

## AGENDA

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

8:00 – 9:00 AM Check-In and Breakfast (Provided)

9:00 – 9:30 AM Welcome and Announcements

9:30 – 10:30 AM **Keynote: Quiet Leadership**  
*Karen Grosz, CPC, President, Canvas Creek Teambuilding - Billings, MT*

10:30 – 10:45 AM MORNING BREAK

10:45 – 11:45 AM *BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Choose one)*

**BITTERROOT** **Montana's New Cost of Care Calculator: What is it and how can it support your program?**  
*Simon Workman & Jeanna Capito, Principals and Co-founders, Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies - NY*

**SAPPHIRE** **Revenue Diversification**  
*Jason Nitschke, MA, EDFP, Senior Business Advisor - Zero to Five Montana - Montana Child Care Business Connect*

**PONDEROSA** **Right-Sized Solutions for Communities: Tailoring Child Care Initiatives**  
*Kari Stattelman, National Business Development Consultant with First Children's Finance - Detroit Lakes, MN & Taijha Harden, Child Care Systems Coordinator, First Children's Finance - Atlanta, GA*

**ROOM 103** **Building the Business Case for Employer Supported Childcare**  
*Lorraine Clarno, A.C.E, President/CEO, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, MT & Scott Wolff, Executive Director, Central Montana Works! - Great Falls, MT*

**ROOM 101** **Interviews - The Wendt Agency**

**ROOM 108** **MT Child Care Business Connect's First Year Progress**  
*Kendra Lodewick, MPA, Principal, Program and Policy Insight, LLC - Portland, OR & Kari Parsons, MPP, Parsons Consulting - Eugene, OR*

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM LUNCH (PROVIDED)

*Interviews - The Wendt Agency in Room 101 during Lunch*

1:00 – 2:00 PM *BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Choose one)*

**BITTERROOT** **How to Partner with Insurance Companies**  
*Dena Lynn Johnson, MBA, Business Insurance, Sales & Advising, Marsh McLennan Agency, Billings, MT*

**SAPPHIRE** **Building Success and Collaboration through the Cooperative Model**  
*Tracy McIntyre, Executive Director, MT Cooperative Development Center and Montana Council of Cooperatives - Great Falls, MT*

**PONDEROSA Boardroom Symphony: Orchestrating Effective Governance for Community Leaders**  
*Kari Stattelman, National Business Development Consultant with First Children's Finance - Detroit Lakes, MN*

**ROOM 103 Child Homelessness and Child Care = a Growing Economic Crisis**  
*Christel Chvilicek, CFRE, Executive Director, Family Promise of Gallatin Valley, MT*

**ROOM 107 Establishing your Brand**  
*Heide Borgonovo, Communication and Outreach Coordinator, Montana Child Care Business Connect*

**ROOM 108 How Can We Further Develop an Esteemed Child Care Industry?**  
*Kendra Lodewick, MPA, Principal, Program and Policy Insight, LLC - Portland, OR & Kari Parsons, MPP, Parsons Consulting - Eugene, OR*

*\*\*Note - this session is offered twice.*

2:00 – 2:15 PM AFTERNOON BREAK

2:15 – 3:15 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Choose one)

**BITTERROOT Risk Management – Policies & Procedures**  
*Dena Lynn Johnson, MBA, Business Insurance, Sales & Advising, Marsh McLennan Agency, Billings, MT*

**SAPPHIRE Nurturing Tomorrow: Cultivating a Thriving Child Care Ecosystem through Collaboration**  
*Tajha Harden, Child Care Systems Coordinator, First Children's Finance - Atlanta, GA*

**PONDEROSA Unlocking the Digital Playground: Transforming Child Care with Management Software**  
*Kari Stattelman, National Business Development Consultant with First Children's Finance - Detroit Lakes, MN*

**ROOM 103 Ingenuity: Child Care in Tribal Communities**  
*Carrie Spotted Bear, MS.Ed- MT Early Childhood Tribal Policy Coordinator, Zero to Five Montana & Shelby Whelan, Community Navigator, Montana Child Care Business Connect*

**ROOM 107 Creating & Maintaining a Social Media Strategy**  
*Heide Borgonovo, Communication and Outreach Coordinator, Montana Child Care Business Connect*

**ROOM 108 How Can We Further Develop an Esteemed Child Care Industry?**  
*Kendra Lodewick, MPA, Principal, Program and Policy Insight, LLC - Portland, OR & Kari Parsons & Kari Parsons, MPP, Parsons Consulting - Eugene, OR*

*\*\*Note - this session is offered twice.*

3:15 – 3:30 PM BREAK (GROUP COMES BACK TOGETHER)

3:30 – 4:45 PM **Panel: Developing and Applying a Community Needs Assessment to Get the Resources You Need**  
*Facilitator: Julie Grow, Regional Strategy and Innovation Advisor with the Administration for Children & Families Region VIII - CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, & WY*  
*Panelists: Vaughn Zenko Jr, Executive Director, Southeast Montana Area Revitalization Team - Baker, MT*  
*Lorette Carter, Community Development Director for the City of Shelby, MT*  
*Ariella Fabra, Executive Director, Evergreen Kids Corner - Hamilton, MT*

Taijha Harden, Child Care Systems Coordinator, First Children's Finance - Atlanta, GA  
Caitlin Jensen, MSW, Executive Director, Zero to Five Montana

4:45 – 5:00 PM

**Day 1 Closing & Recap**

5:00 – 5:30 PM

BREAK BEFORE SOCIAL

5:30 – 7:00 PM

**Networking & Vendor Social** (*All are invited - hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available*)

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

7:30 – 8:30 AM

Breakfast (provided), Check-in and Visit Exhibitors

8:30 – 10:00 AM

**Why Even Scrooge Would Invest in Early Childhood Education**

*Ben Horowitz, Senior Policy Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis - MN & Nancy Fishman, National Director, ReadyNation - Washington, D.C.*

10:00 – 10:15 AM

MORNING BREAK

10:15 – 11:45 AM

*BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Choose one)*

**BITTERROOT**

**Using Cost Modeling to Illustrate the Broken Child Care Business Model**

*Simon Workman & Jeanna Capito, Principals and Co-founders, Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies - NY*

**SAPPHIRE**

**Boosting your Benefits**

*Jennifer Pfau, Director, Central Montana Alliance - Lewistown, MT & Charrisse Jennings, Education Director, Central Montana Childcare Alliance - Lewistown, MT*

**PONDEROSA**

**From Rookie to Rockstar: Childcare Onboarding Fun-damentals**

*Sara Schreiner, CEO and Founder of The Sunshine Academy and ChildMYnder - Laurel, MT*

**ROOM 103**

**Understanding the Diversity of Child Care Business Models in Montana - Panel**

*Facilitator: Tracy McIntyre, Executive Director, MT Cooperative Development Center and Montana Council of Cooperatives - Great Falls, MT*

*Panelists: Grace Decker, Zero to Five Missoula Coordinator - United Way of Missoula County, MT*

*Laurie O'Leary, Owner/Director, EduCare Preschool & Child Care - Great Falls, MT*

*Brittani Brence, Clerk/Business Manager, Ekalaka Public Schools Daycare, MT*

*Miranda Wheeler, Beaverhead County Childcare Innovations Grant Program Manager, MT*

**ROOM 101**

**Professional Headshots - The Wendt Agency**

**ROOM 108**

**Cultivating a Family Friendly Workplace to Recruit and Retain Staff**

*Alex Dubois, Business and Community Engagement Manager, Zero to Five Montana & Shelby Whelan, Community Navigator, Montana Child Care Business Connect*

11:45 – 1:00 PM

LUNCH (PROVIDED) STROLLING VENDOR LUNCH

*Professional Headshots - The Wendt Agency in Room 101 during Lunch*

1:00 – 2:30 PM

**Closing Session**

Zero to Five MT

2:30 – 3:00 PM

**Final Wrap-Up (Evaluation & Reimbursements)**

Provided By:



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