st</sup>	EASTCONN 376 Hartford Turnpike Hampton

#### Developing Small Group Time Experiences for Your Preschool Classroom

Teachers can plan meaningful sensory experiences that move beyond finger painting and play dough. Learn how to utilize children’s interests to create activities that encourage language and independent exploration of materials. *This session addresses NAEYC Topic area 2D Language Development, and NAEYC Topic area 3A Designing Enriched Learning Environments.*

Presented by Sue O’Donnell, Grant Coordinator and Interim Director, School for Young Children at University of Saint Joseph

Region	Date and Time	Location
North Central	Wednesday March 23 <sup>rd</sup> 6 – 8 pm	The School for Young Children at the University of Saint Joseph, 238 Steele Rd. West Hartford

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### Book Study: *Young Investigators*

Join us for a three part book study around the topic of meaningful planning. We will be reading together the book "Young Investigators: The Project Approach In the Early Years" by Judy Harris Helm and discussing how we plan so that our children engage deeper. Book studies are an opportunity to engage in collegial conversations on topics of interest to teachers engaged in ongoing efforts to improve their teaching practices. Participants will have a guaranteed seat in the room when the author Judy Harris Helm visits us for a full day session in April. **Participants must come to all three sessions to receive a complimentary copy of the book.**

Region	Date and Time	Location
North Central	Thursdays, 12-2 February 25 March 10 April 7	CREC 108 Charter Oak Ave., "The Cottage" Hartford

## NAEYC Standard 4: Assessment of Child Progress

### Using Teaching Strategies GOLD for Infant/Toddler Assessment

In this 2-day session, teachers will be introduced to the components and structure of Teaching Strategies GOLD™. Through video clips, activities, and large-group discussions, teachers will explore the progressions of development and learning for children from birth through kindergarten, learn how to interpret the corresponding color bands, and apply the GOLD™ objectives to their observation-based assessments. They will practice using the four-step assessment cycle, evaluating a child's portfolio, and developing a conference form to share with families. By the end of the session, teachers will have the basic skills they need to begin implementing the Teaching Strategies GOLD™ Assessment Toolkit. If you are using the Creative Curriculum for Infants/Toddlers/Twos already, TS GOLD kits may be purchased for you –limitations apply. *This session is applicable to NAEYC Standard 4: Assessment of Child Progress.*

Presented by: Lori Blake, Early Childhood Consultant

Region	Date and Time	Location
Northwest	Friday May 13 and Wednesday June 8, 2016 9 am – 4 pm	Education Connection 4 Mountainview Terrace Danbury

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### Using Assessment To Make Meaningful Decisions About Teaching And Learning

Do you *do* assessments or do you *use* assessments? Does assessment feel like an added burden? It can be when the focus of assessment is on logistics and management rather than on the meaningful process of collecting information to get to know children and make decisions about their learning. In this full day session we will explore the countless ways educators gather and use formative assessment information to guide decision-making during teacher-child interactions, lesson planning, conversations with families, and collegial conversations. If your process of assessing young children is in need of help or refinement and you want to learn how assessment can improve your overall teaching practices, this session will provide you with concrete strategies for making improvements. *This session is applicable to NAEYC Standards 3 Teaching and 4 Assessment of Child Progress.*

Presented by: Judy Jablon, nationally recognized educator and author of numerous publications and videos including *Powerful Interactions: How To Connect With Children to Extend their Learning*

Region	Date and Time	Location
North Central	Monday May 2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 am – 3:30 pm	CREC, Coltsville Training Room 34 Sequassen Street Hartford
Northwest	Tuesday May 3 <sup>rd</sup> 9 am – 3:30 pm	Education Connection 355 Goshen Road Litchfield

## NAEYC Standard 5: Health

### Spit Happens: Managing Infectious Diseases

A sick child can turn the daily schedule upside down as well as result in the child missing beneficial learning time. This session is designed to support educators to implement best practices in infectious disease management in the classroom, to maintain a healthy learning environment and promote attendance. This interactive session will address activities and routines that promote a healthy classroom for adults and children and an approach to managing illness (identifying signs and symptoms of illness, conducting daily health checks and applying exclusion criteria.) Best practices from *Caring for Our Children, 3rd Ed.* and *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools* will provide an evidence base for the workshop.

Presented by: Kimberly Sandor, MSN, ARNP

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

Region	Date and Time	Location
North Central	TBD	Location to be determined. Please contact SFowler@crec.org
Southwest	Wednesday March 9 <sup>th</sup> 3 – 6 pm	Housatonic Community College Lafayette Hall, Room C231 900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport
Northwest	Tuesday March 29 <sup>th</sup> 3 – 6 pm	Ion Bank Foundation (next to the Naugatuck YMCA) 270 Church St Naugatuck
EAST	Thursday April 7 4 – 7 pm	LEARN 44 Hatchetts Hill Road Old Lyme
South Central	Thursday April 14 <sup>th</sup> 3 – 6 pm	Gateway Community College Room S217 20 Church Street New Haven

### NAEYC Standard 6: Teachers

#### Using the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct

Decisions, decisions, decisions. We make them every day. In an age of increasing accountability and in a career of immense responsibility, the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct helps build reflective practice, communication, and collaboration. Learn how to use the Code for improved practice starting today. *This session is applicable to NAEYC criterion 6.A.01*

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Thursday March 10 <sup>th</sup> 6 – 8 pm	Gateway Community College Library Multipurpose Room S217 20 Church Street New Haven
Southwest	Monday March 14 <sup>th</sup> 1:30 – 3:30 pm	United Methodist Preschool 165 South Avenue New Canaan
Northwest	Tuesday April 5 <sup>th</sup> 6 – 8 pm	Education Connection 4 Mountainview Terrace Danbury

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### An Essential Component of Daily Intentional Teaching: Knowing and Celebrating Our Culturally Diverse Families and Staff!

WELCOME TO PART II of a collaborative and exciting series on authentic ways to recognize and celebrate daily the rich diversity of young children, their families and staff. In this session we will dig deeper into theories, best practices, and teaching strategies. We will examine anti-bias education goals, curriculum experiences, children's literature, and linkages to the CT Early Learning and Development Standards (CT ELDS). Come prepared to share your strengths, successful practices, stories, and anything gained in Part I that has benefited your program. *This session addresses NAEYC Criterion 6 A 07, and NAEYC Standard 7 Families.*

Note: You need not have attended Part I in order to join this session. All are welcome!

Presented by Elsa E. Jones M.A.—Independent Early Childhood Consultant

Region	Date and Time	Location
North Central	Thursday May 12th 6-8 pm	CREC Central, room 101 111 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford

### An Overview of Special Education

What is special education? What is a PPT? What is an IEP? What is an IFSP? What is the difference between part B and part C of IDEA? What is your role as providers? The answers to these and other questions will be addressed in this training. This training will address special education, what it is, what the law says, roles and responsibilities related to the IEP/IFSP. This is meant for B-3 providers, paraprofessionals, and teachers in community-based programs. Participants will gain an understanding of special education that they will be able to apply to their job. *This session supports the NAEYC criterion 6.A.12.*

Presented by: Sheri Lambert, Northeast AFP

Region	Date and Time	Location
EAST	Tuesday May 17 <sup>th</sup> 5 – 7 pm	EASTCONN 376 Hartford Turnpike Hampton

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### Bring Out the Leader in You

Me? A leader? Completion of this **2-part series** for teaching staff who supervise or mentor other staff members meets NAEYC criterion 6.A.09. Participants will learn to recognize “traits of a leader” in themselves and use those traits to develop skills in supervision and mentoring to foster a more effective teaching team in the classroom. **Participants should plan to attend both parts of the series!!** *This session is applicable to NAEYC criterion 6.A.09.*

Region	Date and Time	Location
Northwest	<b>Part 1</b> Monday April 26 <sup>th</sup> 5 – 7 pm	New Milford Public Library 24 Main Street New Milford
	<b>Part 2</b> Tuesday May 24 <sup>th</sup> 5 – 7 pm	
Southwest	Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:30 pm  April 28 <sup>th</sup> May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Five Mile River Nursery School 5 Pennoyer St. Norwalk (Rowayton)

## NAEYC Standard 9: Physical Environment

### Creating Effective Learning Environments

The classroom environment sends powerful messages to children and families. Reflect upon strategies which allow you to create a positive environment through the use of room arrangement, displays, and selection of materials. Learn how to set up preschool environments that support your goals for children in physical, social and cognitive development. *This session addresses NAEYC Standard 9, Physical Environment NAEYC Topic area 3 A, Designing Enriched Learning Environments.*

Presented by Wendy McGrath, Central AFP Facilitator, Hartford AEYC at CREC

Region	Date and Time	Location
North Central	Monday April 4 <sup>th</sup> 4 - 6 pm	CREC Central, room 101 111 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### NAEYC Standard 10: Leadership and Management

#### Book Study: *The Visionary Director: A Handbook for Dreaming, Organizing, and Improving Your Center*

Are you a relatively new program administrator that is just becoming “comfortable in your own skin” with your role of leading and managing an early childhood program and staff? Are you a seasoned program administrator who is in need of recharging? This 3-part series will provide you with an opportunity to explore the unique and influential role you play in the culture and quality of your program. We will do this through the authors’ (Margie Carter and Deb Curtis) lens of: Managing and Overseeing, Coaching and Mentoring, and Building/Supporting Community.

**The book will be provided for you complements of the CT Accreditation Facilitation Project and participants are expected to come to each session having read the assigned chapters and completing reflective homework.** *This session is applicable to NAEYC Standard 10: Leadership and Management.*

Presented by: Kristen Kennen, NW Region AFP

Region	Date and Time	Location
Northwest	Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:30 pm March 10 <sup>th</sup> April 7 <sup>th</sup> May 5 <sup>th</sup>	All Kids Child Care 128 Avenue of Industry Waterbury

#### Understanding Systems and the Program Administration Scale

In this session participants will engage in an interactive learning game that will increase knowledge about efficiency and effectiveness in the workplace, challenge ideas, create a shared language, and explore the role of information and feedback as a basis for decision making. Participants will also apply new learning by examining current systems for administrative practices and identifying methods for improvement.

Through simulation, lecture, small and large group activities participants in this session will 1) broaden their understanding of early care and education programs as social systems, 2) learn strategies for encouraging innovation, and 3) identify a plan for developing systems that will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their programs.

Facilitated by: Jill Bella, Ed.D., and Melissa Casteel, Ed.D., McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership at National Louis University, Wheeling, IL

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Wednesday March 23 8:45 am – 4 pm	Gateway Community College Room S217 20 Church Street New Haven
Northwest/Southwest	Thursday March 24 8:45 am – 4 pm	Ethan Allen Hotel 21 Lake Ave. Ext. Danbury

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

North Central	Wednesday May 4 <sup>th</sup> 8:45 am – 4 pm	Location to be determined. Please contact SFowler@crec.org
East	Thursday May 5 <sup>th</sup> 8:45 am – 4 pm	Charter Oak Federal Credit Union 1055 Hartford Turnpike Waterford

### Quality Improvement through Action Planning

Developing an action plan is like setting a GPS to your next location. With a good plan, you can see how much you have progressed towards a goal and how far you are from your destination. This session will also introduce you to the Program Administration Scale (PAS) to help you set a goal and map out the steps needed to get there...and keep you on your course. The rapidly changing early childhood landscape demands an increased attention to program quality and written action plans can become a program administrator's biggest asset. PAS books will be available for the first 15 programs who register complements of the CT Accreditation Facilitation Project. *This session is applicable to NAEYC Standard 10: Leadership and Management, Topic Area F: Program Evaluation, Accountability, and Continuous Improvement.*

Presented by: Kristen Kennen, Northwest AFP

Region	Date and Time	Location
Northwest	Wednesday March 30 <sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:00 pm	Education Connection 355 Goshen Road Litchfield

## Professional Development Opportunities From the Accreditation Facilitation Project

### Registration Information



Please help us meet the needs of all participants by registering for events. Registering ensures that facilitators have enough materials for you and that you are informed of changes or cancellations!

#### Northwest Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please phone or email your name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to Kristen Kennen, 203-791-1904 x162, [kennen@educationconnection.org](mailto:kennen@educationconnection.org)

#### Southwest Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please phone or email your name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to Donna Delohery, 203-791-1904, x161 or [delohery@educationconnection.org](mailto:delohery@educationconnection.org). For directions, please use [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com).

#### North Central Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Register by email to Addie Ramos at [ARamos@crec.org](mailto:ARamos@crec.org) and include your name, program name and town, contact information and sessions you would like to attend. Confirmations will be sent by email. In case of inclement weather, sessions may be cancelled or postponed. Call 860-509-3692 for information. If you need to register by phone, please leave your name, contact information, program name and town at 860-509-3692.

#### South Central Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please email your name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to: Carol Annette, [cannette@gwcc.commnet.edu](mailto:cannette@gwcc.commnet.edu) or call 203-285-2229 or 800-236-2714. You will only be contacted if there is no room left in the workshop or there is a change in schedule. For directions to Gateway Community College go to [www.gwcc.commnet.edu](http://www.gwcc.commnet.edu).

#### Northeast Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Register online at <http://www.registereastconn.org/> If you have questions regarding registration or have difficulty using the online form, e-mail [conferenceoffice@eastconn.org](mailto:conferenceoffice@eastconn.org) or call EASTCONN at 860-455-1533. For information, email Sheri Lambert: [slambert@eastconn.org](mailto:slambert@eastconn.org)

#### Southeast Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please register online at [www.learn.k12.ct.us](http://www.learn.k12.ct.us). For information, call or email Michele Pearson: 800-292-6971 x 112 or [mpearson@learn.k12.ct.us](mailto:mpearson@learn.k12.ct.us).