NYAR Savannah Program 2012

National Youth-at-Risk Conference, Savannah

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/nyar_savannah

Recommended Citation

This presentation (open access) is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences & Events at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in National Youth-At-Risk Conference Savannah by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.
Successful Programs for Empowering Youth: Overcoming Poverty, Violence, and Failure

MARCH 4–7, 2012

The Office on Women’s Health
in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

HOSTED BY
College of Education and Continuing Education Center at Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

2012
MARCH 4 – 7
Hyatt Regency Hotel On The Historic Riverfront in Savannah, GA

23RD ANNUAL NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE
www.nationalyouthatrisk.com
Exhibits are located on the LOBBY and MEZZANINE LEVELS. You are urged to visit these areas to gather information and to examine materials, which may be of benefit to your programs.

20/20 ENTERPRISES
ACTIVE PARENTING PUBLISHER
AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH
AMERICORPS NCCC
AWAY WITH WORDS, INC.
B.L.A.C.K. NEGRO LEAGUE
BOTIVE LIFESKILLS TRAINING
BRAINCHILD
BRIEF PROGRAM FOR HEALTH
CASEY’S ART
DIANE’S ETC.
DISCOVERY TOYS
EDUCATORSHANDBOOK.COM
EDITS PUBLISHING
EPIC EMPOWERMENT ENTERPRISES, INC.
G. E. M. EDUCATIONAL ARTS
GEORGIA PROJECT LEARNING TREE
HAMilton BOOKSTORE
IT’S GOOD 2B GOOD, KIDS CHARACTER EDUCATION
MY BEHAVIOR RESOURCE
MY POLICE STUFF
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTERDRUG PROGRAM
NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR JUVENILE SERVICES
PEACH STATE HEALTH PLAN
PROJECT TOWARDS NO DRUG ABUSE - UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
THE EDMAT COMPANY
THE JOSEPH WASHINGTON GROUP
UNIVERSITY BEHAVIORAL CENTER
URBAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
WORDPLAY MULTIMEDIA, LLC
YOUNG MASTER MINDS OF ATLANTA
YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY

Available on Amazon.com and Kindle

MY MOTHER KILLED CHRIST
But God Loves Me Anyway

Contact Katie Roberta Stevens: grantwriter119@gmail.com

5 Star Reviews!!
“As teens, we stole food and clothing, yet we all broke the cycle of poverty.”
How?
Read this powerful memoir today and be inspired.

DOWNLOAD THE 2012 NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE PROGRAM TO YOUR SMART PHONE OR IPAD
DEAR CONFERENCE ATTENDEES,

On behalf of the Planning Council and our sponsors, we welcome you to the 23rd Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference. Over the years, the conference has grown tremendously and so have the needs of the youth we serve. We remain dedicated to providing up-to-date comprehensive professional training to all adults who serve youth. This year, over 100 nationally and internationally recognized presenters share successful programs and strategies for creating safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering environments to reduce at-risk conditions and promote the well-being of all our young people. We hope you find the conference presentations both useful and stimulating and that you have several opportunities to network with like-minded professionals. Please attend our Monday evening Idol & Mixer and also the Poster Reception on Monday late afternoon. Thank you for helping make the conference a resounding success again this 23rd year!

Best regards,
Dan Rea and Denise Weems
Georgia Southern University, College of Education,
Co-Chairs of the Conference Planning Council

---

### Conference at a Glance

#### March 4. SUNDAY

- 1 PM: Check In Opens - Lobby
- On-site Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony
- Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony
- Exhibitors will be available at their tables during regular conference hours.
- 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM Pre-Conference Workshops
- 6 PM – 8 PM Grand Keynote Banquet
  - Regency Ballroom
  - Keynote Presentation
  - Stedman Graham

#### March 5. MONDAY

- 8 AM: Check In Opens - Lobby, On-site Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony, Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony
- Continental Breakfast – Regency Ballroom
- Pre-function
- 8:30 – 10 AM
  - High Flying Schools Award Ceremony
  - Keynote Presentation
  - Pedro A. Noguera
- 10:30 – 11:45 AM Concurrent Sessions
- 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM
  - Lunch on your own
- 1:15 – 2:30 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 2 – 4:15 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 4:15 PM Turn in Evaluations
- 6 PM National Youth-at-Risk Idol & Mixer

#### March 6. TUESDAY

- 8 AM: Check In Opens - Lobby, On-site Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony, Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony
- 8 – 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 – 9:45 AM Concurrent Sessions
- 9:45 – 11 AM Concurrent Sessions
- 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Lunch on your own
- 1 – 2:15 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 2:45 – 4:00 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 4:00 – 5:30 PM Poster Reception
- 4:00 PM Turn in Evaluations
- 4:30 – 5:00 PM PLU Credit Mastery Test
- 4:30 – 5:00 PM Poster Reception

#### March 7. WEDNESDAY

- 7:30 AM: Check In Opens - Lobby, On-site Registration Opens – 2nd Floor Balcony, Exhibits Open – Lobby & 2nd Floor Balcony
- 7:45 – 8:15 AM Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 – 9:15 AM Keynote Presentation
  - Steven W. Edwards
- 9:45 – 11 AM Concurrent Sessions
- 11:15 – 12:30 PM Concurrent Session
- 12:30 PM Turn in Evaluations

---

WELCOME TO THE 23RD NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE MISSION

The conference trains adults who serve youth to create safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering educational environments that foster the well-being of all children and adolescents.
**Conference Mission**

The conference trains adults who serve youth to create safe, healthy, caring, and intellectually empowering educational environments that foster the well-being of all children and adolescents. To accomplish this mission, it offers over 100 presentations by nationally and internationally recognized presenters to over 1200 conference participants from across the United States. In these presentations, participants learn about current research-based educational programs and strategies, which empower young people to overcome at-risk conditions that may threaten their safety, health, emotional needs, or academic achievement. Participants also gain knowledge of proactive solutions and best practices for meeting the serious challenges faced by many of our youth today such as school violence, poverty, learning difficulties, achievement gaps, illiteracy, boredom, apathy, low expectations, misbehavior, dropout, drugs, bullying, gangs, teen pregnancy, sexual harassment, racism, and dysfunctional families. Furthermore, participants gain effective educational tools to build strong caring schools, communities, and families, which can meet the diverse needs of all our young people. Illustrative of the conference mission, the conference logo—consisting of three overlapping circles—represents the well-trained collaborative efforts of schools, families, and communities in fostering the well-being of our youth.

**FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS**

**I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP**
Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

**II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS**
Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

**III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION**
Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

**IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH**
Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

**V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY**
Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.

**Our Thanks To The 2012 Planning Council**

**DR. DAN REA, CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR**
Professor, Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading, College of Education, Georgia Southern University

**DR. DENISE WEEMS, CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR**
Associate Professor, Teaching and Learning, College of Education, Georgia Southern University

**MARIE WILLIAMS, CONFERENCE COORDINATOR**
Program Development Specialist, Division of Continuing Education, Georgia Southern University

**SILKE LEDLOW, CONFERENCE COORDINATOR**
Assistant Program Development Specialist, Division of Continuing Education, Georgia Southern University

- Ron Alt (ALTeratives)
- Deanne Bergen (Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Region 5 Office of Prevention Services and Programs)
- Evelyn Baker Dandy (Retired)
- Irene Denmark (First District RESA Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities)
- John Finney (Economic Opportunity Authority)
- Jeremy Foreman (HandsOn Southeast Georgia)
- Irma Gibson (Savannah State University)
- Marilyn Hutchinson (Women of Worth, Inc.)
- Carol Jenkins (Englewood High School)
- Patricia Parson (Georgia Southern University)
- Thomas Koballa (Georgia Southern University)
- Eric Landers (Georgia Southern University)
- Lois J. Landy (Division of School & Leader Quality, Georgia DOE)
- Gary Moore (Chatham County Board of Education Police Department)
- Michael O’Neal (Parent University)
- Judith Shuman (Effingham County Board of Education)
- Shelly Smith (First District RESA Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities)
- Sherry Smith (Georgia Southern University)
- Mike Stubbs (Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools)

**JANICE REYNOLDS, IN MEMORIAM**
Program Development Specialist, Division of Continuing Education, Georgia Southern University

Conference coordinator for three years - and assistant coordinator for many years before that - Jan Reynolds devoted hundreds of hours of leadership and service to the National Youth-at-Risk Conference. Jan passed away of heart disease in March 2011.

---

**Welcome to the 23rd National Youth-at-Risk Conference**

Conference coordinator for three years - and assistant coordinator for many years before that - Jan Reynolds devoted hundreds of hours of leadership and service to the National Youth-at-Risk Conference. Jan passed away of heart disease in March 2011.
This Year’s Conference Provides an Array of Learning Opportunities

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Presentations of successful practices, programs or issues with our featured and highlighted speakers are provided in a lecture style format.

PANELS: Panels feature a group of experts chosen to discuss an important topic and allow for an audience question and answer period. This year’s panel topics are: Building Peace in Our Schools and Communities, Meeting the Challenges of Rural Education, and Unmasking Mean Girls: Reframing the Discourse on the Root Causes and Consequences of Meanness among Girls.

TOWN HALL MEETING: Our Town Hall Meeting, How to Help Boys of Color Succeed, is the seventh in this annual series of discussions. It will be a double session with ample time for audience participation.

POSTER SESSIONS: Poster Sessions provide an opportunity for interaction and consultation with highly respected professionals with expertise in specific areas. These sessions feature visual aids and handouts. All sessions will be first-come, first-served.

NAME BADGES MUST BE WORN: To be admitted to the banquet on Sunday, March 4 and the breakfast each day you must wear your name badge, which will indicate that you are registered for these events.

PLEASE RESPECT THE SESSION: Please turn off Cell Phones during each presentation. Do not enter any session late. Thank you!

CONFERENCE EVALUATION FORMS: Evaluation forms will be distributed by our Room Monitors at the first Concurrent Session at each day of the conference. Please turn in your completed evaluations at the end of each day to a Room Monitor. For your convenience evaluation collection boxes will be in the hotel’s public areas. An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING UNIT (PLU) MASTERY TEST: Georgia educators who will be earning a PLU at the conference should report to the registration area on Tuesday at 4:30 PM to take the short essay Mastery Test. Please allow 30 minutes to complete your test.

SEATING CAPACITIES: The seating capacity for each presentation room is listed throughout the program. The smaller presentation rooms fill quickly. Please arrive early for presentations in those rooms and be prepared with a second choice.

Professional Learning Units

Participants of the 23rd Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference who hold a valid Georgia Teaching Certificate or Paraprofessional License or who are working towards a Paraprofessional License will be eligible for one (1) PLU credit hour. One (1) Professional Development Unit (PLU) credit is available for participants who attend 10 hours of the conference. Recipients must successfully complete a short written examination of the material covered. Successful PLU candidates will receive their PLU credit forms within 4-8 weeks following the conclusion of the conference. These forms may be submitted to employing GA public school systems for 1 credit toward certification renewal. PLU credit is used by employees of Georgia public school systems who currently hold certificates in an approved field (certified teachers, school counselors, administrators, etc.) as credit toward RENEWING their existing certificates.

Please Note: You must turn in your Prior Approval Form no later than 10 AM on Monday, March 5. Those who have turned in a completed PLU Prior Approval Form will be given a copy of the conference’s objectives to review while attending the conference (you will need this form to receive access to the Mastery Test). The Mastery Test will be given on Tuesday, March 6th at 4:30 PM for those who have already attended 10 hours of the conference and Wednesday, March 7 at 12:45 pm. Report to the conference registration desk for directions to the testing room. Please allow at least 30 minutes to take the test.

Continuing Education Units

ALL PARTICIPANTS
Conference participants will be awarded 1.50 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for 15 hours of participation through the Division of Continuing Education and Public Service at Georgia Southern University. Certificates will be mailed after the conference upon request via the online conference evaluation form.

THIS PROGRAM HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE FOLLOWING:

COUNSELORS
Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCA).

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
Georgia Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (GAMFT).

SOCIAL WORKERS
National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

PREVENTIONISTS
Prevention Credentialing Consortium of Georgia (PCCG).

PEACE OFFICERS
Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST).

**Sign In Sheets for all associations listed above will be at the Conference Registration Desk.
Space may still be available for pre-conference workshops. Visit on-site registration on the second floor.

2:30 – 5:30 PM • PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Sunday • 2:30 – 5:30 PM • Pre-Conference Workshop

GAMES CHILDREN PLAY: HATE THE GAME, NOT THE PLAYER
FEATURED SPEAKER: Marc Fomby, BMS, CPS, CEO, FTC Prevention Services, Richland, MS

This workshop is designed to alert parents, healthcare professionals, teachers, physicians, religious leaders, and other gatekeepers to the latest trends in youth behavior as it relates to suicide by focusing on issues from the youth's perspective. Emphasis is placed on identifying risk factors and key indicators of suicidal thoughts, behaviors, and tendencies. Participants also learn their roles in the prevention and intervention process. Examples of situations and scenarios affecting a range of populations are presented in this workshop. This workshop seeks to integrate suicide prevention into existing health, mental health, substance abuse, education, and human service activities in a unique manner to result in more effective responses. FTC's goal is to promote public awareness and education, reduce the stigma of suicide, and serve as a resource for agencies and individuals who work with kids and families who may be dealing with issues as it relates to suicide.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Sunday • 2:30 – 5:30 PM • Pre-Conference Workshop

IS ANYONE HOME? STRATEGIES TO REACH DISCONNECTED PARENTS TO IMPACT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
FEATURED SPEAKER: LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

According to Charles A. Wells, "The school will teach children how to read, but the environment of the home must teach them what to read. The school can teach them how to think, but the home must teach them what to believe." Many teachers and youth service providers experience the frustration of trying to involve parents and getting little response. Providers complain that parents do not come to conferences or school open houses, check homework, or answer notes. This leads some providers to conclude that parents do not care about their children's education. While it is true that the emotional problems of a few parents may be so great as to prevent them from becoming involved with their children's education, most parents do care a great deal. This interactive workshop is designed for youth service providers to explore what research has shown to be the impact of family engagement of student attitudes, skills, and behaviors. Participants discuss their own experiences—both successes and challenges—in partnering with families to support their children's education in school.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Sunday • 2:30 – 5:30 PM • Pre-Conference Workshop

ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS ABOUT STUDENTS WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS
FEATURED SPEAKER: Eric Landers, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Department of Teaching & Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

This pre-conference workshop concentrates on the skills teachers need to address challenging behaviors in the classroom, facility, or clinic setting. The central theme of this session is to think analytically about challenging behaviors and ask the right question—why? Not "why," as in: "Why did you do that?" The response from the student is always the same: "I don't know." The more important question is: "Why did that kid just do that?" It is through understanding and addressing this question that will help teachers manage student behavior and learn how to fully support students with challenging behaviors. At the conclusion of this session, participants will have a plan and structure to take back to their settings to share with colleagues.

6 – 8 PM

GRAND KEYNOTE BANQUET AND OPENING SESSION

Regency Ballroom • Sunday • 6 PM • GRAND KEYNOTE BANQUET

Featuring The Esther F. Garrison School of Visual and Performing Arts Choir, Savannah, GA
Under the direction of John Tisbert, Music Teacher

Regency Ballroom • Sunday • 6:45 PM • KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

TEENS CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN: NINE STEPS FOR SUCCESS
Stedman Graham, Educator and Entrepreneur, S. Graham & Associates, Chicago, IL

Faced with an ever-changing world of choices and challenges, many teens feel they cannot bridge the gap between their desires and their future. How can educators help students become leaders of their own lives, armed with skills that will endure beyond the classroom, and build a successful life? Educators will learn the Nine Steps for Success to use when working with teens.
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST – BALLROOM PRE-FUNCTION

8:00 – 8:30 AM

8:30 – 9:00 AM

OPENING SESSION – REGENCY BALLROOM

Featuring The Savannah State Concert Choir
Under the Direction of Nan Poole Spicer, Music Director,
Savannah State University, Savannah, GA

HIGH FLYING SCHOOLS AWARD CEREMONY

2012 HIGH FLYING SCHOOLS

Deanna Davenport Elementary School, Canutillo, TX
PRINCIPAL: MARTA STROBACH

Bellwood Elementary School, Richmond, VA
PRINCIPAL: JENNIFER RUDD

Rex Mill Middle School, Rex, GA
PRINCIPAL: KAREN MURNER

Gainesville High School, Gainesville, GA
PRINCIPAL: CHRIS MANCE

Glen Avenue Elementary School, Salisbury, MD
PRINCIPAL: MICHAEL COLLINS

2012 HIGH FLYING SCHOOLS: HONORABLE MENTION

Waycross Middle School, Waycross, GA

Southern Choctaw Elementary School, Gilbertown, AL

Tangelo Park Elementary School, Orlando, FLA

Scott’s Branch Middle School, Summerton, SC

New Holland Core Knowledge Academy, Gainesville, GA

Fair Oaks Elementary School, Marietta, GA

9:00 – 10:00 AM

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

CREATING SCHOOL CULTURES THAT PROMOTE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Pedro A. Noguera, Ph.D., Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Development, Executive Director, Metropolitan Center for Urban Education, New York University, New York, NY

While the movement for standards and accountability has largely succeeded in bringing greater attention to the issues surrounding student achievement, surprisingly little attention has been given to what it takes to create conditions in schools that will make achievement more likely. Missing from much of the policy debate related to achievement is how to support and cultivate school cultures that promote learning and healthy social development among children. This presentation will describe strategies that have proven effective elsewhere at supporting teaching and learning and transforming school cultures. It will also explore how schools can develop effective partnerships with parents to further efforts to raise achievement and how data can be used to develop school reforms that lead to transformations in the culture and structure of schools.

FOLLOWING THE KEYNOTE PRESENTATION PLEASE EXIT THE REGENCY BALLROOM TO ALLOW THE HYATT AMPLE TIME FOR A RESET

10:00 – 10:30 AM

BREAK
THE BULLY’S SYSTEM OF SUPPORT AND HOW TO BREAK IT • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Eric Landers, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Department of Teaching & Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Schools have a responsibility to protect students from the physical and psychological effects of bullying. However, the complex nature of bullying demands interventions that are more multifaceted than a simple “anti-bullying” sign posted in the hallways or assigning bullies to an alternative school. This session examines the different roles associated with the act of bullying and details how schools can more effectively prevent and address bullying in a public school setting.

“HIGH FLYING SCHOOL” SHOWCASE
SCHOOLS: Deanna Davenport Elementary School, Canutillo, TX; Bellwood Elementary School, Richmond, VA; Rex Mill Middle School, Rex, GA; Gainesville High School, Gainesville, GA and Glen Avenue Elementary School, Salisbury, MD

Teachers and principals from five “High Flying Schools” showcase how they closed achievement gaps and raised achievement for all students in their schools. The audience is invited to hear their stories and ask questions. “High Flying Schools” meet six criteria: (1) high achievement, (2) high poverty, (3) high diversity, (4) community collaboration, (5) citizenship development, and (6) democratic education.

I AM ALL THAT AND A BAG OF CHIPS! AN ARTS-BASED APPROACH FOR EMPOWERING YOUTH • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Donna Wiggins, Author, Researcher, Education Consultant and Associate Professor of Music Education, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC

Get ready to clap, slap, move, celebrate and sing about what makes you special. Join in creating musical affirmations about historical and current-day personalities presented in children’s literature who excelled against great odds. Learn strategies for creating community within your youth groups and classrooms that promote and nurture academic achievement, creative and critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem and empowerment.

ANGRY MEN ‐ THE POWER OF ONE, THE PROMISE OF TEAM • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Kenneth Williams, Chief Visionary Officer, Unfold the Soul, LLC, Tyrone, GA

Ken uses the classic film 12 Angry Men as a lens to discuss the five qualities that support effective teams: open inquiry, accepting responsibility for decision making, participation of team members, the value of productive conflict in discovering ideas and revealing new information, and the essential role of diversity in decision making. The film explores techniques of consensus building among a group of men whose diverse personalities create intense conflict. Ken shows how teams face and overcome similar challenges to support student learning, collaborate effectively, and succeed. Participants gain ideas to substantially improve team effectiveness in an effort to support “at-promise” students.

DISCIPLINE IS NOT PUNISHMENT: THE 5 ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)
Jim Lawson, ISS Program Administrator, A. Crawford Mosley High School, Bay District Schools, Lynn Haven, FL and Sherri Zimmerman, Assistant Professor, Graduate Program Coordinator for Educational Leadership, University of West Florida, Fort Walton Beach, FL

Participants will learn an effective in-school suspension model has been piloted in Bay County, Florida, with a remarkable rate of success. The model is designed to positively affect student behavior, reduce discipline referrals, increase student achievement, and reduce the rate of dropouts. This presentation is interactive with special consideration given to the five elements necessary to successfully utilize the ISS model in a school or classroom. These elements are: personnel, preparation, orientation, implementation, and assessment.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

BLAME IT ON THE ALCOHOL: UNDERSTANDING THE “MESSAGE IN THE MUSIC”
• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Marc Fomby, BMS, CPS, CEO, FTC Prevention Services, Richland, MS

This informative, fun, interactive, and educational workshop will introduce you to various music genres and explore the lyrical content within music that is communicating messages of underage drinking, as well as bullying, crime, violence, and degradation to our youth. In this workshop participants are guided through exploration of current trends in music that have become “acceptable” in society. Today’s music promotes and glorifies the use and abuse of alcoholic beverages and illegal substances. Participants will examine the blatant and subliminal messages directed towards our youth daily via radio, television, video games, mp3 players, and other common entertainment formats. Media literacy is promoted as a means of being proactive to protect and teach youth how to make healthy, positive lifestyle choices. This workshop is ideal for creative prevention and intervention strategies to facilitate groups, trainings, interventions, etc. by actively involving youth in the process of deciphering and dissecting the “Message in the Music.”

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

IS ANYONE HOME? STRATEGIES TO REACH DISCONNECTED PARENTS TO IMPACT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 1:15 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

According to Charles A. Wells, “The school will teach children how to read, but the environment of the home must teach them what to read. The school can teach them how to think, but the home must teach them what to believe.” Many teachers and youth service providers experience the frustration of trying to involve parents and getting little response. Providers complain that parents do not come to conferences or school open houses, check homework, or answer notes. This leads some providers to conclude that parents do not care about their children’s education. While it is true that the emotional problems of a few parents may be so great as to prevent them from becoming involved with their children’s education, most parents do care a great deal. This interactive workshop is designed for youth service providers to explore what research has shown to be the impact of family engagement of student attitudes, skills, and behaviors. Participants discuss their own experiences—both successes and challenges—in partnering with families to support their children’s education in school.

Our Thanks to
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health for their annual support of our conference.

Do we have your current email address?

Please stop at the Registration Booth on the Second Floor to confirm your email address.
10:30 – 11:45 AM • MONDAY

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

“AT-RISK” YOUTH & COLLEGE READINESS: RAPID READING IMPROVEMENT IS THE KEY
Benita Patton, Teacher & Trainer, York Institute, Jamestown, TN and Dee Tadlock, Ph.D., Developer, Read Right Methodology, Shelton, WA

Learn about “at-risk” students who achieved two years’ growth in reading in one semester through an innovative approach. Hear a brain-based explanation of why so many teens have reading problems and about the work “at-risk” students must do to improve reading ability. Gold-standard research favorably reviewed by the National Center for RTI will be presented, with implications for college readiness.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

TAKING THE WHEEL IN A SEX-DRIVEN SOCIETY
Casey Newsome, Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Coordinator, Beaufort County School District; Shelia Wiley, Beaufort County School District, Software Manager/ Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator and Lakinsha Petty, Beaufort County School District, Human Services/ Medicaid Coordinator, Beaufort, SC

Key people including educators, community stakeholders and faith leaders take the lead in establishing a health curriculum in the school district and community. Then, fidelity from the policy and procedures stage is used for full implementation. Participants will learn how to establish a successful Comprehensive Health Education Advisory Council and communicate effectively with School Improvement Councils, the School Board, administrators, and parents.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session

PROBLEMATIC PARENTS: MOVING FROM CONFLICT TO COOPERATION
Timothy Allen, Reverend, Senior Caseworker, Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, Dorchester, MA

Those who work with children at risk are familiar with the challenges that are presented by difficult parents. This presentation will cover specific strategies, techniques and practices designed to engage the most difficult to reach parent and motivate them to become part of the team. Participants will leave the workshop with tools that can be immediately implemented and help develop effective working relationships with parents.

Do we have your current email address?

Please stop at the Registration Booth on the Second Floor to confirm your email address.
**Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**SUCCESS FACTORS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES**

Alayne MacArthur, MS, Principal Consultant, Circa Learning, LLC and Willie R. Burton, Educated Stars of Tomorrow, Ithaca, NY

Educated Stars of Tomorrow was founded by former NBA player Willie Burton. This program engaged athletes, coaches, parents, teachers, and other stakeholders to identify the academic and social-emotional success factors for student and professional athletes. The results of this comprehensive dialogue were translated into an initiative—grounded in evidence-based practice—to promote success factors for student athletes and guide those who teach, coach, parent, and mentor this unique population.

**Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**CREATING SUCCESS FOR “AT-RISK” YOUTH: NO EXCEPTIONS, NO EXCUSES**

Misty Kelley, Special Education Coordinator, John J. Wright Alternative Education Program, Spotsylvania County Schools; Terecia Gill, Principal of Drop-Out Prevention and Alternative Education; and Pat Wheelbarger, Coordinator of Diploma Completion Programs, Spotsylvania, VA

At John J. Wright Educational and Cultural Center, students improve, grow, and become successful. Through our innovative school model we are able to manage behavior through our BOLT levels program. Students have access to diploma completion and GED programs based on their success in the alternative education setting. We understand that “at-risk” youth are often emotionally fragile and require a non-punitive alternative setting to thrive. That is why we use our levels program as a positive behavior support to build relationships and improve social skills. Character education programs are built into the classroom levels program and students have verbal and visual reminders of responsible citizenship. We create success for students by individualizing their graduation plan and putting them on the correct path for excellence.

**Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**STUDENT LEADERS’ BULLYING PREVENTION/INTERVENTION PROJECT**

Corey Layne, Ph.D., School Psychologist, Fayetteville, GA; Benedicta Amakye and Adria Hickson, Georgia State University, School Psychology Program, Atlanta, GA

The focal point of the leadership group was to include youth who displayed positive and negative behavior in the school setting. This interactive workshop will focus on the components of bullying behavior, development of an adolescent leadership group, prevention/intervention techniques, and successful implementation of a school-wide bullying prevention/intervention project. Individuals who work with youth that are in need of positive leadership opportunities in school will find this a must attend workshop. Participants will be provided with a quick reference guide defining bullying, prevention, and intervention techniques. In addition, participants will view student-created bullying video scenarios for school-wide prevention/intervention.

**Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Monday • 10:30 – 11:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**JUVENILE JUSTICE INVOLVED YOUTH: CLINICAL OR CRIMINAL?**

Jeremiah Hopes, Therapist, NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Private Practice, Charlotte, NC

Juvenile justice involved youth face gang violence, substance abuse and mental health problems, high recidivism and possible adult incarceration. Do juvenile justice involved youth criminals deserve correction or are they just clinically needy children? This workshop will explain how human service and juvenile justice professionals can collaborate to effectively assess and address both the criminogenic and therapeutic needs of this “high-risk” population.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

THE BULLY’S SYSTEM OF SUPPORT AND HOW TO BREAK IT
FEATURED SPEAKER: Eric Landers, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Department of Teaching & Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Schools have a responsibility to protect students from the physical and psychological effects of bullying. However, the complex nature of bullying demands interventions that are more multifaceted than a simple “anti-bullying” sign posted in the hallways or assigning bullies to an alternative school. This session examines the different roles associated with the act of bullying and details how schools can more effectively prevent and address bullying in a public school setting.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

INFRASTRUCTURES IN SCHOOLS THAT CAN SUPPORT “AT-RISK” YOUTH
• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Rosalind LaRocque, Associate Director, American Federation of Teachers, Upper Marlboro, MD

In an attempt to meet the needs of “at-risk” youth, this presentation suggests that changes are needed to the environments of our schools in the hope that students will be inspired to learn and achieve. Most improvement projects cost money; yet the returns are lower than expected. Reform can be a less costly alternative. The infrastructure that can bring about student success lies within the school. This presentation will feature those infrastructures which can create a cohesive and coherent system that will support student learning.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

ONE STEP FORWARD, MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Quentina Miller-Fields, Senior Director of Public Personal Services, Savannah, GA

This presentation will be encouraging, inspiring, and uplifting. The audience will gain knowledge and the steps needed to acquire professional and personal success. They will also learn the significance of “taking one step at a time.” This knowledge will lead to success.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

ANGRY MEN: THE POWER OF ONE, THE PROMISE OF TEAM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Kenneth Williams, Chief Visionary Officer, Unfold the Soul, LLC, Tyrone, GA

Ken uses the classic film 12 Angry Men as a lens to discuss the five qualities that support effective teams: open inquiry, accepting responsibility for decision making, participation of team members, the value of productive conflict in discovering ideas and revealing new information, and the essential role of diversity in decision making. The film explores techniques of consensus building among a group of men whose diverse personalities create intense conflict. Ken shows how teams face and overcome similar challenges to support student learning, collaborate effectively, and succeed. Participants gain ideas to substantially improve team effectiveness in an effort to support “at-promise” students.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

SCOTT ALTERNATIVE LEARNING CENTER: DESIGNED FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT NEEDS
Utaff W. Gordon, Science Instructor, Savannah-Chatham Board of Education, Scott Alternative Learning Center, Savannah, GA

Scott Alternative Learning Center is one of the largest Alternative Educational Programs in the state of Georgia. At one time, it served five separate populations of students without a “bell” schedule. The data provided will give a realistic view of the challenges the faculty and staff has faced to make our “at-risk” youth academically viable. Do not miss this opportunity to grow your school; the future of education is moving toward non-traditional. Do not get left behind. Audience questions and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

CULTURE OF HOPE: HOW SCHOOLS ARE HELPING STUDENTS TO LEARN EFFECTIVELY, STAY IN SCHOOL, AND FIND A PATHWAY OUT OF POVERTY • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3:00 PM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert D. Barr, Senior Analyst, Boise State University Center for School Improvement, Boise, ID; Karla McCarty and Misty Cox, Teachers, Johnson County, KY

In spite of the successes of No Child Left Behind, there have been some unfortunate results. Too often the curriculum has narrowed, with a greater focus on assessments in reading and math and that pressure has led to cheating. Even though the achievement gap has largely been closed at the elementary and middle school level, the gap has grown larger at the high school level. As a result, large percentages of low income students falter at the high school level and ultimately drop out of school. Considering the changes in the economic place that now require education and training beyond high school, being successful at the elementary and middle school level is not enough, and even graduation from high school is not enough. This session will describe efforts to build student pride, help students find a “place of belonging”, and help them find purpose in their lives. These efforts are helping students find a pathway out of poverty.

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

IS ANYONE HOME? STRATEGIES TO REACH DISCONNECTED PARENTS TO IMPACT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

FEATURED SPEAKER: LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD

According to Charles A. Wells, “The school will teach children how to read, but the environment of the home must teach them what to read. The school can teach them how to think, but the home must teach them what to believe.” Many teachers and youth service providers experience the frustration of trying to involve parents and getting little response. Providers complain that parents do not come to conferences or school open houses, check homework, or answer notes. This leads some providers to conclude that parents do not care about their children’s education. While it is true that the emotional problems of a few parents may be so great as to prevent them from becoming involved with their children’s education, most parents do care a great deal. This interactive workshop is designed for youth service providers to explore what research has shown to be the impact of family engagement of student attitudes, skills, and behaviors. Participants discuss their own experiences—both successes and challenges—in partnering with families to support their children’s education in school.

FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
   Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
   Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
   Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
   Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
   Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.
Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**MUSIC, MOVIES, & MEDIA: FROM TI TO FB @ TOOLS YOU CAN USE IN 2011!**

- **PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM**

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:** Eric Rowles, President & CEO, Leading to Change, Inc., Charlotte, NC; Fred Baker, City Rescue Mission, Inc., Fayetteville, NC

What is the connection between Drake & Green Day? T.I. & Taylor Swift? YouTube & My Yearbook? X-Men & Harry Potter? Come to this workshop to learn how to use over forty different media tools. Including tools related to today’s music, movies, and social media helps you stay on the “cutting-edge” in your work with young people. Participants will be introduced to many free or inexpensive tools that they can use to hear music months before their youth. You will be able to legally download clips of movies still in the theater and connect with hundreds of youth via broadcast texting! Hold on tight and arrive early, as this workshop moves at warp speed.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**CHANGE HAPPENS NOW... ARE YOU READY 1+1=1**

- **PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Fred Stokes, President, Fred Stokes Group, Ltd., Tarrytown, GA

This presentation will outline how in today’s society there is no shortage of quick fix programs and applications about how to solve the problems that are confronting our youth. Every year there is a new and improved formula on how to deal with “at risk kids.” However, our youth are still falling through the cracks at an alarming rate. The kids that are not dropping out of school are performing at or below their grade level. On the surface, it would appear that the kids themselves are at fault. But, who’s really at fault? Is it the parents/guardian, the school system, or could it be the government? Because these problems are not bias to skin color or socioeconomic background, all of our kids are “at risk.” What do we do to turn things around so that our young people can succeed? Are you tired and frustrated in dealing with kids that seem like they just don’t get it? Fred Stokes shares real life success stories using humor and analogies about his days spent in the NFL to move you to the next level. Simple strategies for victory.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**KINGIAN NONVIOLENCE TRAINING: RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING FOR THE HOME, SCHOOL, AND COMMUNITY**

- **PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, Professor Emerita, Georgia Southern University and Jeremy Foreman, Executive Director, HandsOn Southeast Georgia, Statesboro, GA

Based on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s Nobel Prize winning teachings of nonviolence, this presentation provides interactive exercises to introduce guiding principles and practical steps towards nonviolence. These steps can lead to the establishment of cultures of peace in schools and communities as well as the development of historical awareness and perspectives. The training of educators and community leaders in the use of nonviolence provides better alternatives for adults and youth to resolve personal, community, and global conflicts. The target audience for this presentation includes teachers, counselors, school administrators, community leaders, and parents.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**GIRL WHAT YOU SAY**

- **PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 3 PM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Cathy Washington, Author, Dynamic Speaker, The Joseph Washington Group, Inc., Atlanta, GA

Girl What You Say is a personal development, mentoring organization designed to build the self-esteem and self-worth of young girls in elementary, middle, and high schools. Our goal is to empower, educate, and encourage young girls so that they blossom into secure young ladies with purpose and destiny. This three-tiered program is founded upon building young ladies up through a support of six key foundational pillars. By teaching each young lady a variation of the following pillars, they will essentially build each other up, and serve as positive role models for those that are younger than them in the program.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**SESSION CANCELLED**
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**HIV: THINKING POSITIVE AND CREATING CHANGE IN TODAY’S SOCIETY**
Gregory S. Felzien, M.D., AAHIVS, Diplomate in Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease, Director of the Office of Infectious Disease and HIV Medicine, Southeast Health District, Statesboro, GA

The HIV epidemic continues to be a critical issue in communities around the world. Stigma, discrimination, and myths are still a part of society resulting in risky behavior, denial, and delay in seeking care. The objective of this presentation is to discuss the current issues as they pertain to youth around the world, the United States, and Georgia. Discussion will focus on disease awareness, prevention, and advancement in treatment options.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**EVERYONE CAN “BE CLASSY!” A PROVEN ANTI-BULLYING AND SELF-ESTEEM BUILDING APPROACH**
Kem T. Cazier, Principal, Star Valley Middle School, Afton, WY

The “Be Classy” program is an anti-bullying approach that promotes the idea that all students should exhibit respect and responsible behaviors in our schools and in our society. This program has proven strategies and practices that have dropped discipline office referrals by 90% and physical aggression (fights) by 92%. This approach instills in an individual higher self-awareness, a more positive attitude, and more respect for self and others.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

**ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE IN JUVENILE COURT PROMOTES COMMUNITY SAFETY AND REHABILITATION**
Chandlee Johnson Kuhn, Chief Judge, Family Court of Delaware, Family Court of the State of Delaware, Wilmington, DE

Delaware’s Gun Court maintains safer streets while promoting the rehabilitation of juveniles into educated and productive citizens. Emphasizing treatment and education over punishment and alienation has led to a low recidivism rate and judicial and economical efficiency. The collaboration among the Court, Prosecutor’s Office, Defense Counsel, and the Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services has made this program successful in Delaware.

Room Monitors will be collecting MONDAY evaluations at 4:15 PM.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

**Panel:** Unmasking Mean Girls: Reframing the Discourse on the Root Causes and Consequences of Meanness Among Girls

**Moderator:** LaToya Johnson, MBA, Project Manager, Research and Evaluation Solutions, Inc. (R.E.E.S.S.I., Inc.), Alexandria, VA

**Panelists:** Stephan Brown, PhD, LMHC, NCC, BCABA, President/CEO; Lauren Josephs, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, Vice President & COO, Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando, FL; Bernice Tucker, Executive Director, Women Accepting Responsibility, Inc., Baltimore, MD; Deborah Scott, MPH, Principal & Executive Director, Sage Associates, Houston, TX; Aleisha Langhorne, MPH, MHSA, Health Scientist, Office on Women’s Health, Washington, DC

**Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health**

Adolescent development researchers and mental health experts suggest that prior to being labeled as “mean,” many of these girls are themselves victims of violence and the threat of violence. Unfortunately, by the time the girls’ own violent behavior surfaces—oftentimes in retaliation to abuse and maltreatment—their victim status is minimized, while their aggressive behavior becomes salient. In this panel discussion, adolescent social and health experts funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health (OWH) will reframe the public discourse on mean girls by focusing primarily on the fundamental causes of aggressive girl behaviors. Panel members will include discussions about how the media personifies mean girls as “cool” despite dire consequences associated with allowing these girls to transition into adulthood with their basic and emotional needs still unmet. Panelists will approach the mean girls as a controlling image that ultimately results in victim-blaming approaches that criminalize when in fact counseling and coaching are more appropriate responses. OWH is implementing gender-responsive prevention programs that require grantees to address violence in the lives of girls who are more likely to behave badly in our society. Panel presentation topics will be as follows: (1) Demystifying the root causes of meanness among girls, (2) understanding the realities of unresolved meanness among girls, (3) deconstructing historical trauma as a cause and consequence of “meanness” among Native Girls, and (4) the need for gender-responsive strategies to address the causes and consequences of girls at greater risk for violence.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

**Infrastructures in Schools That Can Support “At-Risk” Youth**

**Featured Speaker:** Rosalind LaRocque, Associate Director, American Federation of Teachers, Upper Marlboro, MD

In an attempt to meet the needs of “at-risk” youth, this presentation suggests that changes are needed to the environments of our schools in the hope that students will be inspired to learn and achieve. Most improvement projects cost money; yet the returns are lower than expected. Reform can be a less costly alternative. The infrastructure that can bring about student success lies within the school. This presentation will feature those infrastructures which can create a cohesive and coherent system that will support student learning.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

**One Step Forward, Moving in the Right Direction**

**Featured Speaker:** Quentin Miller-Fields, Senior Director of Public Personnel Services, Savannah, GA

This presentation will be encouraging, inspiring and uplifting. The audience will gain knowledge and the steps needed to acquire professional and personal success. They will also learn the significance of “taking one step at a time”. This will lead to success.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

**I Am All That and a Bag of Chips! An Arts-Based Approach for Empowering Youth**

**Featured Speaker:** Donna Wiggins, Author, Researcher, Education Consultant and Associate Professor of Music Education, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC

Get ready to clap, slap, move, celebrate and sing about what makes you special. Join in creating musical affirmations about historical and current-day personalities presented in children’s literature who excelled against great odds. Learn strategies for creating community within your youth groups and classrooms that promote and nurture academic achievement, creative and critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem and empowerment.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

**The Art of War Resilience: Positive Coping Strategies for Youth Who Are Bullied**

**Tara Tolbert, LCSW, School Social Worker, Pupil Personnel Services and Tiffany Griffin, School Social Worker, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, Savannah, GA**

Using many of the tenets of cognitive behavior therapy, the presenters connect the principles of Sun Tzu’s Art of War to positive coping strategies that youth may use to become more resilient in overcoming the negative effects of being bullied. Presenters will also highlight the anti-bullying initiatives of Savannah-Chatham County Public School System.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

CULTURE OF HOPE: HOW SCHOOLS ARE HELPING STUDENTS TO LEARN EFFECTIVELY, STAY IN SCHOOL, AND FIND A PATHWAY OUT OF POVERTY
FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert D. Barr, Senior Analyst, Boise State University Center for School Improvement, Boise, ID; Karla McCarty and Misty Cox, Teachers, Johnson County, KY

In spite of the successes of No Child Left Behind, there have been some unfortunate results. Too often the curriculum has narrowed, with a greater focus on assessments in reading and math and that pressure has led to cheating. Even though the achievement gap has largely been closed at the elementary and middle school level, the gap has grown larger at the high school level. As a result, large percentages of low income students falter at the high school level and ultimately drop out of school. Considering the changes in the economic place that now require education and training beyond high school, being successful at the elementary and middle school level is not enough, and even graduation from high school is not enough. This session will describe efforts to build student pride, help students find a “place of belonging”, and help them find purpose in their lives. These efforts are helping students find a pathway out of poverty.

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 100) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

BLAME IT ON THE ALCOHOL: UNDERSTANDING THE “MESSAGE IN THE MUSIC”
FEATURED SPEAKER: Marc Fomby, BMS, CPS, CEO, FTC Prevention Services, Richland, MS

This informative, fun, interactive, and educational workshop will introduce you to various music genres and explore the lyrical content within music that is communicating messages of underage drinking, as well as bullying, crime, violence, and degradation to our youth. In this workshop participants are guided through exploration of current trends in music that have become “acceptable” in society. Today’s music promotes and glorifies the use and abuse of alcoholic beverages and illegal substances. Participants will examine the blatant and subliminal messages directed towards our youth daily via radio, television, video games, mp3 players, and other common entertainment formats. Media literacy is promoted as a means of being proactive to protect and teach youth how to make healthy, positive lifestyle choices. This workshop is ideal for creative prevention and intervention strategies to facilitate groups, trainings, interventions, etc. by actively involving youth in the process of deciphering and dissecting the “Message in the Music.”

An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

“Youth don’t usually change because of programs — they change because of people.”

Allen Mendler and Moe Bickweat
Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Monday • 1:15 – 2:30 PM • Concurrent Session

MUSIC, MOVIES, & MEDIA: FROM TI TO FB @ TOOLS YOU CAN USE IN 2011!
FEATURED SPEAKERS: Eric Rowles, President & CEO, Leading to Change, Inc., Charlotte, NC; Fred Baker, City Rescue Mission, Inc., Fayetteville, NC

What’s the connection between Drake & Green Day? From T.I. & Taylor Swift? From You Tube & My Yearbook? X-Men & Harry Potter? Come to this tool-filled workshop to learn how to use over 40 different media tools, including TODAY’S MUSIC, MOVIES, and SOCIAL MEDIA in your cutting edge work with young people. Participants will be introduced to many FREE or inexpensive tools that they can use to hear the music months before their youth, legally download clips of movies still in the theater, and connect with 100’s of their youth via broadcast texting! Hold on tight and ARRIVE early, as this workshop moves at warp speed.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

CHANGE HAPPENS NOW ... ARE YOU READY 1+1=1
FEATURED SPEAKER: Fred Stokes, President, Fred Stokes Group, Ltd., Tarrytown, GA

This presentation will outline how in today’s society there is no shortage of quick fix programs and applications about how to solve the problems that are confronting our youth. Every year there is a new and improved formula on how to deal with “at risk kids.” However, our youth are still falling through the cracks at an alarming rate. The kids that are not dropping out of school are performing at or below their grade level. On the surface, it would appear that the kids themselves are at fault. But, who’s really at fault? Is it the parents/guardian, the school system, or could it be the government? Because these problems are not bias to skin color or socioeconomic background, all of our kids are “at risk.” What do we do to turn things around so that our young people can succeed? Are you tired and frustrated in dealing with kids that seem like they just don’t get it? Fred Stokes shares real life success stories using humor and analogies about his days spent in the NFL to move you to the next level. Simple strategies for victory.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

KINGIAN NONVIOLENCE TRAINING: RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR THE HOME, SCHOOL, AND COMMUNITY
FEATURED SPEAKER: Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, Professor Emerita, Georgia Southern University and Jeremy Foreman, Executive Director, HandsOn Southeast Georgia, Statesboro, GA

Based on Dr. Martin Luther King’s Nobel Prize winning teachings of nonviolence, the presentation provides interactive exercises to introduce guiding principles and practical steps towards nonviolence that can lead to the establishment of cultures of peace in schools and communities as well as the development of historical awareness and perspectives. The training of educators and community leaders in the use of nonviolence provides better alternatives for both adults and youth to resolve personal, community, and global conflicts. The target audience for the presentation includes teachers, counselors, school administrators, community leaders, and parents.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

GIRL WHAT YOU SAY

Girl What You Say is a personal development, mentoring organization designed to build the self-esteem and self-worth of young girls in elementary, middle, and high schools. Our goal is to empower, educate, and encourage young girls so that they blossom into secure young ladies with purpose and destiny. This three-tiered program is founded upon building young ladies up through a support of six key foundational pillars. By teaching each young lady a variation of the following pillars, they will essentially build each other up, and serve as positive role models for those that are younger than them in the program.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

ALL THINGS STEM FROM 4-H SCIENCE!
Shante’ Stokes, Educator, University of Maryland Extension, 4-H Youth Development Program and Jaime Brown, University of the District of Columbia, 4-H Agent, Cooperative Extension Service, Clinton, MD

Of the 30 fastest-growing occupations, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics’ concludes that 16 of them will require substantial Mathematics or Science preparation. This interactive presentation will highlight the 4-H Science Initiative and the strategies that are being used to reach & teach underserved and unrepresented students throughout Maryland and Washington D.C. Attendees will walk away with resources to start and sustain effective S.T.E.M. programs.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

RAISING THE BAR FOR SCIENCE INSTRUCTION WITH THE INFUSION OF LITERACY-BASED STRATEGIES
Jaime Berry, Assistant Professor, Childhood and Exceptional Student Education, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

According to recent National Assessment of Educational Progress data, our students are struggling in the area of science. Current research has highlighted some promising literacy practices that could help students learn science concepts, thus increasing academic performance.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

HAVE SCIENCE, WILL TRAVEL: CREATING AUTHENTIC SCIENCE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES
Jessica Cole, Whitten-Newman ExplorOlogy, Program Coordinator, Sam Noble Museum at University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Opportunities for out-of-school science exploration are not generally available in rural areas or communities whose teachers and students are working with few resources. This session will detail the methods used to create a successful informal science education program that has brought field-based science experiences to over 13,000 teachers, students, and schools across the state of Oklahoma.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Monday • 3 – 4:15 PM • Concurrent Session

REACHING “AT-RISK” FAMILIES VIA ONLINE SKILLS TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND TEENS
Donald Gordon, Professor of Psychology Emeritus, Ohio University, CEO, Family Works, Inc., Ashland, OR and Sheila Troy, Family Works, Inc., Athens, OH

Parent participation in parenting classes is notoriously low. Evidence-based online skill training removes most barriers to participation. Objectives are to demonstrate the nature of the Parenting Wisely program that engages parents and leads to rapid change, especially for disruptive teen behavior.

6 – 8 PM

NYAR IDOL AND CONFERENCE MIXER

Harborside Center • Monday • 6 - 8 PM • Light Refreshments will be served
Hosted by the Urban Leadership Institute and Meshelle (The Indie Mom of Comedy)
LINE DANCING, SPOKEN WORD POETRY, & SINGING.
COME AND SHOWCASE YOUR GIFTS AND TALENTS.

(please sign up at the second floor registration area before 5 pm on Monday)
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

EARLY ONSET BIPOLAR DISORDER: AN INTERVENTION PROPOSAL
• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Richard Marshall, Ed.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychological and Social Foundations, University of South Florida Polytechnic, Lakeland, Fl

Increased incidents of oppositional, defiant, and aggressive behavior have prompted many school administrators to resort to suspension, expulsion, and alternative education placements. This workshop proposes that the vast majority of students with early onset bipolar disorder, as well as other disorders render them unable, rather than unwilling, to regulate their emotions and to benefit from instruction. The workshop provides audience members with a thorough and up-to-date explanation of the neurobiology of aggressive, oppositional, and antisocial behavior. Its primary goal is to illustrate the contribution of brain mechanisms to student misbehavior in school settings.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

ON FIRE WITH THE POWER OF STORYTELLING: EMBLAZON LEARNING WITH HEARTFELT STORIES
• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Chang’aa Mweti, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN

Use storytelling to ignite a fire under your students and get them moving. Motivating stories enkindle longing hearts and thaw out frozen brains. They get the creative juices flowing and transform cold academic concepts into warm invitations to learning. Employ storytelling to appeal to students’ emotions and build bridges across cultures. Learn teaching tips and techniques on storytelling in the classroom including how to sneak it through the back door to make learning fun! Discover the five educational concepts embraced through storytelling.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

“AT-RISK” YOUTH FOR DUMMIES: UPDATED ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IMPACTING YOUTH IN AMERICA
FEATURED SPEAKER: Bryce Barnhart, Director of Professional Development for the Associated Marine Institutes (AMI), St. Petersburg, Fl

The focus of this session is to review the most significant drivers and trends that are impacting youth in America today. As the title implies, far too many educators and individuals working in the field of juvenile justice have misperceptions about the things that are going on with the kids they serve. Knowing the risk factors and how the current environment supports them is critical to providing the best services possible. For those of you that attended this session last year, this is an updated version with new data and statistics.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

PREVENTING SCHOOL VIOLENCE: A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS, STUDENTS & PARENTS
• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Franklin P. Schargel, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

Educators, parents, and students want, need and deserve violence-free schools. This presentation is by a New York City educator who worked in a school where 50 students were shot and killed on their way to school, where a student was shot and paralyzed by an intruder will present easy to implement strategies to address school violence.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

PROVIDING OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO “AT-RISK” STUDENTS THROUGH GEORGIA VIRTUAL SCHOOL
Joe Cozart, Associate Director of School Improvement, Georgia Virtual Learning, Atlanta, GA

This session introduces participants to Georgia Virtual School. In particular, you will learn how our school provides flexibility and differentiation opportunities for a variety of learning abilities and academic levels. While completing rigorous courses, students also are exposed to the 21st century skills needed to be successful in the workplace including digital citizenship and cyber safety.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

**HOW TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO SUCCESS • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Robert E. Criner, “Mr. Enthusiasm,” President & CEO, Sharing A Vision, Medicine Park, OK

Robert has empowered audiences since 1990. His company, Sharing A Vision, assists individuals to see, accept, and achieve their potential for greatness. He is a masterful teacher who brings high energy, personal warmth, and motivational skills to audiences across the United States. His Creating Winners Program has been highly sought after by independent school districts across America. Robert motivates participants in ways that are fun, inspirational, and educational!

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

**BORED OF EDUCATION THE REAL REASONS WHY THEY NEED TO GO TO SCHOOL**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Hotep, Urban Education Specialist, Author, Speaker, Trainer, Atlanta, GA

When a young person asks—“Why should I go to school”—most of us find it difficult to provide an adequate answer. When we think about the state of the economy and the number of unemployed and underemployed citizens, we all know that the traditional answers simply don’t apply anymore. Our children no longer see the necessity for graduating school. As a result, the high school graduation rate in our country has slumped to nearly 50%. Charter schools, dropout prevention and literacy programs are being implemented, but the question still remains—Why should our youth go to school? This workshop addresses that question, but more importantly provides the answers that parents, educators and youth service providers have been looking for!

---

**Call for Proposals**

**24th Annual National Youth-at-Risk Conference**

**Deadline:** August 31, 2012

**Online Submissions only**

Visit nationalyouthatrisk.com for details and access to the online submission form.

Submission Form opens June 1, 2012.
Conference Dates: March 3 – 6, 2013, Hyatt Regency, Savannah, GA

“Children are likely to live up to what you believe of them.”

*Lady Bird Johnson, former U.S. First Lady*
Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

CONFRONTING THE MEAN GIRL MYTH IN OUR COMMUNITIES: GENDER RESPONSIVE PROGRAM APPROACHES TO ANGER MANAGEMENT AND VIOLENCE AMONG GIRLS

• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM

FEATURED SPEAKERS: Quinn Gentry, MBA, Ph.D., President & CEO, Messages of Empowerment Productions, LLC, Atlanta, GA; Aleisha Langhorne, MPH, MHSA, Health Scientist, Office on Women’s Health, Washington, DC; Carla Mitchell, Mental Health Specialist, Family Services Unlimited, Shreveport, LA, and LaTasha Watts, Program Director, Women Accepting Responsibility, Baltimore, MD; Shawntell World, Program Coordinator, Youth in Action, Panama City, FL; Evelyn Rios, MSW, Bilingual Therapist, Orange County Bar Foundation, Santa Ana, CA

Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

Presentations will focus on practical approaches for assessing and addressing the unmet needs among girls experiencing violence as both victim and perpetrator. Grantees will “unpack” their toolkits, modules, and other strategies for helping girls who are victims and perpetrators of violence. Select programmatic approaches include anger management, counseling, trauma intervention, conflict resolution, self-esteem, negative media constructs about violent girls, and other issues that are directly and indirectly related to girls unmet needs. All presenters will discuss the gender-specific aspects of violence and aggression among girls.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

BREAKING THE SPIRIT OF AVERAGE • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 10:15 AM

FEATURED SPEAKER: Joseph Washington, President and CEO, The Joseph Washington Group Inc., Atlanta, GA

The R.E.P. Playbook utilizes sports analogies to coach both young and old through important life skills. Since our “REP” or Reputation is on the line every day whether in school, at work, or in our communities, it is imperative that we take stock of our interactions with others. The message to our youth is to encourage them to “Respect Every Play” at home with their parents, in school with their teachers, and if they are in sports with their coaches and fellow teammates.

Ballroom D, E & F (Seating Capacity 210) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session

A TOWN HALL MEETING: HOW TO HELP BOYS OF COLOR SUCCEED

• THIS DOUBLE-SESSION TOWN HALL MEETING CONTINUES UNTIL 11:30 AM

MODERATOR: Ja’Hon Vance, Educational Consultant and Vice President for JV Educational Consultants Firm, West Bloomfield, MI

PANELISTS: LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD; Eddie Morris, Ph.D., Social Worker, Fulton County Schools, Atlanta, GA; Jimmie Cave, Ed.D., Teacher, DeRenne Middle School, Savannah, GA; Daryl Macaluso, Corporal, Gang Resistance Education and Training, Durham Police, Durham, NC; and Oscar Cardenas, Adolescent Outreach Specialist, Live Oak Migrant Agency, Department of Education, Brooklet, GA

Traditional approaches to increasing achievement and success of young African-American and Hispanic males are not working. We must change the pattern where finishing high school is the exception and prison is almost routine. A panel of expert educators and parents discuss how to raise and educate academically successful African-American and Hispanic males. Come join our town hall meeting on this important topic. This town hall meeting will begin with a video followed by a panel discussion after which participants break down into small groups to discuss the panel presentations as well as their particular innovation or intervention related to boys of color. Participants may bring with them 50 copies of a one-page summary of their innovation regarding boys of color. Summaries will be discussed and shared at the second half of the town hall meeting.
**Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**BEYOND RACE: EXPERIENTIAL TOOLS TO MAKE SOCIAL JUSTICE COME ALIVE WITH OUR YOUTH**  
**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Eric Rowles, President & CEO and Aidil Ortiz Collins, LTC Training Associate, Leading To Change, Charlotte NC

In this very informative workshop, practitioners will be exposed to the various layers of identity that youth claim in their diverse worlds, and how individuals can understand and support some of the most pertinent needs facing youth today. Fast, quick, and hands-on, this powerful presentation is specifically designed for practitioners that are currently or planning to work directly with young people and ready to go deeper exploring race, culture, privilege, and class.

**Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**ENSURING SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS FOR YOUTH AT RISK**  
**Eric Hall, National Director of Educational Services, AMIkids, Tampa FL**

As accountability has grown, we have witnessed many challenges in being able to provide activities which engage students in the learning process, while at the same time preparing them for the academic achievement expectations of our society. Using differentiated instruction, individualized instruction, hands-on/experiential lessons, and vocabulary strategies, our teachers work to create a learning environment rich with concepts and activities to help anchor the youth’s understanding.

**Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**A STRENGTH BASED APPROACH TO REDUCE PREMATURE STIMULANT MEDICATION REFERRALS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**  
**Lisa Skeens, Ph.D., MSW, LISW, Ohio University-Lancaster, Lancaster, OH**

This presentation provides an overview of the results of a social action project that studied the needs of educators in Northwest, Ohio to manage social/behavioral problems in the classroom. The proposal also provides training of a new model that encourages the use of creative behavioral strategies to use with students to enhance confidence with classroom management.

**Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 8:30 – 9:45 AM • Concurrent Session**

**LIGHTS, CAMERA, COMMUNITY ACTION!: EMPOWERING “AT-RISK” YOUTH THROUGH PRO-SOCIAL PEER-TO-PEER MULTI-MEDIA MESSAGING**  
**Scott Michels, Youth Development Director, Jewish Family Services of Delaware, Wilmington, DE**

Discover a project-based learning initiative combining media literacy, prevention and intervention, self-esteem, and team building with communication and technical skills training. Would you believe the program is also fun, creates community partnerships, and consistently engages “at-risk” and adjudicated youth? Learn techniques to reach teens where they are, while inspiring them to create educational and public service videos and music!
Pick up your TUESDAY evaluations now from the Room Monitors!

10:15 – 11:30 AM • TUESDAY

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

EARLY ONSET BIPOLAR DISORDER: AN INTERVENTION PROPOSAL
FEATURED SPEAKER: Richard Marshall, Ed.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychological and Social Foundations, University of South Florida Polytechnic, Lakeland, FL

Increased incidents of oppositional, defiant, and aggressive behavior have prompted many school administrators to resort to suspension, expulsion, and alternative education placements. This workshop proposes that the vast majority of students with early onset bipolar disorder, as well as other disorders render them unable, rather than unwilling, to regulate their emotions and to benefit from instruction. The workshop provides audience members with a thorough and up-to-date explanation of the neurobiology of aggressive, oppositional, and antisocial behavior. Its primary goal is to illustrate the contribution of brain mechanisms to student misbehavior in school settings.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

ON FIRE WITH THE POWER OF STORYTELLING: EMBLAZON LEARNING WITH HEARTFELT STORIES •
FEATURED SPEAKER: Chang’aa Mweti, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth, Duluth, MN

Use storytelling to ignite a fire under your students and get them moving. Motivating stories enkindle longing hearts and thaw out frozen brains. They get the creative juices flowing and transform cold academic concepts into warm invitations to learning. Employ storytelling to appeal to students’ emotions and build bridges across cultures. Learn teaching tips and techniques on storytelling in the classroom including how to sneak it through the back door to make learning fun! Discover the five educational concepts embraced through storytelling.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

CLOSING THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE—UNDERSTANDING HOW SCHOOLS CAN DRIVE YOUTH INTO THE JUSTICE SYSTEM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Bryce Barnhart, Director of Professional Development for the Associated Marine Institutes (AMI), St. Petersburg, FL

A disturbing trend has befallen us in the school system; more and more youth are finding their way to jail straight from school. Even more concerning is that a significant percentage of these youth are youth of color or youth with identified learning disabilities. As educators, social scientists and juvenile justice professionals, we have to realize that being disconnected from mainstream school settings is a significant risk factor that impacts a youth for life. In this session you will learn about some of the disturbing trends regarding the school-to-prison pipeline. You will also learn some of the innovative approaches some schools and districts are using to keep kids in school so that they graduate.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

PREVENTING SCHOOL VIOLENCE: A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS, STUDENTS & PARENTS
FEATURED SPEAKER: Franklin P. Schargel, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

Educators, parents, and students want, need and deserve violence-free schools. This presentation is by a New York City educator who worked in a school where 50 students were shot and killed on their way to school, where a student was shot and paralyzed by an intruder will present easy to implement strategies to address school violence.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

BATTLING THE BULLY: BRAIN-INSPIRED RESPONSES TO BULLYING
Terri Martin-Yates, Trainings Made For You, Upside Down Organization, Gainesville, GA

Bullying has become a significant concern on most campuses as certain students with physical or cognitive advantages intimidate and exploit their more vulnerable classmates. This workshop employs the perspective of cognitive neuroscience to both understand bullying and inform intervention, offering participants an alternative set of tools for reaching those hard to reach learners in any setting.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

HOW TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO SUCCESS
FEATURED SPEAKER: Robert E. Criner, "Mr. Enthusiasm," President & CEO, Sharing A Vision, Medicine Park, OK

Robert has empowered audiences since 1990. His company, Sharing A Vision, assists individuals to see, accept, and achieve their potential for greatness. He is a masterful teacher who brings high energy, personal warmth, and motivational skills to audiences across the United States. His Creating Winners Program has been highly sought after by independent school districts across America. Robert motivates participants in ways that are fun, inspirational, and educational!

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

GIVING A FISH A BATH: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE ADOLESCENT MIND
FEATURED SPEAKER: Frank Kros, M.S.W., J.D., President, The Upside Down Organization, Baltimore, MD

Recent discoveries in neuroscience offer exciting insights into how the brains of our teens really work and the special "brain-based" challenges facing adolescents as they mature. This workshop reveals why teens are especially vulnerable to drug use, high-risk peer influences and depression, as well as the proactive measures adults can take to minimize a teen’s exposure to these dangers. This seminar also addresses the often mystifying role of hormones on adolescent development and focuses on the key roles that stress and sleep have on teen learning processes. In addition, the workshop offers strategies compatible with the many strengths and opportunities available during this miraculous developmental period. If you’ve ever thought that the adolescent mind could not be understood, this workshop will arm you with the latest insights and information on knowing and empowering the teenage brain.

“Children have more need of models than of critics.”

Joseph Joubert

FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
   Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
   Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
   Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
   Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
   Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.
Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Tuesday - 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

CONFRONTING THE MEAN GIRL MYTH IN OUR COMMUNITIES: GENDER RESPONSIVE PROGRAM APPROACHES TO ANGER MANAGEMENT AND VIOLENCE AMONG GIRLS

FEATURED SPEAKERS: Quinn Gentry, MBA, Ph.D., President & CEO, Messages of Empowerment Productions, LLC, Atlanta, GA; Aleisha Langhorne, MPH, MHS, Health Scientist, Office on Women’s Health, Washington, DC; Carla Mitchell, Mental Health Specialist, Family Services Unlimited, Shreveport, LA; LaTasha Watts, Program Director, Women Accepting Responsibility, Baltimore, MD; Shawntell World, Program Coordinator, Youth in Action, Panama City, FL; Evelyn Rios, MSW, Bilingual Therapist, Orange County Bar Foundation, Santa Ana, CA

Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

Presentations will focus on practical approaches for assessing and addressing the unmet needs among girls experiencing violence as both victim and perpetrator. Grantees will “unpack” their toolkits, modules, and other strategies for helping girls who are victims and perpetrators of violence. Select programmatic approaches include anger management, counseling, trauma intervention, conflict resolution, self-esteem, negative media constructs about violent girls, and other issues that are directly and indirectly related to girls unmet needs. All presenters will discuss the gender-specific aspects of violence and aggression among girls.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday - 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

BREAKING THE SPIRIT OF AVERAGE

FEATURED SPEAKER: Joseph Washington, President and CEO, The Joseph Washington Group Inc., Atlanta, GA

The R.E.P. Playbook utilizes sports analogies to coach both young and old through important life skills. Since our “REP” or Reputation is on the line every day whether in school, at work, or in our communities, it is imperative that we take stock of our interactions with others. The message to our youth is to encourage them to “Respect Every Play” at home with their parents, in school with their teachers, and if they are in sports with their coaches and fellow teammates.

Ballroom D, E & F (Seating Capacity 210) • Tuesday - 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

A TOWN HALL MEETING: HOW TO HELP BOYS OF COLOR SUCCEED

• THIS IS THE CONTINUATION OF THE 8:30 - 9:45 AM SESSION

MODERATOR: Ja’Hon Vance, Educational Consultant and Vice President for JV Educational Consultants Firm, West Bloomfield, MI

PANELISTS: LaMarr Darnell Shields, President, Co-Founder, Urban Leadership Institute, Baltimore, MD; Eddie Morris, Ph.D., Social Worker, Fulton County Schools, Atlanta, GA; Jimmie Cave, Ed.D., Teacher, DeRenne Middle School, Savannah, GA; Daryl Macaluso, Corporal, Gang Resistance Education and Training, Durham Police, Durham, NC; and Oscar Cardenas, Adolescent Outreach Specialist, Live Oak Migrant Agency, Department of Education, Brooklet, GA

Traditional approaches to increasing achievement and success of young African-American and Hispanic males are not working. We must change the pattern where finishing high school is the exception and prison is almost routine. A panel of expert educators and parents discuss how to raise and educate academically successful African-American and Hispanic males. Come join our town hall meeting on this important topic. This town hall meeting will begin with a video followed by a panel discussion after which participants break down into small groups to discuss the panel presentations as well as their particular innovation or intervention related to boys of color. Participants may bring with them 50 copies of a one-page summary of their innovation regarding boys of color. Summaries will be discussed and shared at the second half of the town hall meeting.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

HOW SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (SLC) HAVE CHANGED THE EDUCATIONAL CLIMATE OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY HIGH SCHOOLS

Donnie Ussery, Retention/Transition Specialist, Effingham County High School, Springfield, GA and Jeffrey Goff, South Effingham High School, Guyton, GA

In 2005-2006 Effingham County High School had a graduation rate of 65%, and South Effingham High School had a graduation rate of 74%. The presentation will explain how both schools have created programs that have helped raise these graduation rates to 85% for both schools in the 2010-2011 school years.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

THE POWER OF CARING, DATA-BASED, INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ADVISEMENT: YOU WILL SEE RESULTS

Gabe Cerie, Principal, Elisha Parker, Counselor, and Karen Perry, Graduation Coach, Henry County Schools - Eagle’s Landing High School, McDonough, GA

This presentation shows how one school uses data and a collaborative approach to drive powerful individual student talks to get results. These results include a 90% or higher graduation rate, school record breaking ACT and SAT scores, AYP Distinguished status, and state and national recognitions. All of these achievements were based on fostering a sense of student’s personal responsibility for collective goals.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 10:15 – 11:30 AM • Concurrent Session

STREET PHARMACY TO PHARMACEUTICAL SALES: SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PHARMACOLOGY

Jeremiah Hopes, Therapist, NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Private Practice, Charlotte, NC

Drugs present an enigma to our culture. We tell children to just say no because they can destroy lives; yet they can assist in health and healing. Treatment professionals, parents, teachers, and administrators need the facts. This presentation will explain how drugs affect the brain and body, discuss K2 and other new drug trends, and highlight the importance of providing the facts to children and youth.

THE HYATT WILL BE OFFERING SANDWICHES AND BEVERAGES FOR SALE ON THE LOBBY LEVEL.

11:30 AM – 1 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

REMINDER: THE PLU MASTERY TEST WILL BE GIVEN TODAY AT 4:30 PM IN BALLROOM B.
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

CREATING A CULTURE OF SUCCESS IN A RURAL HIGH SCHOOL
• THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
Anthony Smith, Principal and Dara Bennett, Assistant Principal, Pierce County High School, Blackshear, GA

Pierce County High School has implemented a culture of success for all students by implementing many “outside the box” strategies. The school created a professional learning community where learning comes first for all. Strategies will be presented to show how to implement monthly professional learning through focus groups, how to form course teams where teachers teaching the same courses work together to provide quality instruction and assessment, and how to implement a modified block schedule that enhances student learning. Student motivational strategies such as lunch remediation instead of zeroes, test prep rallies for standardized tests, test prep sessions each night before the tests, and student reward systems will be presented. Implementation of these strategies has created a culture of success for students and teachers which have resulted in remarkable gains in student achievement over the past 8 years.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

VOICES FROM A BROKEN VILLAGE: A 21ST CENTURY CRISIS! • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Eddie Morris, Ph.D., Social Worker, Fulton County Schools, Atlanta, GA

This session will be presented by an expert in the field of school social work who has dedicated his life to addressing the issues of “at-risk” youth from a primary and secondary prevention standpoint. Via the actual voices, he will provide an up-close and personal discussion regarding the critical state of the educational system from a middle and high school educator’s perspective. He will provide vital statistics about “at-risk” and “underprivileged” youth with whom he is presently working in a large metropolitan school system. Participants will be given a “wakeup call” regarding the societal implications of failing to create programs and strategies that effectively address “at-risk” youth in the 21st century, and how social and academic progress can be made with “at-risk” youth using effective and empowering approaches that include community partners and the family as a part of the solution.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

ADDRESSING THE IDENTITY CRISIS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN YOUTH: SOLUTIONS AND STRATEGIES YOU CAN USE • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Anthony E. Outler, MS.Ed, CAMS, Co-Founder & COO, Epic Empowerment Enterprises, LLC, Atlanta, GA

Many “at-risk” African-American youth have bought into a self-destructive racial identity that is transmitted and reinforced by mass media and mis-education. For many of these youth, “blackness” has become synonymous with ignorance, violence, school failure, and other disenfranchising beliefs. Culturally relevant teaching strategies, activities, and organizations serve as transformative forces that steer “at-risk” African-American youth toward re-identifying themselves as positive, productive students. This workshop will introduce you to culturally relevant lessons, strategies, and activities that assist “at-risk” African-American youth in transforming their idea of what it means to be Black.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED
Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

PREVENTING IDENTITY THEFT 101: GIVING OUR YOUTH THEIR IDENTITIES BACK

FEATURED SPEAKER: Keith L. Brown, “Motivator of the Millennium”, 20/20 Enterprises, Fayetteville, GA

In this fast-paced society where those not in the movement to empower youth label our young people and give them their identities, Keith L. Brown—in collaboration with the Institute for Educational and Social Justice—endeavors to provoke real change by giving change agents strategies to give our youth their identities back. This high octane, interactive workshop will include inspirational stories from transformational youth who are proving that when it comes to our young people, there is no average. The session will also use the key tenets of motivation, education, and transformation to illustrate that we, who represent our young people, need to be more valiant and proactive in our efforts to ensure that our youth become transformational leaders with core values.

An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

“You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance.”
Franklin P. Jones
**Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300)**
- **Tuesday** • 1 – 2:15 PM
- **Concurrent Session**

**GANGSTERISM: REACH AND TEACH “AT-RISK/GANG INVOLVED” YOUTH**
- **THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM**
  FEATURED SPEAKER: Daryl Macaluso, Corporal, Gang Resistance Education And Training, Durham Police, Durham, NC

Gang culture is unique; understanding the cultural differences within the community is key to understanding and effecting change within gang related and “at-risk” youth. This presentation focuses on the gang mindset giving the participant tools to begin to reach and teach gang related and “at-risk” youth. Participants will be able to identify clothing, signs, and symbols associated with gang activity. Participants will be given suggestions for proven practices, plus information on intervention and prevention programs used nationally. Participants will also analyze school board gang policy widely used and how it is affected by recent Supreme Court decisions.

**Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120)** • **Tuesday** • 1 – 2:15 PM • **Concurrent Session**

**STOPPING SCHOOL DROPOUTS: LINKING “AT-RISK” STUDENTS TO DATA-DRIVEN STRATEGIES**
  FEATURED SPEAKER: Franklin P. Schargel, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

Today, almost one-third of our K-12 students never graduate – increasing the likelihood of their imprisonment, single parenthood, poverty and the use of alcohol and drugs. The National Dropout Prevention Center and Franklin Schargel have developed strategies which have been recognized the US Department of Education as “the most effective strategies to help solve our school dropout problem”.

**Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70)** • **Tuesday** • 1 – 2:15 PM • **Concurrent Session**

**PANEL: BUILDING PEACE IN OUR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES**
  MODERATOR: Rosemarie Stallworth-Clark, Professor Emerita, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA
  PANELISTS: Charles L. Conant III, Principal of Therapeutic Learning Center (TLC), Horry County School District, Conway, SC; Katherine Wanslee, MA.Ed., Behavior Consultant, It’s All About Me Behavior Consultants, Sun Lakes, AZ; Gabe Cerie, Principal; Elisha Parker, Counselor; Karen Perry, Graduation Coach, Henry County Schools - Eagle’s Landing High School, McDonough, GA; Thomas Peterson, Professor, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA

This panel presentation discusses how to go beyond merely “keeping peace” in our schools and communities. In an era preoccupied with zero tolerance policies and tight surveillance for strict security, we have neglected the fundamental human needs for positive peace and well-being. Panel members share successful programs, strategies, and techniques for fostering cultures of peace and well-being in our classrooms, schools, and communities.

**Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70)** • **Tuesday** • 1 – 2:15 PM • **Concurrent Session**

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL: HOW TO REACH AND TEACH DIVERSE STRUGGLING LEARNERS**
  FEATURED SPEAKER: Alma Stevenson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

In this session, we will be discussing different instructional strategies aimed at facilitating learning among socio-culturally and linguistically diverse students. These strategies incorporate the use of activities, visuals, graphic organizers, and foldables to enable students to improve their reading comprehension and learning skills. We will mainly focus on strategies that focus on motivation, accessing prior knowledge, reinforcing vocabulary, and questioning.

**Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70)** • **Tuesday** • 1 – 2:15 PM • **Concurrent Session**

**POETIC MAGIC: A UNIQUE AND SUCCESSFUL STRATEGY IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**
  - **THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 2:45 PM**
  FEATURED SPEAKER: Percy L. Chastang, Jr., Founding Mentor, Poetic Magic, Valdosta, GA

There is something special happening in youth development and it goes by the name of Spoken Word Poetry! This presentation will provide an overview of how spoken word poetry and youth self-expression has been used as a successful strategy in adolescent health and youth development outreach in South Georgia over the past 10 years. Poetic Magic co-founder Percy Chastang will discuss the basics of this low-investment approach that never fails to yield high returns in connecting with today’s youth as spoken word artists bring it all to life with a live, exhilarating performance that reveals poetry as a living, breathing strategy in youth development.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER USING INTERACTIVE INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY
Carol Todd, Ph.D., Assistant Professor/ESE Program Administrator and Karen Hahn, Ph.D., Associate Professor/Director of Graduate Studies in Education, Saint Leo University, Saint Leo, FL

During this session the presenters will discuss their research findings on autistic students’ increased engagement with learning using interactive white board technology. Using video, the presenters will showcase preschool and elementary students actively engaged with instruction through lessons designed to increase their language, communication, and social skills using the interactive technology.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

T123C: FOUNDATIONS FOR LIFELONG WRITERS
Nanika Q. Pollard, Middle School English Language Arts Teacher, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System, Savannah, GA

T123C is a writing strategy that demonstrates the simplicity of creating effective written compositions. It includes best practice strategies for analyzing prompts, making brainstorming work, building strong paragraphs, creating powerful transitions and shaping writing with style. These strategic writing practices can enhance the foundations of writing for all who have a desire to become writers for a lifetime.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 1 – 2:15 PM • Concurrent Session

SECRETS, SCARS, SHAME: THE IDENTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF YOUTH WITH NON-SUICIDAL SELF INJURIOUS BEHAVIORS (NSSI)
Kristen Vandenberg, RN, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, Assistant Professor, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

The widespread prevalence of non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) represents a growing public health concern among youth across gender and ethnicity. Individuals who self-injure report they do so as a means of coping with emotional distress and negative feelings. This presentation for all individuals will discuss the detection of NSSI behaviors, risk factors, interventional strategies, and referral information.

“The essence of teaching is to make learning contagious, to have one idea spark another.”
Marva Collins
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

CREATING A CULTURE OF SUCCESS IN A RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

Anthony Smith, Principal and Dara Bennett, Assistant Principal, Pierce County High School, Blackshear, GA

Pierce County High School has implemented a culture of success for all students by implementing many “outside the box” strategies. The school created a professional learning community where learning comes first for all. Strategies will be presented to show how to implement monthly professional learning through focus groups, how to form course teams where teachers teaching the same courses work together to provide quality instruction and assessment, and how to implement a modified block schedule that enhances student learning. Student motivational strategies such as lunch remediation instead of zeroes, test prep rallies for standardized tests, test prep sessions each night before the tests, and student reward systems will be presented. Implementation of these strategies has created a culture of success for students and teachers which have resulted in remarkable gains in student achievement over the past 8 years.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

VOICES FROM A BROKEN VILLAGE: A 21ST CENTURY CRISIS!

FEATURED SPEAKER: Eddie Morris, Ph.D., Social Worker, Fulton County Schools, Atlanta, GA

This session will be presented by an expert in the field of school social work who has dedicated his life to addressing the issues of “at-risk” youth from a primary and secondary prevention standpoint. Via the actual voices, he will provide an up-close and personal discussion regarding the critical state of the educational system from a middle and high school educator’s perspective. He will provide vital statistics about “at-risk” and “underprivileged” youth with whom he is presently working in a large metropolitan school system. Participants will be given a “wakeup call” regarding the societal implications of failing to create programs and strategies that effectively address “at-risk” youth in the 21st century, and how social and academic progress can be made with “at-risk” youth using effective and empowering approaches that include community partners and the family as a part of the solution.

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

ADDRESSING THE IDENTITY CRISIS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN YOUTH: SOLUTIONS AND STRATEGIES YOU CAN USE

FEATURED SPEAKER: Anthony E. Outler, MS.Ed, CAMS, Co-Founder & COO, Epic Empowerment Enterprises, LLC, Atlanta, GA

Many “at-risk” African-American youth have bought into a self-destructive racial identity that is transmitted and reinforced by mass media and mis-education. For many of these youth, “blackness” has become synonymous with ignorance, violence, school failure, and other disenfranchising beliefs. Culturally relevant teaching strategies, activities, and organizations serve as transformative forces that steer “at-risk” African-American youth toward re-identifying themselves as positive, productive students. This workshop will introduce you to culturally relevant lessons, strategies, and activities that assist “at-risk” African-American youth in transforming their idea of what it means to be Black.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

AVID AS A VEHICLE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS: EMPOWERED STUDENTS PREPARED FOR SUCCESS IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY

Ivory Graham, AVID Teacher/Coordinator; Meaghan Singletary, English-Language Arts Teacher and Amy Loskoski, Assistant Principal, West Chatham Middle School, Savannah Chatham Public Schools, Pooler GA

This workshop will give participants who work with any young people an up-close look at the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program at West Chatham Middle School, including its successes, challenges, and goals for the future. This presentation will equip participants with a tool kit of strategies to implement with students “at-risk” in their schools.
Preventing Identity Theft 101: Giving Our Youth Their Identities Back

**Featured Speaker:** Keith L. Brown, "Motivator of the Millennium", 20/20 Enterprises, Fayetteville, GA

In this fast-paced society where those not in the movement to empower youth label our young people and give them their identities, Keith L. Brown—in collaboration with the Institute for Educational and Social Justice—endeavors to provoke real change by giving change agents strategies to give our youth their identities back. This high octane, interactive workshop will include inspirational stories from transformational youth who are proving that when it comes to our young people, there is no average. The session will also use the key tenets of motivation, education, and transformation to illustrate that we, who represent our young people, need to be more valiant and proactive in our efforts to ensure that our youth become transformational leaders with core values.

“There is a brilliant child locked inside every student”

**Marva Collins**

“I’ve come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element in the classroom. It’s my daily mood that makes the weather. As a teacher, I possess a tremendous power to make a child’s life miserable or joyous. I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration. I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal. In all situations, it is my response that decides whether a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated and a child humanized or de-humanized.”

**Haim Ginott**
Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

GANGSTERISM: REACH AND TEACH AT-RISK/GANG INVOLVED YOUTH
FEATURED SPEAKER: Daryl Macaluso, Corporal, Gang Resistance Education And Training, Durham Police, Durham, NC

Gang culture is unique; understanding the cultural differences within the community is key to understanding and effecting change within gang related and “at-risk” youth. This presentation focuses on the gang mindset giving the participant tools to begin to reach and teach gang related and “at-risk” youth. Participants will be able to identify clothing, signs, and symbols associated with gang activity. Participants will be given suggestions for proven practices, plus information on intervention and prevention programs used nationally. Participants will also analyze school board gang policy widely used and how it is affected by recent Supreme Court decisions.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND SCHOOL CULTURES THAT BUILD GRADUATION RATES
FEATURED SPEAKER: Franklin P. Schargel, The Schargel Consulting Group, Albuquerque, NM

Next to high performing teachers, successful leadership is the key to increased academic achievement and higher graduation rates. Through this presentation participants will be able to: define school culture and differentiate it from school climate, describe and identify the components of toxic school cultures, recognize the supporters and resisters to transformation, and explain the techniques used to transform schools into successful environments. Attendees will also be able to define the characteristics of schools dealing with “at-risk” learners and how to address the problems they face. In addition, attendees will become familiar with how to apply, prioritize, and implement these strategies in their school.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

PANEL: MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF RURAL EDUCATION
MODERATOR: Marilyn Hutchinson, Ph.D., Education Consultant and President, Women of Worth, Inc., Savannah, GA
PANELISTS: Michael Ellison, Program Coordinator; Tristan Taylor, Co-Facilitator; Zenobia Jones, Co-Facilitator, Columbus Wellness Center Outreach & Prevention Project, Inc., Columbus, GA; Lisa Webster, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Patricia Crockatt, School Administrator, Interlake School Division, Stonewall, Manitoba, Canada

Schools in rural areas and small towns face difficult challenges in serving the needs of children and public education. This panel presentation discusses how best to serve the special needs of rural youth and schools. Panel members share successful programs, strategies, and tools for meeting the challenges of rural education.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH THROUGH THE RITE OF PASSAGE PROCESS
FEATURED SPEAKER: Lillian Grant-Baptiste, Educator, Human Service Practitioner, Cultural Artist, Savannah, GA

A Rite of Passage process is a holistic, comprehensive community oriented program that assists adolescents in making a successful transition into adulthood. Attend this session and learn more about this innovative youth development approach. This presentation promised to be enlightening, fun and interactive. Participants will walk away with practical information on how to design and implement a successful culturally relevant Rite of Passage Program.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

POETIC MAGIC: A UNIQUE AND SUCCESSFUL STRATEGY IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FEATURED SPEAKER: Percy L. Chastang, Jr., Founding Mentor, Poetic Magic, Valdosta, GA

There is something special happening in youth development and it goes by the name of Spoken Word Poetry! This presentation will provide an overview of how spoken word poetry and youth self-expression has been used as a successful strategy in adolescent health and youth development outreach in South Georgia over the past 10 years. Poetic Magic co-founder Percy Chastang will discuss the basics of this low-investment approach that never fails to yield high returns in connecting with today’s youth as spoken word artists bring it all to life with a live, exhilarating performance that reveals poetry as a living, breathing strategy in youth development.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING: ALASKAN STYLE
Cheryl Huber, Alternative Educator, Principal; Phyllis Bowie, Alternative Educator, Principal and Bob Adkins, Alternative Educator, Principal, Anchorage School District - S.A.V.E. High School, Anchorage, AK

Our program at S.A.V.E. High School in Anchorage, Alaska fosters the social and emotional skills for a diverse population of “at-risk” 16-20 year old students. Our social/emotional learning creates a sense of community within our school. This learning community helps students to develop leadership skills, character, and life skills such as decision-making and goal-setting. We will share the intake and monitor process for our program, as well as information and videos surrounding numerous projects and activities we have developed for our students.

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

IGNITING A SPARK
Thomas Peterson, Professor, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA

SPARK is an alternative intervention program that takes undergraduate students at the University of West Georgia and teams them up with Judge Dan Camp and the Department of Juvenile Justice to provide an intervention for struggling and troubled teens in Carroll County, Georgia. The goal of this unique program is to provide an alternative intervention for troubled teens that will ignite a “spark” that will give them hope and motivate them to achieve their life goals.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

GET IT: A “GRADUATION FACTORY” FOR OVERAGE, UNDER-CREDIT STUDENTS
Lillie-Carolyn Garrett, GET IT Co-Chair; Pam Kincaid, GET IT Co-Chair and Carolyn S. Kirby, Director of Secondary Education, Danville Public Schools, Danville, VA

A highly successful graduation recovery program, GET IT helps overage, under-credit students earn a high school diploma in an expedited manner. The presenters will share the challenges and successes experienced while addressing the needs of this high-risk population. Valuable information will be provided for district leaders, school administrators, and teachers interested in lowering dropout rates through an alternative graduation pathway.

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Tuesday • 2:45 – 4 PM • Concurrent Session

ENGAGING PARENTS OF “AT-RISK” YOUTH
JJ Rowland, Family Outreach Coordinator, Johnson County Family Connection, Wrightsville, GA

This presentation introduces participants to a family-based approach to working with “at-risk” youths. Participants will learn strategies that engage parents of ‘at-risk’ youths, and activities that improve the parent-youth relationship. In addition, participants will learn how a team approach helps families to connect with resources designed to help the youth succeed in life.

“Don’t try to fix the students, fix ourselves first. The good teacher makes the poor student good and the good student superior. When our students fail, we, as teachers, too, have failed.”

Marva Collins
NEW! This Year! All the poster sessions will be in the Harborside Center East.

**QUALITY/QUANTITY OF SCHOOL LUNCH: ARE KIDS GETTING THE RIGHT STUFF AND ARE THEY GETTING ENOUGH?**
*Willie Burden, Associate Professor, Department of Hospitality, Tourism, Family & Consumer Sciences; Drew Zwald, Ph.D, Professor and Daniel R. Czech, Ph.D, Professor, Department of Health & Kinesiology, College of Health and Human Sciences, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA*

The objective of this presentation will be to discuss identification and intervention measures for youth related to the quality and quantity of meals served in school lunch programs. Schools should have meals/ nutrition programs that benefit youth, as well as intervention programs as needed aimed at addressing any concerns relating to detrimental eating habits.

**PROTECTING YOUTH FROM THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF TOBACCO USE: A RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH**
*Drew Zwald, Ph.D, Professor; Daniel R. Czech, Ph.D, Professor, Department of Health & Kinesiology and Willie James Burden, Ed.D, Department of Hospitality, Tourism, Family & Consumer Sciences, College of Health and Human Sciences, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA*

Despite health warnings, anti-smoking campaigns, and banned advertising in certain media, tobacco use is on the rise. The objective of this presentation will be to discuss awareness, identification and intervention procedures related to the increasing use of tobacco products by youth. Organizations that serve children and youth should have educational programs, and standard operating procedures in terms of protecting youth from the potential harmful side effects that tobacco use can present.

**BRAVE LEADERSHIP: STUDENTS MENTORING STUDENTS**
*Jerry Dale Jones, Graduate Faculty, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV*

Robeson County North Carolina has a high percentage of Native American Lumbee Indian students that do not persist through high school. A program called Brave Leadership was piloted to see if local university student-athletes could make a difference mentoring middle school students. This poster presentation will explain and provide handouts relating to the positive findings of the program.

**A CLASSROOM CAN BE BOTH FUN, AND ACHIEVE HIGH TEST SCORES: USING CREATIVE WRITING TO ADD ENTHUSIASM TO THE CLASSROOM WHILE IMPROVING TEST SCORES**
*Kellyn Danehey, Student, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA*

The Deep Center’s literacy program aims to instruct students and inspire teachers. Volunteer teachers engage students in lessons that teach the mechanics of reading and writing while also giving students an outlet for their feelings and problems. The Deep Center uses lesson plans specifically constructed to keep students entertained while also teaching writing tools.

**STOP + THINK + DECIDE = QUALITY DECISION MAKING: LOGICAL DECISIONS VS. EMOTIONAL DECISIONS**
*Monique Fluker, Vice President, BORN II WIN, LLC, Union City, GA*

STOP + THINK + DECIDE = QUALITY DECISION MAKING is a formula that is taught in detail to assist our youth in their daily decision making. This formula focuses on educating our youth ages 10-19 on the importance of looking at the positive and negative outcomes of a decision prior to actually making that decision. Building a positive self-image, conflict resolution, character building, and integrity training are also a part of this formula.

**BULLYTICS**
*Anita D. Sanders, Assistant Professor of Education, Gardner-Webb University, Gastonia, NC*

People have differing viewpoints as to what is considered bullying and how to counsel the bullied in addressing bullying. Bullying is an art form where one is consistently and repetitively subjected to adverse actions, negative comments, and demeaning behaviors leading to a feeling of victimization. The bully establishes a power differential. Normally, it begins with overt and covert verbal assaults ranging from derogatory comments to name calling or a combination. This presentation will provide participants with strategies and suggestions for how to address bullying.

**ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICES FOR UNDER $5**
*Larry Beard, Professor, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL and Linda Johnston, Professor, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, TN*

Assistive technology (AT) is anything that helps a student learn better in the classroom. The general perception is that AT must be expensive. This poster session will describe and provide examples of instruments that, with a little imagination, can easily be used as inexpensive AT devices.

**IMPACT OF LOW CARBOHYDRATE AND HIGH PROTEIN FAD DIETS ON PREVALENCE OF OBESITY IN COLLEGE STUDENTS**
*Padmini Shankar, Ph.D., RD, LD, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA*

This presentation has three objectives: (1) to increase knowledge and awareness of the prevalence of overweight/obesity among youth today, (2) to share information on attitudes, awareness and behavior patterns of college students who resort to fad diets in order to maintain ideal body weight, and (3) to disseminate research from evidence-based programs that are effective in combating overweight/obesity among youth.

“MORE PE, PLEASE!” ACHIEVING PHYSICAL EDUCATION GOALS USING AFTER SCHOOL RECREATION ACTIVITIES
*Michael Felak, M.S., Project Director, GoalPOST 2, Clemson University, Clemson, SC*

Physical development is a key ingredient in educating the whole child. This poster will demonstrate the goals, structure, and implementation of an after school physical activity program for high-risk students in seven rural elementary schools (GoalPOST). The program is intentionally designed to align with state and national physical education priorities, while at the same time staying engaging and fun.
HOW WE CARE! PRACTICAL STRATEGIES TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH “AT-RISK” STUDENTS
Jack Altemose, Principal; Kim Smith, Alternative Educator and Bob Withrow, Alternative Educator, Magic Valley Alternative High School, Twin Falls, ID

This poster session will look at the behaviors and behaviors of “at-risk” students. It will examine their relationships, and define strategies that foster appropriate emotional support for student success. Methods include student recognition, parent contact, and staff commitment.

DOES RECIPROCAL PEER TUTORING (RPT-M) REALLY HELP WITH ELEMENTARY-AGED STUDENTS STRUGGLING TO LEARN MATHEMATICS?
Christina Chin Wen Yang, Assistant Professor, Department of Exceptional Student Education, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

This study was designed to investigate whether RPT-M would reduce numerous systematic errors for students with mathematics procedural difficulties using a concept of Response to Intervention (RTI), Tier II intervention. This study provides useful information on the importance of mathematical procedures in learning to determine elementary school teachers’ instructional design activities and students’ attitudes towards mathematics learning in the future.

BREAKING THE CYCLE: A FAITH-BASED PREVENTIVE PROGRAM TO REDUCE TEENAGE PREGNANCIES
Chantavious Wyatt-Williams, Undergraduate Student, Stone Mountain, GA; Joanne Chopak-Foss, Ph.D, FASHA, Department of Health and Kinesiology, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Breaking the Cycle is a faith based program designed to evaluate youth’s attitudes and beliefs toward sex and teenage pregnancy. The objective is to change the attitudes of participants regarding sex and teenage pregnancy. During the program, abstinence, safe sex practices/contraceptive use and motivation are the key areas being discussed. The program is designed for minority youth ages 13-19.

BUILDING TRUST WITH LOW INCOME FAMILIES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: THE PRINCIPAL’S ROLE
Amy W. McClure, Instructional Coach—Richmond County Schools, Doctoral Candidate—Georgia Southern University, North Augusta, SC

This poster describes how principals in low income elementary schools use elements of trust to guide their leadership practices in family involvement efforts. Topics discussed are: how principals define family-school trust, how beliefs about families matter, strategies that principals use to improve family involvement, and specific leadership practices that matter. Target audience: current and aspiring Administrators, Leadership Preparation; family and community facilitators, and state program leaders.

DIVERGENT STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE TO BE AT-RISK
Tracy Meetee, Associate Professor of Education; Shirley Bau smith, Associate Professor of Education and Stephen Taylor, Associate Professor of Education, Francis Marion University, Florence, SC

This poster session will illuminate the characteristics of divergent learners as well as provide results of research conducted with this population of learners. The presentation is appropriate for all attendees. Following the session, participants will be able to: define divergence, list characteristics of divergence, articulate risk factors that influence divergent learners, and articulate accommodations that can be implemented to ensure success of divergent learners.

ONE-ON-ONE READING AND BOOK MAKING IN PROMOTING LITERACY FOR “AT-RISK” PRESCHOOLERS
Tsu-Ming Chiang, Ph.D., Researcher / Professor of Psychology, Milledgeville, GA; Jorden Anne Clements, Psychology Major, Anthropology Minor, Kathleen, GA; Stephen Elkourie, Psychology Major, Alpharetta, GA; Wesley Allen, Psychology Major; Nicole Sifakis, Psychology Major, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA

Children in poverty are at a higher risk of reading difficulty, often resulting in school failures. Individual adult to child shared readings and bookmaking have been found to improve children’s literacy. This project examines the benefits of these two methods in promoting book interest in low-income children. Detailed results and implications will be shared at the conference.

USING AND TEACHING THE OLAF (OPTIMISM, LOVE, ACCEPTANCE AND FUN) MODEL TO ENHANCE STUDENTS—AN APPLIED APPROACH
Daniel R. Czech, Professor, School of Public Health; Willie Burden, Ed.D., Associate Professor Department of Hospitality, Tourism, Family & Consumer Sciences; Alan Drew Zwald, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Public Health; Trey Burdette, Assistant Professor of Coaching Education; Brandon Harris, Assistant Professor of Sport Psychology, College of Health and Human Sciences, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The objective of this presentation will be to discuss how practicing and teaching (OLAF) optimism, love, acceptance, and fun can enhance the lives of students. Incorporating Optimism, Love, Acceptance and Fun by developing positive self affirmations, positive imagery, goal setting, and arousal regulation techniques enhances positive well-being and in turn, performance. In addition, this OLAF model based on positive psychology theory has been shown to be an effective teaching mindset. This discussion will be geared towards after school professionals interested in teaching optimism, love, acceptance, and fun.

IMPROVING SCHOOL CLIMATE THROUGH TRAINING TEACHERS TO USE CHOICE THEORY/REALITY THERAPY METHODS IN THE CLASSROOM: AN EXAMINATION OF A SCHOOL COUNSELOR IMPLEMENTED PROGRAM
Jane V. Hale, Assistant Professor, Department of Counseling and Development, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA

This presentation includes an exploration of a school counselor’s experience implementing a choice theory/reality therapy teacher training program. The effectiveness of the training, outcomes of the study, and recommendations for incorporating choice theory/reality therapy methods in the schools to improve school climate will be reviewed.

EXPLORING THE RELEVANCY OF RESEARCH IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION
Adair White-Johnson, Associate Professor of Research, Professional School Counselor, Argosy University/Marietta City Schools, Powder Springs, GA

Academic environments that serve the “at-risk” student often rely on research that may be rooted in school populations that may not reflect their student body. School administrators, teachers and counselors need to educate themselves about conducting scientific, disciplined inquiry within their schooling environments. Site based school research can empower institutions to create effective research programs to meet the specific needs of at-risk youth who attend the school. This session will focus on the key components of conducting scholarly inquiry using quantitative and qualitative approaches. Participants will engage in programmatic discourse educators will be learn the about the main steps of scientific, disciplined inquiry.
DAILY MOTIVATIONAL HABITS TO INSPIRE STUDENTS TO SUCCEED IN THE CLASSROOM AND LIFE
Wil Cason, Speaker and Trainer, Fairfield, CA

All students can succeed when provided encouragement and success strategies. This workshop has positive outcomes in the classroom with foster youth, juvenile justice facilities, and alternative schools. Participants will receive strategies from the facilitator to implement motivational and personal development seminars for students. The facilitator’s goal is to share strategies to engage students in a positive learning environment, leading to increased levels of hope and educational outlook. The second goal is to demonstrate how motivational and action-centered methods can stimulate achievement in the classroom. Topics: How to assist students to discover their unique passions and gifts, create a vibrant vision statement, and develop academic goals and action plans. Target audience: teachers, educators, youth development specialists, and counselors.

CREATIVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT FOR EMPOWERMENT ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES
Miriam Chitiga, Fayetteville State University - NC, Fayetteville, NC

The interactive presentation aims to share the benefits of and proven practices of engaging youth in innovative learning experiences that utilize performing arts for effective civic engagement and political empowerment. Based on observed evidence from a FIPSE grant implemented at a southern HBCU, the presenter engages the audience in simulated activities meant to help them in possible program replication/adoption processes.

KNOWING IS NOT ENOUGH—RACIAL MICRO AGGRESSIONS BY SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS AGAINST STUDENTS OF COLOR
Mary Ann Percy Meeks, Teacher, Gwinnett County Schools, Duluth High School, Duluth, GA and Barbara C. Roquemore, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, GA

Racial micro aggressions are the subtle, often unconscious words or actions that are committed against people of color that denigrate them and may cause emotional and physical harm. The objective is to study the racial micro aggressions in a secondary school setting. Topics include school climate, diversity awareness, multiculturalism, and social-emotional health for all students. The target audience is educators.

STRATEGIES FOR INCREASING MULTICULTURAL AWARENESS IN THE K-12 CLASSROOM
Deanna L. Cozart, Assistant Professor, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA

This poster presentation will include hands-on strategies you can use to encourage multicultural awareness in the classroom and ultimately empower young people who may face low expectations, racism, and social isolation. Specific areas targeted by our strategies include poverty awareness and tolerance among students of different races, genders, religions, and sexuality. The target audience for this presentation is current and future teachers.

FOSTERING RESILIENCY IN “AT-RISK” STUDENTS THROUGH STUDENT-CENTERED PRACTICES AND DATA DRIVEN INSTRUCTION
Roland Young, Math instructor/ Digital Communication Skills/ CSI/ Head Football Coach; Jill Palmer, Assistant Principal and Jason Christman, Springfield Public Schools, Pipkin Middle School, Springfield, MO

Participants in this poster session will actively learn about interventions to promote resiliency in struggling students. The presentation will have three separate components: creating a sense of community in the school, data-driven identification of “at-risk” students, and various levels of interventions to support students. We will share our proven and effective process of how to cultivate resiliency with minimal cost and how it can be easily implemented at your school.

COOPERATIVE LEARNING INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES BENEFIT AT RISK STUDENTS
Glenda L. Ogletree, Assistant Professor, Early Childhood Education, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

Participants will investigate an elementary science concept while in diverse cooperative learning groups. Benefits of using cooperative learning will emerge during the activity, and participants will discuss and share how using cooperative learning can help “at-risk” students.

TMI—NOT TOO MUCH INFORMATION—TEXT MESSAGING INFORMATION
Phronie Jackson, MPH, Project Coordinator, National Council of Negro Women, Washington, DC

The TMI poster presentation will demonstrate to conference attendees how social media such as text messaging can be a useful tool in delivering Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) and HIV/AIDS awareness education and prevention messages. It will show how youth can be utilized as advocates to reach peers in a manner that is youth friendly and engaging.

MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY (MST): DOING WHATEVER IT TAKES TO EMPower FAMILIES, DIVERT YOUTH PLACEMENT, AND REDUCE RECIDIVISM
Jennifer L. Glover, LCSW, MST-JJI Program Director, The Child Center of NY, Jamaica, NY and Jan Hassan-Butea, M.S.,C.A.S.A.C, MST-JJI Program Director, SCO Family of Service, Jamaica, NY

This presentation will provide an overview of Multisystemic Therapy (MST). The objectives are: (1) to describe the MST model and its theoretical underpinnings, (2) discuss MST best practice, (3) provide a case example of the use of MST in the community, and (4) discuss the quality assurance associated with MST adherence and fidelity.

UNMASKING “AT-RISK” YOUTH
Sheila Brown, High School Principal, Alternative/Turnaround/ Transition Model, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI

This presentation walks the participants through the process of doing an academic diagnosis of their “at-risk” students based on more than just student’s school records. Understanding how various forms of trauma in the student’s lives manifests and impacts the student’s confidence to learn is pertinent to all levels of educators.
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
VALIDATED TEACHING PRACTICES FOR TITLE I
SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS WITH ENGLISH AS A
SECOND LANGUAGE: THE EXEMPLARY CENTER
FOR READING INSTRUCTION
John Hobe, Childhood and Exceptional Student Education,
Department Head, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah,
GA

Participants will learn nationally validated, research-based, effective
teaching practices for letter and word recognition, comprehension,
writing, grammar, study skills, literature, penmanship, and spelling. In
addition, they will learn a system for managing and integrating this
instruction for grades Kindergarten through 12.

RETHINKING ATTENTION-DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY
DISORDER (ADHD): WHAT WORKS, WHAT Doesn’T
AND WHY
Terri Martin-Yates, M.Ed., Educational Consultant/Certified
Trainer, Trainings Made for You & The Upside Down Organization,
Gainesville, GA

So what’s new about ADHD? Non-invasive, highly practical scanning
technologies now make it possible to observe the structure and function
of the brain as never before! These observations have produced a “new
view” of what actually happens in the ADHD brain during learning,
concentration, stress and emotional trauma. Based on this research,
practical, hands-on strategies are provided in this workshop to enhance
the effectiveness of your teaching or therapeutic interventions, and to
strengthen your helping relationship with ADHD students.

CLAYTON COUNTY SYSTEM OF CARE MODEL:
A COLLABORATIVE MULTIDISCIPLINARY
PARTNERSHIP
Luvenia Jackson, System of Care Administrator, Clayton County
Public Schools and Clayton County Juvenile Court; Mandy Condit,
Clayton County Public Schools; Tamera Foley, Clayton County
Public Schools, Jonesboro, GA and Dana Carlyle-Wehner, MSW,
Attachment and Bonding Center of Atlanta, Tucker, GA

Clayton County’s System of Care is an intervention that identifies
students at risk for disruptive and delinquent behaviors; links students
and families with community service providers; and provides case
management to students and families to improve pro-social skills,
achieve achievement, increase safety, and reduce court referrals.

REMEMBER WHEN HORMONES TOOK OVER YOUR
REASONING!
Bea Joyner, CEO and Julianna Woodard, Retired Administrator,
Teacher, and Entertainer, Busy As A Bee Productions, Philadelphia,
PA

There are differences between teens today and the teens their parents
or other adults were. But, are adults preparing teens to face the
correlation of their actions or do they just make excuses for their
behavior? This presentation highlights the ways adults can begin an
effective dialogue about sex and responsibility.

APPLICATION OF THEORY TO EDUCATIONAL
POLICY
Julia Christina Mason, Ed.D, Special Education Teacher, University
of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ

Educators of the “at-risk” student implement the work of Bloom, Gardner and Maslow interdependently in their instruction to experience
instructional success. Applying Bloom’s Taxonomy with established
state standards to enhance critical thinking ability and recognizing
the unique talents of every student, while working with family and
community in creating effective policies, provides major stakeholders
the opportunity to participate in creating and implementing educational policy.

MORE THAN SAD: PREVENTING TEEN SUICIDE—A
PROGRAM CREATED BY THE AMERICAN
FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION
Christina Owens, RN, BSN, Metro Atlanta Area Director, American
Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Lawrenceville, GA

More Than Sad is a program of the American Foundation for Suicide
Prevention that provides education about factors that put youth at risk
for suicide. The 26 minute teen depression film presents vignettes of
teens that were treated for depression and aims to teach adolescents to
recognize depression in themselves or their friends and to encourage
them to seek help.

H.O.P.E. THE MAINSTAY OF EDUCATION
Kathy Yarbrough, Graduate Student, Florida State University,
Tallahassee, FL

Hope is the underlying element that motivates a person. The absence of
hope is a world of despair. Students without hope lack motivation and
are at greater risk of failing academically and personally. Using H.O.P.E.
as an acronym, this presentation will provide secondary educators with
information regarding learning strategies and social development
theories aimed at fostering academic and personal success.

BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS FOR PROMOTING
POSITIVE IMAGE AND HEALTH
Chudley Werch, PhD, President & Research Director, Brief Programs
for Health, Jacksonville, FL

The objective of this presentation is to discuss how teachers, counselors,
and health and prevention specialists can use brief communications
targeting positive social and future images to enhance positive self-
identity. This can be used to increase goal setting habits for motivating
health-enhancing behaviors like physical activity and healthy eating,
while preventing and reducing risk behaviors like alcohol, tobacco and
illicit drug abuse among youth.

ACCEPTING A CULTURE OF DIFFERENCE:
REMOVING INTOLERANCE FROM OUR SCHOOLS
Charles L. Conant III, Principal of Therapeutic Learning Center
(TLC), Horry County School District, Conway, SC

Through the use of longitudinal data, video of student engagement,
student art work, family interviews, and story telling the audience will
gain an understanding of “gentle teaching” to reach “at-risk” youth and
build meaningful relationships. Handouts will be provided that details
gentle relationship building and cognitive-based therapy interventions.
Get ready to laugh and cry; open your heart!

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS AND SOCIAL
RECIPROCITY: TAPPING THE POWER OF PERSONAL
CONNECTIONS
Katherine Wanslee, MA.Ed, Behavior Consultant, It’s All About Me
Behavior Consultants, Sun Lakes, AZ

Positive classrooms are built on personal connections and provide
diverse opportunities to engage and motivate students. Successful
relationships are neither random nor accidental. This session will
examine how to develop and reinforce personal connections with
students, and how to implement simple, effective strategies that
involve every student. Participants will take away strategies that can be
implemented easily and quickly in the classroom, as well as techniques
that produce immediate results in establishing a productive, positive,
learning environment.
KEEPING YOUR SWAGGA THROUGH LEADERSHIP, ATTITUDE, COMMITMENT AND EXCELLENCE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Michael Ellison, Program Coordinator; Tristan Taylor, Co-Facilitator and Zenobia Jones, Co-Facilitator; Columbus Wellness Center Outreach & Prevention Project, Inc., Columbus, GA

The Swagga and Lace Initiative based in the West Central Georgia Health District is a replication of the evidence-based intervention Becoming A Responsible Teen (BART). The purpose of this initiative is to reduce teen pregnancy rates in rural areas, through a joint collaboration with community partners including faith-based organizations, civic groups, and parents. The uniqueness of this alliance and how they face these difficult challenges will be shared.

EDUCATION WITHOUT LIMITS: DEVELOPING OFF-CAMPUS ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMMING FOR DISENGAGED YOUTH IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Lisa Webster, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services and Patricia Crockatt, School Administrator, Interlake School Division, Stonewall, Manitoba, Canada

The presentation will give a practical and informative approach on how to set up a true alternative setting for rural high school students. The Infinity program is run for and with the students and community it serves. All areas of public works, health, welfare, justice, and Interlake School Division contribute to the program’s success. The target audience will be rural high schools who have an “at-risk” population who require an alternative approach that is both cost effective and fully supported by the community it serves. We will share the entrance information and recipe for success, in terms of how to introduce the program to the community, how to choose students who will thrive in that setting, and how to make sure the first few crucial years of programming are successful.

Certificate Q & A

Q: Where’s My Certificate?

A: We will be mailing the certificates.

Q: Where and when will you mail my certificate?

A: After March 8, log onto nationalyouthatrisk.com and complete a brief online conference evaluation. The last question will allow you to tell us where to send your certificate. We will get them into the mail just as fast as we can. The online evaluation will close on April 13, 2012.

Q: What if I forget about the evaluation process?

A: Don’t worry! We will email you a reminder after the conference.

DOWNLOAD THE 2012 NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE PROGRAM TO YOUR SMART PHONE OR IPAD
WHAT’S BULLYING GOT TO DO WITH IT?
Mary Jane Kirby, Faculty-Mentor, Walden University, Fayetteville, NC

In addition to direct attacks, bullying may also be more indirect by causing a student to be socially isolated through intentional exclusion. While boys typically engage in direct bullying methods, girls who bully are more apt to utilize these more subtle indirect strategies, such as spreading rumors and enforcing social isolation.

“I DON’T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL!”—UNDERSTANDING THE EMOTIONAL REACTIONS OF LEARNING PROBLEMS
Roben W. Taylor, Assistant Professor, Jacksonville State University, College of Education, Jacksonville, AL

Many children with learning difficulties may effectively hide their feelings. This presentation examines school situations that may generate negative reactions related to how children feel about their performance in school. This presentation also offers practical strategies that teachers and parents can use to help children deal with their negative feelings related to performance. Participants will gain insight into these challenges and how they relate to student motivation and feelings.

THE EXAMINATION OF REAL-LIFE IMPLEMENTATIONS OF CRITICAL ELEMENTS IN A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY IN HIGH-PERFORMING AND LOW-PERFORMING MIDDLE SCHOOLS
Damita Griffin Bynes, Doctoral Candidate, Georgia Southern University, Bartow, GA

This research study focused on six middle schools in Georgia, where the five critical elements of a professional learning community were implemented as a response to school reform. This presentation will examine the real-life implementations of critical elements of a professional learning community in these high-performing and low-performing middle schools to determine if there were significant differences or patterns that existed among or between the two groups of schools.

INTENTIONAL GOAL-SETTING AS A STRATEGY FOR ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT WITH “AT-RISK” ELEMENTARY STUDENTS: THE GOALPOST EXPERIENCE
Anthony Olalere, Graduate Research Assistant and David Fleming, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Eugene T. Moore School of Education, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

This poster presentation will describe the goal-setting process adopted by the GoalPOST (Goal-oriented Performance in Out-of-School Time) after school program. The program includes over 450 elementary school students in seven different elementary schools. Among the strategies featured will be the mechanics of setting goals with “at-risk” students, strategies for family participation, and the process for classroom teacher/facilitator training and involvement.

A MATH CLASS BECOMES A LIFE CLASS
Douglas Edwards, Research Associate II (Mathematics), Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

The purpose of this presentation is to show how the high school course, Mathematics in Industry and Government, is being used to develop the critical thinking skills to make life decisions using the specific example of selecting a career.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN HELPING “AT-RISK” CHILDREN TO GAIN SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE
Tsu-Ming Chiang, Ph.D., Researcher, Professor of Psychology; Wesley Allen, Psychology Major; Jorden Anne Clements, Psychology Major, Anthropology Minor; Stephen Elkourie, Psychology Major; John Kim, Psychology Major, Biology Minor; Bailey Jacob, Psychology Major, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA

This poster presentation will highlight the benefits of intervention for two types of “at-risk” preschoolers, socially withdrawn versus hyperactive/aggressive, through adult-administered intervention in the form of empathy training are discussed in this study. The intervention program consists of 5 parts on how to recognize emotions and express them properly through words and behaviors. The results and strategies will be shared with teachers and counselors.

INTERACTIVE WRITING INTERVENTION FOR SKILL ACQUISITION WITH ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING (ELL) STUDENTS IN AN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
Sheilagh G. Durham, Doctoral Student, Project Director for GoalPOST; David Fleming, Eugene T. Moore School of Education, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

This presentation will feature an interactive writing intervention employed with ELL students in an after school program. The intervention is designed to enhance skill acquisition in the conventions of print such as proper endings, capitalization, and the use of punctuation. Attendees will acquire knowledge on implementing this strategy for “at-risk” youth and ELL students in an informal/alternative education format.

AMERICORPS NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS (NCCC) CONNECTS SERVICE AND TRAINING TO IMPACT COMMUNITIES AND DEVELOP YOUTH AS SERVANT LEADERS
Erika Prelow Roberts, Community Relations Specialist and Gary Turner, Region Director, AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region, Vicksburg, MS

Be part of a movement. Make a difference and earn money for college. AmeriCorps NCCC is the next great opportunity for youth who are mature, independent, willing to travel and high functioning. AmeriCorps NCCC is a full-time, team-based, 10-month residential national service program for men and women ages 18-24. NCCC members are organized into teams of 10-12 members and serve in the region’s local communities in areas related to disaster services, environmental stewardship, energy conservation, urban and rural development, and infrastructure improvement. NCCC members respond to disasters, construct homes, develop trails in state and national parks, mentor children and youth, oversee emergency shelters, organize donations of food, clothing and other materials, lead volunteers and meet many other needs identified by communities. Members receive housing, meals, uniforms, a living allowance, a $5550 education award, training in volunteer management and leadership, and valuable work skills.

IT’S A BALANCING ACT: STRATEGIES FOR HELPING STUDENTS MAINTAIN ACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR RESPONSIBILITIES
Shanna Woods, Science Department Chairperson, Fort Service-Learning Magnet Academy, Columbus, GA

Catch Me If I’m Falling!!! In this world of social networking, it can be hard to focus on the business of education. Teachers provide the safety nets that help students learn to balance their academic lives with their social lives. There are successful strategies for fostering a healthy merger of both worlds.
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICES FOR UNDER $5
Larry Beard, Professor; Patricia Lowry, Program Chair and Linda Johnston, Professor, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, TN
Assistive technology (AT) is anything that helps a student learn better in the classroom. The general perception is that AT must be expensive. This poster session will describe and provide examples of instruments that, with a little imagination, can easily be used as inexpensive AT devices.

T’S GOOD 2B GOOD: HOW TO INSPIRE “AT-RISK” YOUTH TO BE GOOD PEOPLE
Sandra Zerner, M.Ed., Author, Educator, and Motivational Speaker
IT’S GOOD 2B GOOD LLC, Scottsdale, AZ
You will learn a powerful approach to helping kids understand the power of doing good. You will be able to identify four benefits of doing good; understand the reasons bullies suffer when they inflict any form of violence on others and how they can be motivated to choose positive alternatives to get what they need and want. For youth workers, teachers, counselors.

TRANSFORMING STUDENT BEHAVIOR: COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIES TO EMPOWER THE MOST “AT-RISK” STUDENTS TO SUCCEED
Sabrina Tillman, Alternative School Director, Greene County ADAPT Program, Greensboro, GA
This poster presentation provides a holistic set of strategies designed to address the most “at-risk” students’ social, emotional, behavioral and academic needs. This program targets middle school’s top 5% of troubled students, those students who are retained and those who exhibit chronic behavioral issues. The program promotes behavior modification, thus improving academic achievement.

“LITEROCRATIC” PRAXIS IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASSROOM
Lisa William-White, Associate Professor, San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA
This descriptive study illuminates how Hip Hop based education (HHBE) namely Spoken Word literacy practices can be a powerful vehicle in the teaching of academic literacy. Concrete examples of literacy practices and student learning outcomes will be explored to provide ideas for educators engaged in building academic literacy.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: PRACTICAL APPLICATION IN LEADERSHIP THROUGH GRADUATE PROJECTS
Elaine M. Omann, Ph.D., Assistant Professor; Karen Hahn, Ph.D., Director of Graduate Education, Saint Leo University and Simaran Bakshi, M.Ed., Assistant Principal, Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville, FL
Developing leadership skills for school achievement can be fostered by practical field experiences and required projects created by graduate students with the support and mentorship of school administrators and university instructors.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR “AT-RISK” STUDENTS
Melanie Phillips, Graduation Coach, Stewart County High School, Lumpkin, GA
Alternative Education programs are designed to meet the needs of “at-risk” students who are not succeeding in a traditional school setting. Students should be provided with a variety of options that can lead to graduation and are supported by services for the student that are essential to success. Objective: Use Alternative Education Programs as an early intervention strategy for targeted “at-risk” students to help decrease your dropout rate.

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO MANAGING STUDENT BEHAVIOR
Cynthia K. Hayes, Student Services Officer, Beaufort County Schools, Beaufort, SC and Susan Koves-Guillen, PBIS Coordinator, Beaufort County School District, Beaufort, SC
This presentation provides an overview of several interventions and strategies implemented in thirty schools in Beaufort County. A summary report provides information on the implementation of Positive Behavior Intervention Supports in our school at different stages. The implementation of a Behavior Management Specialist Program now in its fifth years provides proactive strategies for dealing with inappropriate behaviors and prevents them from elevating into more serious infractions. School uniforms have been implemented and are now a requirement in grades Kindergarten through twelfth. The school district has seen a fifty-three percent reduction in out of school suspensions over a three year period.

DETRACKING STUDENTS TO REDUCE THEIR “AT-RISK” FACTORS
Daryl T. Jones, Instructional Data Analyst, Wicomico County Board of Education, Salisbury, MD
Are students tracked in the school system where you live? Tracking concentrates at-risk students in low level classrooms placing them at greater risk of dropping out. Evidence from a school system that tracks will be shared along with the success of at-risk students who were detracked. A system for identifying at-risk students based on several factors will be provided.

IS BULLYING HERE TO STAY?
Jacqueline Smart, Ed.S, Educator, Savannah Chatham County Public School System, Savannah, Georgia
This presentation will show that victims of bullying typically are unhappy children who suffer from fear, anxiety, and low self-esteem. They may try to avoid school and social interactions. This presentation will develop awareness of the negative impact of bullying and aggressive behavior and offer practical strategies to address the problem.

IMPROVING HEALTH LITERACY FOR “AT-RISK” YOUTH: EDUCATING IN THE AGE OF THE INTERNET
Joanne Chopak-Foss, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA
Health literacy has been gaining broader attention as a viable method for improving health outcomes. Most of the information on health literacy has addressed its function among adult populations in health care settings. This presentation will describe the basics of health literacy, such as how it is defined, how it can be operationalized in adolescent populations, how it must be part of the prevention vocabulary for adolescent service providers. It will also provide practical strategies to improve health literacy in the age of technology for those who work directly with youth. The ultimate goal is to reduce health risk behaviors in this population.
POSTER SESSIONS

BE IN THE KNOW: RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT PREGNANCY PREVENTION FOR STUDENT RETENTION
Andrea Heyward, MHS, Training and Technical Assistance Specialist and Rena Dixon, MPH, Priority Youth Specialist, South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, Columbia, SC

Come learn how to be in the know about sexual health when working in or with colleges. Colleges have a concentration of older youth and are a logical place to disseminate sexual health information and to provide sexual health services. This presentation will discuss a three-year grant initiative to foster community-linkages to support pregnancy prevention and student retention in college settings.

LISTEN TO ME: USING MUSIC THERAPY STRATEGIES TO OPEN UP THE LINE OF COMMUNICATION WITH “AT-RISK” YOUTH
Catherine Anglin-Sturdivant, Owner/Director, Music Therapist, Musical Expressions, Winston-Salem, NC

This workshop will provide an overview of what music therapy is and how it can open up the lines of communication with peers, caregivers and professionals. Information will be given on music therapy techniques with “at-risk” youth. Hands-on demonstrations will be given on different methods of song-writing, hand drumming, as well as music and movement. Song-writing, movement and rhythm can help promote healing and self-expression.

ESTABLISHING & MAINTAINING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH “AT-RISK” STUDENTS: UNDERSTANDING THEIR NEEDS/KNOWING HOW TO MEET THEM
Aurelio D. Harrison, At-Risk Interventionist, Montgomery Public Schools, Montgomery, AL

This poster session displays a high energy, real-life depiction of classroom settings with “at-risk” children. It focuses on demonstrating the differences between our world as adults and their world as children, trust building activities, and knowing when to add elasticity to the rules. In addition, the presenter provides an understanding of poverty and the adverse affects it has on students and the learning process.

CHANGING THE GAME: SHAPING RESPONSIBLE STUDENT-ATHLETES FOR SUCCESS THROUGH WRAP AROUND SUPPORT
Tavio Hobson, Founder and Executive Director, A PLUS Youth Program, Kirkland, WA

Changing the Game will present the current problems facing underserved youth with solutions that shape responsible leaders in an environment of complete support which attendees can apply. The model that will be presented is based on a proven program called A PLUS Youth Program, located in Seattle, WA. The program is a non-profit organization that offers youth in the 4th to 10th grades academic support, leadership development, health and wellness training to correspond with the typical Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball program.

PREPARING NEW PRE- AND POST-TEACHERS WITH QUALITY CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT SKILLS
JoAnn Fisher, Nova Southeastern University, Oxon Hill, MD

With budget cuts, larger class sizes, and at times little support for teachers, it is important that new teachers are taught classroom management pre- and post-teaching. Pre-teaching activities do not adequately give new teachers the hands on experience needed for teaching students. Support from the principal and veteran teachers through mentoring programs, and the development of learning opportunities will assist with developing confidence in pre- and post-teachers for what they will realistically encounter in schools.

UNDERSTANDING COLLEGE STUDENTS’ PERCEPTIONS OF HYPERTENSION AND HEART DISEASE
Terry Lester, Jr., Masters Student, Georgia Southern University, Department of Biology and Padmini Shankar, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Department of Health and Kinesiology, Statesboro, GA

The poster will highlight a recent study conducted to examine college student’s awareness of hypertension and heart disease, their attitude towards risks of developing hypertension, perceptions of the effects of family history, and students’ nutritional, physical activity, and risk-taking behaviors. The study represents the first steps of an effort to determine the most effective ways to educate college age students on hypertension and heart disease.

YOUNG CHILDREN WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIORS: FINDING SUPPORT IN A UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
Katy Gregg, PhD, Assistant Professor, Child & Family Development, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA and Kelly Godfrey, Child & Family Development, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

More preschool children are expelled from school than high schoolers; often due what have been labeled challenging behaviors. This poster describes these behaviors as well as interventions which were supported in a classroom by students and faculty through a University partnership.

WHY TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED PROGRAMS FOR “AT-RISK” STUDENTS WORK? FOSTERING RESILIENCE OF “AT-RISK” STUDENTS
Jackie HeeYoung Kim, Ed. D., Assistant Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA

This poster presentation will provide an overview of the AT&T-sponsored educational research project entitled “LET THE GAMES BEGIN.” There will be a discussion of 3D Alison programming, which the project adopted, and the role it plays in fostering resilience of “at-risk” high school students. The intended audience for this presentation is technology specialists, teacher educators, grant proposers, high school leaders and teachers, and instructional designers.
DATA AND THE APPLICATION OF DATA FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
J Gordon Holley, Principal, Hains Elementary School, Richmond County School System, Waynesboro, GA

This presentation shows and explains the process of collecting data, organizing and analyzing data with the aim of extracting useful information, facilitating conclusions, and planning for comprehensive school improvement. This model was developed and will work in an urban school setting to close achievement gaps and facilitate student learning. The Georgia Department of Education along with the Willing Learner wrote a turnaround case about the school where this process was designed.

SELF-DIRECTED STUDENT LEARNING: COMPARING GENERAL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS’ INVOLVEMENT
Barbara Washington, Assistant Professor, Murray State University, Murray, KY

The purpose of this study was to identify the extent to which students with severe disabilities attending a high-poverty high school reported that they were involved in self-directed learning in their school environment. Because these students have rarely been asked to give their input regarding their educational programming, we tested a method of questioning to minimize the tendency to acquiesce typically associated with severe disabilities. Second, to establish a normative standard of involvement in self-directed student learning, a peer group of highly successful high school seniors in the same school were asked to identify the extent to which they were involved in their educational programs and the extent to which they practiced self-determination skills.

BUILDING THE CASE FOR PREVENTION: YOUR TOOLKIT FOR STUDENT SUCCESS USING EVIDENCE BASED TOOLS
Pamela Werb, Senior Training Consultant, National Health Promotion Associates, Plymouth, MN

Evidence based tools will help you identify, select and implement a prevention program and position your community for change. The session will include a school/community assessment identifying community need, define the value of prevention programs while differentiating from intervention programs and include hands on use of tools with several evidenced based prevention programs for case study.

CAMP4LIFE: CONNECTING WITH AT-RISK TEENS THROUGH THE EXPRESSION ARTS
Michael Frazier, LPC, The 4LIFE Foundation and University of West Georgia, Douglasville, GA

CAMP4LIFE inspires at-risk teens, ages 12-17, to Live In Full Expectation (L.I.F.E.) through the expressive arts: journaling, visual arts, capoeira and drumming, t’ai chi, spoken word, and music. CAMP4LIFE’s objectives are to increase self-worth, increase an active L.I.F.E. style, foster creative expression, and provide a safe therapeutic community for teens. The target audiences are community-based organizations and social service workers.

INTENTIONAL LEARNING AFTER SCHOOL: THE GOAL-ORIENTED PERFORMANCE IN OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME (GOALPOST) PROGRAM
David Fleming, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Eugene Moore School of Education, Eugene T. Moore School of Education and Bob Barcelona, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Youth Development Leadership, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

This presentation features selected aspects of the Goal-Oriented Performance in Out-of-School Time (GoalPOST) afterschool program. This university/school partnership is currently implemented in seven rural, Title I elementary schools, and serves approximately 450 high-risk students and families each morning and afternoon. Participating students engage in physical recreation, complete goal-setting exercises, and participate in family engagement activities, among other academically-oriented activities.

ADHD: MALADAPTIVE DISORDER OR EVOLUTIONARY ADAPTATION?
Jeremiah Hopes, Therapist, NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Private Practice, Charlotte, NC

Children with ADHD can disrupt virtually any environment. This presentation will explore research that presents the symptoms of ADHD as adaptive rather than maladaptive, analyze the implications of viewing inattention, impulsivity, and hyperactivity as strengths, and discuss how parents, teachers, helping professionals, school administrators and physicians can use this information to assist children impacted by ADHD.

BREAKING BARRIERS TO SUCCESS: WORKING WITH AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE STUDENTS
Vincent Dwayne Hinton, Alabama State University, Montgomery, AL

Participants will be empowered to explore strategies when working with students, particularly African-American male students. The focus will be on the therapeutic relationship (strength based counseling model) as well as incorporating creative interventions. This session will be interactive, providing handouts, music, videos and spoken word.


**TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2012**

**Ballroom B • Tuesday • 4:30 PM – 5 PM • PLU MASTERY TEST**

- Please allow 30 minutes to complete your test.
- The Mastery Test must be turned in as you exit.
- Mastery Tests cannot be accepted after the testing period.

**Professional Learning Unit Credit - 1 PLU • Guidelines**

*One Professional Learning Unit (PLU) credit, to be used for Georgia teacher certification renewal, may be earned by conference participants.*

**PARTICIPANT’S RESPONSIBILITY:**

- Submit a signed *PLU Prior Approval* Form
- Complete the “Personnel Information” section of Form 0224
- Participate in conference sessions for a *minimum* of ten (10) hours over the four-day conference
- Complete the PLU Mastery Test to demonstrate your mastery of the conference information
- Complete a Confirmation of Hours Attended Form

**FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE:**

- All *PLU Credit Mastery Tests* will be evaluated by a conference organizer who is also a Georgia Southern University, College of Education faculty member.

- Each participant whose PLU Credit Evaluation Instrument is evaluated as passing; who has turned in a PLU Prior Approval Form; and who has verified that he/she attended conference sessions for a minimum of ten hours, will be granted one (1) PLU credit and will receive by mail a fully signed Form 0224, *Professional Learning Program Completion Record*, from Georgia Southern University.

- It will be the responsibility of each participant who earns PLU credit to present the Form 0224 to his/her school system’s central office for processing with the Professional Standards Commission.

**FOR QUESTIONS:**

During the Conference, contact a conference staff member at the Registration tables.

For questions following the Conference, call toll-free 1.912.478.2260

---

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2012**

**Regency Ballroom • Wednesday • 8:15 AM • KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

**MEETING ALL THE NEEDS OF ALL CHILDREN**

*Steven W. Edwards, Ph.D., President, CEO, Edwards Educational Services, Inc., Alexandria, VA*

In an era of high stakes testing the social, behavioral and emotional needs of children had been compromised. Being successful on one assessment is a very myopic approach to measuring a child's ability or promise for future success. This keynote will focus in on the critical need to look at educating and nurturing the whole child by building off each child's needs and strengths rather than their ability to bubble in an answer key.

---

Pick up your WEDNESDAY evaluations now from the Room Monitors!
Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

JOHNNY’S STILL GAY. SO WHAT? PROTECT HIM TOO!
- THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Laura A. Bacon, Ed. D., Assistant Principal, Aiken High School, Aiken, SC

The objectives of this presentation are to help school leaders (1) understand the impact that peer victimization has on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth and (2) identify ways that they can protect LGBT youth from peer victimization. The primary objective of this presentation is to provide participants with effective strategies, programs, and policies that school leaders can implement in their schools to reduce the level of peer victimization experienced by LGBT youth.

Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

DESIGNING STRUCTURAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES TO CONNECT, RECRUIT, AND RETAIN AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALES FROM K-12 TO HIGHER EDUCATION: OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SHARED VISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS • THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Jà Hon Vance, Educational Consultant and Vice President for JV Educational Consultants Firm, West Bloomfield, MI

This workshop will highlight the importance of collaborative partnerships between K-12 and Higher Education in the design and implementation of learning communities. The presenter will review the different definitions of learning communities at JV Educational Consultants and other educational institutions and describe why collaborative partnerships are essential for their development. To maximize impact on student success for minority males, it is imperative that student affairs departments closely link their efforts with the institutional mission and strategic plan.

Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

GIVING THE GIFT OF ACADEMIC LANGUAGE: POWERFUL STRATEGIES TO ACCELERATE VOCABULARY ACQUISITION
FEATURED SPEAKER: Joanne Billingsley, Educational Consultant, San Antonio, TX

Unlock the vocabulary door and watch kids soar! Significant language discrepancies exist between children of low-income and higher-income households. Gaps in the quality and quantity of vocabulary clearly impede academic success. Come experience high quality instructional materials that engage students in vocabulary and language interaction. Learn to implement neuroscience based strategies that turn mundane vocabulary lessons into a multi-sensory interactive experience, where students hear, see, feel and speak using new vocabulary. Tap into the power of music and imagery to enhance vocabulary recall and reading comprehension. Engage students with card sorts, content trailers, and sentence puzzlers. Give the gift of academic language!

Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOR: THE CONTEXT IS THE FOUNDATION FOR ALL CHANGE
- THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Eric Landers, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Department of Teaching & Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The focus of this session will be on understanding why young adults engage in challenging behaviors and how service providers can employ an analytical approach to addressing these behaviors. Emphasis will be placed on how to use simple, effective, and teacher-friendly methods for examining behaviors, gathering information, and using interventions that match the impetus for the behavior.

Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

PREVENTING DATING VIOLENCE IN YOUTH
Elizabeth L. Richeson, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist, Jennifer Ann’s Group and Private Practice; Drew Crecente, J.D., Executive Director, Jennifer Ann’s Group, El Paso, TX

This workshop for the professional presents relevant information regarding dating violence in youth. Strategies presented will facilitate the development of educational programs to promote safe extrication from abusive relationships. Traits of victims and perpetrators, warning signs, and recent legislative actions are included. Additional information explains cyber bullying, cyber stalking, and illegal information gathering with recommended actions to empower potential victims.

JOHNNY’S STILL GAY. SO WHAT? PROTECT HIM TOO!
- THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Laura A. Bacon, Ed. D., Assistant Principal, Aiken High School, Aiken, SC
**Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**THE NEW IQ: UNDERSTANDING AND TEACHING EXECUTIVE FUNCTION SKILLS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Frank Kros, M.S.W., J.D., President, The Upside Down Organization, Baltimore, MD

Teaching children to think—clearly and efficiently—is a universal goal of parents and teachers alike. Thinking skills such as planning, goal setting, organizing, prioritizing, self-monitoring, accessing working memory, inhibitory (impulse) control and sustaining focused attention are critical to academic success at every age. Most important, the development of these skills allows children to mature into independent, healthy and functional adults. Despite the importance of these “executive function” skills, these thinking processes are not systemically taught at home or in schools and are not the focus of the curriculum. Rather, schools emphasize the content or the “what” of learning. Executive function skills are the “how” of learning. When a student has poor or underdeveloped executive function skills, they can appear disorganized, unprepared and unmotivated. By providing explicit instruction in executive function processes, parents and teachers can significantly elevate the thinking abilities in their children and students.

**Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session**

**101 THINGS EVERY GIRL/YOUNG WOMAN OF COLOR SHOULD KNOW: A ROADMAP FOR GIRLS AND THE WOMEN WHO EDUCATE AND SERVE THEM • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Meshelle, Comedienne, Actor, Author, Meshelle, LLC, Baltimore, MD

This session explores the journey of direct service, program development, strategic planning, and implementation for girls of color. Four key components: mind, body, spirit, and life skills are highlighted in this presentation with key direction and advice to assist girls who may be facing challenges navigating the journey from girlhood to womanhood. Environmental, internal, and economic variables will be presented to qualify the anecdotes and findings presented.

An evaluation of the conference’s general sessions will be accessible via nationalyouthatrisk.com or via an email announcement following the conference.

**FIVE CONFERENCE STRANDS**

I. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT & SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
   Closing the achievement gaps and promoting learning for all students.

II. SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL SKILLS
   Fostering social and emotional skills of all children and youth and enhancing the social climate.

III. SAFETY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION
   Preventing violence and ensuring safety for all children and youth.

IV. MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH
   Promoting the mental and physical health of all children and youth.

V. FAMILY & COMMUNITY
   Developing and enhancing family and community support for all children and youth.
WEDNESDAY • 9:45 – 11 AM
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

10 STRATEGIES PROVEN TO INSPIRE EVEN THE MOST DIFFICULT STUDENTS
• PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Christian Moore, M.S.W., Founder, WhyTry Organization, Orem, UT

Want to engage even the most challenging students? This session will show you 10 strategies proven effective at building relationships, grabbing attention, and inspiring challenging students. Learn to speak the language of today’s youth using relevant multi-media, physical activities, and visual metaphors. These strategies are used to inspire students in K-12 schools, as well as mental health and correctional organizations worldwide.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

THERE IS NOTHING “INTIMATE” ABOUT PARTNER VIOLENCE: IDENTIFYING, INFORMING, AND INTERVENING TO END TEEN DATING VIOLENCE • PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM
FEATURED SPEAKERS: Lauren Josephs, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, Vice President & COO, Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando; Deborah Scott, MPH, Principal, Executive Director, Sage Associates, Houston, TX and Stephan Brown, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, BCABA, President, Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando, FL, Quinn Gentry, MBA, Ph.D., President & CEO, Messages of Empowerment Productions, LLC, Atlanta, GA

Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

Presenters for this segment will focus on helping school-based and community-based personnel better understand their role in recognizing and responding to intimate partner violence. Adolescent social and health experts who implement community-based teen-centered intimate partner violence prevention and intervention models will deconstruct three dimensions of violence when prevention and early intervention are most effective, including how to identify, inform girls of help, and intervene if necessary.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

“IT WON’T HAPPEN AGAIN”—ADDRESSING TEEN DATING VIOLENCE
Cynthia McRae, MS LMHC, Academic Counselor-Mental Health Resource Specialist, North Shore Community College, Danvers, MA

“He/She’s not like that.” “It only happened once.” “You don’t understand. He/She would never hurt me.” This presentation will address the serious, life-threatening issue of what relationship violence is, how to identify the warning signs of an unhealthy relationship, ways to intervene, and how to educate teens about safe dating. Also included in the presentation will be an examination of the psychological impact a violent relationship can have on a teen’s behavior, self-esteem and future dating choices.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

MAKING HOMEWORK PHUN (PAINLESS HOMEWORK WITH UNIQUE NOTIONS) A HOMEWORK STRATEGY FOR K‐5 STUDENTS
Danielle Hickerson, Academic Coach, Researcher, Author, Cobb County Schools, Mableton, GA

PHUN Homework (Painless Homework with Unique Notions) is a homework strategy for students in grades K-5. Attending participants will be presented with information on how and why PHUN Homework was created and what they need in order to make homework PHUN in their classrooms.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Wednesday • 9:45 – 11 AM • Concurrent Session

RECONNECTING THE DOTS: RESTORING FAMILY AND COMMUNITY TIES
Gale Frazier, Ed.D., Director of Education, Evangelical Christian School, Dalton, IL

This presentation will provide information and strategies that will strengthen the family-community connection, by implementing proven practices that have worked for years within the Black/Brown communities. These strategies incorporate the usage of male/female rites of passage, faith-based and community initiatives and a myriad of other successful programs, including early intervention and prevention.
MY AYP IS FALLING AND CAN'T GET UP
Tamika L. Blythers, National Consultant, Educator, Children’s Book Author Eduvizon, LLC, Columbus, GA

Achievement gaps can occur for numerous reasons. One significant cause is disruptions in the classroom due to certain student behaviors. Whether you are a new teacher or seasoned veteran, classroom management is a daily challenge. “Time to Teach” provides educators with a set of strategies that can be used immediately. These strategies allow educators to eliminate repeated warnings and multiple requests. After implementing these strategies, any teacher will be able to stand tall and deliver lessons with confidence and productivity.

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE: DIMENSIONS, ASSESSMENT, AND INTERVENTION
Corey Layne, School Psychologist, Fayetteville, GA

Emotional intelligence influences behavior in a wide range of domains including school, community, and the workplace. Weaknesses in emotional intelligence can impact academic achievement, ability to communicate effectively, solve everyday problems, build and maintain meaningful relationships, and ability to make moral decisions. At the end of the workshop, individuals who work with youth will learn the dimensions of Emotional Intelligence, child and adolescent brain development in relation to social-emotional functioning, role of emotional abilities and student learning (academic grades and social competence), and interventions to support youth with emotional and behavioral challenges.

COMMUNITY-BASED MENTORING: CHANGING HOW CHILDREN GROW UP
Kate Jacobs, Director of Programs, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Coastal Empire, Savannah, GA

In Community-Based Mentoring, adult mentors provide children who face adversity with individualized time and attention. Over time, the match develops a relationship that helps the child to manage the everyday challenge of growing up. During time spent with the mentor, the child gain new skills, explore new interests and test behaviors that expand their experience base beyond their family or neighborhood.
**Scarborough 1 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**JOHNNY’S STILL GAY. SO WHAT? PROTECT HIM TOO!**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Laura A. Bacon, Ed. D., Assistant Principal, Aiken High School, Aiken, SC

The objectives of this presentation are to help school leaders (1) understand the impact that peer victimization has on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth and (2) identify ways that they can protect LGBT youth from peer victimization. The primary objective of this presentation is to provide participants with effective strategies, programs, and policies that school leaders can implement in their schools to reduce the level of peer victimization experienced by LGBT youth.

**Scarborough 2 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**DESIGNING STRUCTURAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES TO CONNECT, RECRUIT, AND RETAIN AFRICAN AMERICAN MALES FROM K-12 TO HIGHER EDUCATION: OPPORTUNITIES FOR A SHARED VISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Jà Hon Vance, Educational Consultant and Vice President for JV Educational Consultants Firm, West Bloomfield, MI

This workshop will highlight the importance of collaborative partnerships between K-12 and Higher Education in the design and implementation of learning communities. The presenter will review the different definitions of learning communities at JV Educational Consultants and other educational institutions, and describe why collaborative partnerships are essential for their development. To maximize impact on student success for minority males, it is imperative that student affairs departments closely link their efforts with the institutional mission and strategic plan.

**Scarborough 3 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**AIM TO GROW YOUR BRAIN: UNLEASHING A MINDSET OF ACHIEVEMENT**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Joanne Billingsley, Educational Consultant, San Antonio, TX

Discover a neuroscience, research-based program for inspiring struggling disengaged learners. Acquire the knowledge, skills and lessons needed to develop more resilient students. Leave with innovative ideas, engaging activities and powerful personal stories that explain the impact of attention, effort, and practice on brain structure. Deliver this life-changing message of hope! “Smart is something you get, not something you are. If you embrace new challenges, give your best effort and practice faithfully, you will grow in intelligence. We all have the potential to grow a better brain.”

**Scarborough 4 (Seating Capacity 100) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOR: THE CONTEXT IS THE FOUNDATION FOR ALL CHANGE**

**• THIS PRESENTATION REPEATS AT 11:15 AM**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Eric Landers, Assistant Professor, College of Education, Department of Teaching & Learning, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

The focus of this session will be on understanding why young adults engage in challenging behaviors and how service providers can employ an analytical approach to addressing these behaviors. Emphasis will be placed on how to use simple, effective, and teacher-friendly methods for examining behaviors, gathering information, and using interventions that match the impetus for the behavior.

**Savannah (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session**

**LHSO (LET’S HAVE SEX ONLINE), TDTM (TALK DIRTY TO ME), NIFOC (NAKED IN FRONT OF THE COMPUTER): ARE THESE ACRONYMS THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW IF YOU WORK WITH ADOLESCENTS?**

**Darrel Long, HIV/AIDS and Human Sexuality Education Consultant, Kansas State Department of Education, Topeka, KS**

This presentation will assist participants in understanding many of the acronyms that you can use while texting. This highly interactive presentation will share research that has been conducted on youth and the use of technology and sexuality. Participants will be given a CD with some of the latest research on sex and technology, plus teaching techniques that can be utilized with various groups of youth and adults who work with youth.
Harborside Center East (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

YOU GOTTA REACH ‘EM IN ORDER TO TEACH ‘EM RE-DEFINING EDUCATION FOR A NEW GENERATION
FEATURED SPEAKER: Hotep, Urban Education Specialist, Author, Speaker, Trainer, Atlanta, GA

A multi-media presentation that completely revolutionizes the way educators and students view school and education! This presentation completely destroys common misconceptions teachers and mentors have about education and how to get youth to perform their best. This collaborative learning workshop also demonstrates the most overlooked missing ingredients in “education”, and definitively explains why Black students (especially boys) have the most difficult time in school. Most importantly though, this presentation provides SOLUTIONS! It shows how to shift students’ perception of school and illustrates its direct link to them achieving their wildest dreams!

Harborside Center West (Seating Capacity 200) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

101 THINGS EVERY GIRL/YOUNG WOMAN OF COLOR SHOULD KNOW: A ROADMAP FOR GIRLS AND THE WOMEN WHO EDUCATE AND SERVE THEM
FEATURED SPEAKER: Meshelle, Comedienne, Actor, Author, Meshelle, LLC, Baltimore, MD

This session explores the journey of direct service, program development, strategic planning, and implementation for girls of color. Four key components: mind, body, spirit, and life skills are highlighted in this presentation with key direction and advice to assist girls who may be facing challenges navigating the journey from girlhood to womanhood. Environmental, internal, and economic variables will be presented to qualify the anecdotes and findings presented.

Certificate Q & A

Q: Where’s My Certificate?
A: We will be mailing the certificates.

Q: Where and when will you mail my certificate?
A: After March 8, log onto nationalyouthatrisk.com and complete a brief online conference evaluation. The last question will allow you to tell us where to send your certificate. We will get them into the mail just as fast as we can. The online evaluation will close on April 13, 2012.

Q: What if I forget about the evaluation process?
A: Don’t worry! We will email you a reminder after the conference.
Ballroom A (Seating Capacity 300) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

10 STRATEGIES PROVEN TO INSPIRE EVEN THE MOST DIFFICULT STUDENTS
FEATURED SPEAKER: Christian Moore, M.S.W., Founder, WhyTry Organization, Orem, UT

Want to engage even the most challenging students? This session will show you 10 strategies proven effective at building relationships, grabbing attention, and inspiring challenging students. Learn to speak the language of today’s youth using relevant multi-media, physical activities, and visual metaphors. These strategies are used to inspire students in K-12 schools, as well as mental health and correctional organizations worldwide.

Ballroom B (Seating Capacity 120) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

THERE IS NOTHING “INTIMATE” ABOUT PARTNER VIOLENCE: IDENTIFYING, INFORMING, AND INTERVENING TO END TEEN DATING VIOLENCE
FEATURED SPEAKERS: Lauren Josephs, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, Vice President & COO, Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando; Deborah Scott, MPH, Principal, Executive Director, Sage Associates, Houston, TX and Stephan Brown, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, BCABA, President, Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc., Orlando, FL; Quinn Gentry, MBA, Ph.D., President & CEO, Messages of Empowerment Productions, LLC, Atlanta, GA

Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health

Presenters for this segment will focus on helping school-based and community-based personnel better understand their role in recognizing and responding to intimate partner violence. Adolescent social and health experts who implement community-based teen-centered intimate partner violence prevention and intervention models will deconstruct three dimensions of violence when prevention and early intervention are most effective, including how to identify, inform girls of help, and intervene if necessary.

Ballroom D (Seating Capacity 70) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

A WALK IN THE FOREST: PROMOTING INTELLECTUAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELLNESS AMONG TODAY’S YOUTH
John Peden, Associate Professor; Alice Hall, Associate Professor, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA and Gail Westcot, Director, Mary Kahrs Warnell Forest Education Center, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, The University of Georgia, Guyton, GA

A growing body of research suggests that childhood interactions with nature are essential for healthy development. Unfortunately, today’s youth are spending less time in the outdoors (Louv, 2005). This presentation demonstrates how an innovative educational partnership promotes intellectual and environmental wellness among Georgia’s youth. The target audience includes educators, school administrators, parents, volunteer coordinators, and youth development specialists.

Ballroom E (Seating Capacity 70) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

XBOX, HIP HOP AND DREADLOCKS: NOT YOUR FATHER’S CHILD
Randolph B. Lewis, Criminal Justice Project Coordinator II, St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL

This training is designed for all adults who have children or have custodial supervision of a child. Take an in-depth look at the attitudes, values, goals, and self-concept of today’s youth and how best to establish a positive relationship with them. Participants will learn how to: (1) discuss influences of self-concept, values, and goals of youngsters, (2) list factors which affect youth behavior, and (3) list strategies for working effectively with youths.

Ballroom F (Seating Capacity 70) • Wednesday • 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

AT RISK—“A TIME THAT REAL INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES KOUNT”—PREPARING YOUTH FOR REAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES
Cynthia Robinson, WIA Manager, Georgia Department of Labor, Career Development Services; Nedra Wakefield, Director, Jobs For Georgia Graduates Program and Roberta Hall, Employment and Training, Consultant Career Development Services, Atlanta, GA

Workforce professionals are committed to preparing the most “at-risk” youth for jobs in the changing economy and meeting the demands of businesses by providing adults and youth with the necessary educational, occupational, and other skills training and services needed in the 21st century. This goal can be accomplished by developing programs that provide career pathways into high demand industry sectors such as healthcare and energy, as well as improving employability skills through paid and unpaid work experience and training. The presentation will include a brief overview of the Jobs For Georgia Graduates Program and the partnership between local workforce offices and the Energy Consortium. The audience will hear from youth participants expressing their barriers to employment and the positive changes they experienced when they connected to these initiatives.
Percival (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN RURAL AMERICA: LESSONS LEARNED DURING LITERACY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Anne E. Gregory, Professor of Literacy and Mary Ann Cahill, Assistant Professor of Literacy Education, Boise State University, Boise, ID

This presentation presents findings from two years of a multi-year project investigating a rural, elementary school’s efforts to transform the literacy practices occurring within it. Specifically, it explores the question: What is the impact of a professional development model targeting learning and instruction specifically related to English language learners in a rural context?

Vernon (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

GENDER MATTERS: DESIGNING EFFECTIVE PREVENTION/INTERVENTION PROGRAMS FOR GIRLS
Lauren Josephs, PhD, LMHC, NCC, Vice-President/COO and Stephan Brown, PhD, LMHC, NCC, BCABA, President/CEO, Visionary Vanguard Group, Inc, Orlando, FL

Many programs continue to provide services to girls with models that were designed for boys. As such they fail to address the specific needs of girls including the history of trauma, relational aggression, violence, emotional health and development, learning, education, female anatomy, and physical health. Implementing well-designed gender-responsive programs for girls can save their lives.

Verelst (Seating Capacity 60) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

SESSION CANCELLED

Sloane (Seating Capacity 50) • Wednesday • 11:15 – 12:30 PM • Concurrent Session

“ABOUT FACE”: HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICE LEARNING-BASED PROJECTS
Karen Malofy, Teacher and Claudia Chambers, Scott Alternative Learning Center, Savannah-Chatham Public School System, Savannah, GA

Scott Alternative Learning Center in Savannah, Georgia, services students suspended or expelled from traditional home schools. This workshop demonstrates how we empower such students to thrive emotionally, academically, and socially through project-based learning and community partnerships. We will share strategies used to help youth develop self-esteem, drive, and direction. This workshop will be helpful for anyone working with “at-risk” youth.

THIS CONCLUDES THE 23rd ANNUAL NATIONAL YOUTH-AT-RISK CONFERENCE

WE’LL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!
March 3 – 6, 2013
Please enjoy a 10% discount for meals at the following Savannah restaurants!

Ruth's Chris Steak House
111 West Bay Street
912.721.4800

Churchill’s Pub & Restaurant
13 West Bay Street
912.232.8501

Cilantro’s Grill & Cantina
135 West Bay Street
912.232.7070

Tony Roma’s
7 East Bay Street
912.341.7427

Chart House
202 West Bay Street
912.234.6686

Vic’s on the River
26 East Bay Street
912.721.1000

Huey’s on the River
115 East River Street
912.234.7385

Corleone’s Trattorria
44 Martin Luther King Jr Bvd
912.232.2720

Fiddler’s Crab House
131 West River Street
912.644.7172

River House Seafood
125 West River Street
912.234.1900

Spanky’s
317 East River Street
912.236.3009

Tubby’s Tank House
115 East River Street
912.233.0770