



We're lighting the way to a brighter future!

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NEWS RELEASE

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2022 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES ENROLLING NOW

Johnstown, PA (Dec. 6, 2021) – One of the hallmarks of a quality child care program is teachers who participate in professional development. When teachers learn, children do, too. To make ongoing professional development easily accessible for the region's early childhood providers, The Learning Lamp is teaming up with the Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children (PennAEYC) to offer monthly trainings on topics that will help early childhood programs better care for and educate children.

Registration is open for the 2022 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Professional Development Series. The *ECE Professional Development Series* begins in January 2022 and can be accessed virtually by any early learning provider across Pennsylvania, no matter how rural, so long as they have access to the Internet.

Delivered via Zoom, the sessions will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month through December 2022. Early childhood education professionals including teachers and staff working with infants and toddlers and preschoolers, as well as ECE administrators, center directors and post-secondary ECE students are encouraged to attend. To reserve a spot, visit <https://www.thelearninglamp.org/events/>.

"Our goal in offering this series is to help early learning professionals to strengthen their skills and learn more about the latest thinking in the field of early care and education," said Leah Spangler, Ed.D., President & CEO of The Learning Lamp. "By offering the series online, early learning providers and teachers anywhere in Pennsylvania can take part."

PQAS hours and/or Act 48 credits will be awarded to participants for each completed two-hour session. Monthly topics include:

- ECE Professionalism: A Closer Look at Your Responsibilities (K6.4 C2)
- Observing Young Children (K4.14 C1 & K4.15 C2 & STARS SQ.3.4.8)
- The Importance of Supervision: Indoors & Out (K7.1 C2 & STARS LM.2.4)
- Beneath the Iceberg: ACES and the Effect of Family Stressors on Children (K3.5 C2 & STARS SQ.3.4.4)
- Why an Apple is Worth 1,000 Words: Learning Through Play (K2.14 C1/C2; K2.14 C3 & STARS EC.2.2)
- Time Management for the ECE Leader (D6.9 C3)



The mission of The Learning Lamp is to engage all children in the support they need to succeed. The Learning Lamp is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. The official registration and financial information of The Learning Lamp may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania; 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

- Developmentally Appropriate Practices Basics-S (K2.9 C1 & STARS SQ3.4.10)
- Behind the Scenes: Examining Underlying Causes of Challenging Behaviors (K2.13 C3)
- Understanding “Y”: Generational Differences in the Work Place (K6 C2)
- First, There is No Magic Wand...Positive Behavior in the Preschool Classroom (K2.13 C1 & C2)
- Tips and Tricks for Taking Care of You: Caring for the Caregiver (K7.3 C2, STARS SQ 3.4.5)
- Read for Resilience (K1.1 C2, STARS SQ.3.4)

Early bird discounts are available for registration by Wednesday, December 22, 2021, or until limited early bird slots are filled. Early bird registration is \$75 and includes access to all 12 sessions. PennAEYC and Southern Alleghenies ECE Shared Services Alliance members receive an added discount and pay only \$65. Registration after Wednesday, December 22, 2021, or until discounted seats last is \$12 per session.

ECE Instructors include:

- **Rose Snyder**, Director of Member & Educational Services for PennAYEC, the PA Association for the Education of Young Children (PennAEYC). Rose is a veteran child care center director who also spearheads Pennsylvania’s SharedSource PA shared services initiative.
- **Karen Rucker**, Owner of RespectingChildren.com and Professional Development Consultant. Karen has more than 30 years of experience in early care and education, having held multiple roles as teacher, director, education coordinator, trainer, mentor, and multi-site center manager.
- **Cynthia Pollich**, Extension Educator, Statewide at Penn State University. Her program focuses on providing technical support and delivering evidence-informed educational programs to parents and early educators, to improve the quality, educational practices, and educational outcomes for children.

The workshops were organized by The Learning Lamp, a leading provider of early learning programs based in Johnstown, PA. The nonprofit organization manages 26 licensed child care and preschool programs across five counties and serves as the hub for the Southern Alleghenies ECE Shared Services Alliance and the Southern Alleghenies Regional Intermediary for a statewide ECE Registered Apprenticeship Career Pathway. In addition to The Learning Lamp, event sponsors include Grand Canyon University, ECE Professional Development Organization at PASSHE, Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children (PennAEYC), Lakeshore Learning, UPMC for Kids, and Community Foundation for the Alleghenies.

For more information on The Learning Lamp and the ECE Professional Development series, visit <https://www.thelearninglamp.org/events/>.

THIS PROJECT PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:



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*The Learning Lamp is a nonprofit organization with a mission to engage all children in the support they need to succeed. We deliver high quality programs that are affordable and accessible to families of all income levels. **In 2020, The Learning Lamp served 28,938 youth/adults from 51 public school districts and 36 other schools and organizations in 13 Pennsylvania counties.***

Our programs include: one-to-one tutoring; before/after school programs; portable classrooms aimed at building math and science skills; alternative education programs for at-risk students; evidence-based prevention programs; online learning and credit recovery; SAT preparation; educationally-focused child care; literacy-based preschool programs; and grant writing and project consulting for schools.