



Morning Breakout Sessions (10:30am - 11:30am)

Disability

**“Reaching Parents and Caregivers in a Digital World”
by Destiny Lopez, of Parent Network of WNY**

This presentation helps organizations engage parents and caregivers online in a fair and inclusive way. It shows how to make online content accessible, inclusive, and diverse, so marketing efforts are effective and respectful to all, including parents, caregivers, and those involved with special needs. To engage families meaningfully, you need to know the right content, strategies, and platforms. With the right approach, it's possible to achieve equity in family engagement online in a digital world.

Mental Health

**“A Grateful Mindset – Mental Health and Gratitude”
Sabrina Timm and Sarah Lanzo with Mental Health Advocates of WNY**

This presentation will cover topics such as recognizing signs and symptoms of mental health issues — particularly in youth—and discuss available resources, as well as empowering caregivers to take care of themselves to better support those they care for.

Adverse Childhood Experiences/Resilience

**“Understanding Poverty Mindset”
Lisa Casper with EPIC - Every Person Influences Children**

Participants unpack the social determinants of health statistics for their area in order to fully understand the challenges the families that they work with may be facing. Participants will explore and discuss how poverty impacts the decisions that families make regarding their children's education and health. The workshop will also discuss the impact of implicit bias when working with families, as well as opportunities to improve equitable family engagement.



Afternoon Breakout Sessions (1:00pm - 2:00pm)

Disability

**“Bridging the Gap: Linking “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” (LTSAE)
and the DEC Recommended Practices (RPs) for Families”**

Erin Reisdorf, with Parent Network of WNY and Ann Kinney, with Help Me Grow WNY

Participants will look closely at tools and strategies, from the CDC’s ‘Learn the Signs. Act Early.’ (LTSAE) program, as well as the Division of Early Childhood’s (DEC) (of the Council of Exceptional Children CEC) Recommend Practices (RPs), that professionals can use with families to help them engage directly in the early identification and early intervention process.

Mental Health

“Filling in the Continuum of Care Gaps”

Sheila Hunt, Michelle Shaw and Chris Nalbach with OLV Human Services

Description Coming Soon

Adverse Childhood Experiences/Resilience

“Family & Community Engagement in Buffalo Public Schools”

Buffalo Public Schools Family and Community Engagement Team

Through the lens of the Dual Capacity Building Framework for Family School Partnerships, participants will engage in an interactive overview of the ways the BPS FACE Department seeks to build and reimagine connections with families, enhancing capacity for all involved. Part of the overview involves the ways in which we are intentional about honoring family funds of knowledge and how this can be applied in any setting where professionals work with families. Participants will have time to take part in conversations and share strategies amongst each other.