



Transforming Early Childhood Leadership SO ALL CHILDREN THRIVE

Founded on a \$600 grant in 1985 by Dr. Paula Jorde Bloom, the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership at National Louis University has grown to be a driving force in improving the quality of early childhood education nationwide.

We empower individuals to build the leadership and management skills they need to create and sustain exemplary programs for young children. Through professional development, evaluation, research, and public awareness, we promote best practice in program administration. By working with states, professional organizations, and directly with early childhood practitioners, we raise the bar on program quality. Because, when it comes to early childhood education, leadership really does matter.



OUR VISION

We envision a world where every early childhood leader has the knowledge and skills to administer high-quality programs that nurture lifelong learning in children, promote healthy child development, strengthen families, and provide a great place to work for staff.

OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to building the leadership capacity of the early childhood workforce. Our activities encompass four areas:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT to increase the knowledge and competency of early childhood leaders.

PUBLIC AWARENESS to promote greater understanding of the critical role of early childhood leaders in the provision of quality services for children and families.

EVALUATION to measure and improve the quality of early learning programs.

RESEARCH to enhance the knowledge base on key workforce and professional development issues.

Our Services

We are happy to share information about our services and some highlights from our fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

ONLINE NATIONAL DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL

Aim4Excellence™ is an online national director credential for early childhood administrators. Aim4Excellence™ modules can be taken for college credit or noncredit, used to help programs attain NAEYC accreditation, or linked state professional development or QRIS.

REGISTERED
412
new participants



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Director's Toolbox Management Series

- Conducted five trainings over eight months for 15 trainers and 50-90 directors in Orange County, California. Topics covered were Leadership in Action, A Great Place to Work, and Inspiring Peak Performance.

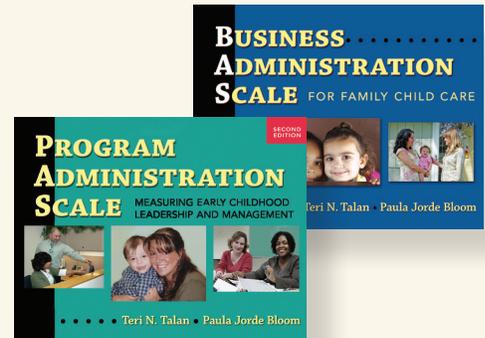
Presentations and Workshops

- Spoke on panels or presented at 21 conferences.
- Taking Charge of Change: Provided leadership training for two groups of Illinois early childhood administrators, developing the whole leadership skills of 52 leaders, including center administrators and family child care providers.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Program assessments offer a systematic way to collect, analyze, and use data to answer questions about the effectiveness of practices and programs.

- 431 participants from 14 states (Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Illinois, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia) registered to complete the "Getting Ready for the PAS" online module
- Certified 27 new PAS assessors, 13 new BAS assessors
- Recertified 19 PAS assessors, 13 BAS assessors



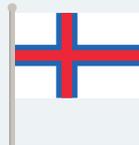
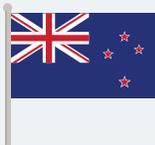
LEADERSHIP CONNECTIONS™

Leadership Connections brings together key stakeholders interested in early childhood leadership including: early childhood administrators, family child care providers, trainers, technical assistance specialists, consultants, college instructors, researchers, and policy makers. They come to hear inspiring keynote speakers, take part in a public policy forum, attend skill-building sessions, and network with other leaders in the field. The conference has been hosted for 17 consecutive years.



673
Leaders

61 Sessions
3 Countries



"It is always a treat to attend the Leadership Connections conference. I am inspired by the speakers... I also love how everything is right there for us—breakfast, lunch, and snacks. This allows us to focus our time on networking and learning instead of having to leave the conference."

-LEADERSHIP CONNECTIONS™ 2017 ATTENDEE