

ILLINOIS QUALITY AFTERSCHOOL



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Refresh, Renew, Refocus

Illinois 21st CCLC Spring Conference

May 9, 2019

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Refresh, Renew, Refocus

Welcome to the 2019 Illinois 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Spring Conference, hosted by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Division of Regulatory Support and Wellness and Illinois Quality Afterschool at American Institutes for Research (AIR). The conference is designed to provide a forum for Illinois 21st CCLC grantees, their program partners, program evaluators, and other afterschool professionals to engage in conversations about best practices, strategies, and information relevant for building, managing, and implementing quality afterschool programs.

The spring season of renewal is underway—a good time for 21st CCLC programs to begin planning for 2020! Our conference theme—Refresh, Renew, Refocus—reminds us to use this time to reinvigorate ourselves, renew our commitment to afterschool quality, and to carry forward all that this year has taught us. We encourage you to reflect on the conversations, connections, strategies, resources and other takeaways from this conference, and to share them with your entire program team and all of your program partners. We hope that you will find fresh, innovative ways to use this information to enhance the afterschool experience for your students and their families, as well as program staff.

Conference Strands

The conference is organized in three strands comprising topics integral to the work of developing high-quality afterschool programs.

Academics Afterschool

To encourage and facilitate student learning during the afterschool hours, 21st CCLCs use a variety of instructional approaches that engage and challenge students. Through tutoring, academic enrichment, and other activities, 21st CCLCs provide innovative opportunities for students to improve skills in core academic areas. Presentations for this strand will share strategies and resources to support, expand, and inspire student learning in your afterschool program.

Afterschool Enrichment

Afterschool programs offer a range of youth development activities that promote social and emotional development, extending students' knowledge in new ways. Presentations for this strand will focus on sharing successful strategies and activities that enhance students' experiences in the afterschool program and build on what students learn during the school day, including sessions on youth development and social and emotional learning.

Continuous Improvement

High-quality 21st CCLC programs adopt a philosophy of continuous improvement. These programs are goal oriented, routinely assess their progress, and make necessary adjustments to remain on track for reaching program goals. Presentations for this strand will focus on strategies, resources, and tools used in building staff capacity; gauging program effectiveness; using data to inform program implementation; fostering robust communication; and partnering with families, schools, program staff, and community organizations.

Agenda

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Time	Session	Location
7:30–8:30 a.m.	Check-In	Ballroom Prefunction Area
8:30–10:00 a.m.	Opening Session X-STEAM STUDENT PERFORMANCE Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District 163, Park Forest, IL X-STEAM, a 21 st CCLC program based in four of Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District 163 schools, is designed to catapult students from the cradle to college and from book bags to briefcases. Under the direction of Project Manager Renee Hawthorne, the X-STEAM 21 st CCLC program, in collaboration with program partner Muzicnet School of Music, a performing arts program that blends band and vocals, will perform a tribute to the legendary Aretha Franklin. WELCOME AND GREETINGS Cara Wiley, Director, Division of Regulatory Support and Wellness, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, IL Lacy Wood, Illinois Quality Afterschool Program Manager, American Institutes for Research, Austin, TX KEYNOTE PRESENTATION Resilience and Relationship: A Recipe for Success and Well-Being Caryn Curry, Mental Health Consultant, Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, Center for Childhood Resilience, Chicago, IL Resilience and healthy relationships are foundational components of children's well-being and success. This dynamic session will support participants to integrate trauma-informed practices and social and emotional learning into their efforts to build resilience and foster healthy relationships for the children they serve.	Redbird C & D

10:00–10:10 a.m. **Break**

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Time	Session	Location
Concurrent Sessions I		
10:10-11:25 a.m.	STRAND I – ACADEMICS AFTERSCHOOL	
10:10-11:25 a.m.	Brain Games	Redbird B
	Kim Sellers, Director of Learning Support Services, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Monico Nunez, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Cindy Whipple, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Reyna Barto-Coven, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Terrie Landwehr, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Pat Corwin, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Amy Jackson, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Cindy Ehnle, Site Coordinator, Bureau Henry Stark ROE 28, Atkinson, IL	
	Get your game face on for this ridiculously engaging session that will have you feeling like a kid again. We know students love the following: competition, candy, and crazy fun! Why not combine all three for this intensely active and entertaining workshop where you can learn some new games that are bound to get your kids learning and loving being part of your afterschool program? Not only that, these activities are connected to the Illinois Learning Standards! So, say goodbye to your Jeopardy PowerPoint and come get some fresh ideas that will lead you to educational victory and afterschool fun.	
10:10-11:25 a.m.	STRAND II – CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT	
10:10-11:25 a.m.	(Repeated Session)	Fell Room A
	Elevate Your Program With the <i>Beyond the Bell® Toolkit</i>	
	Brad Lademann, Resource Center Coordinator, Missouri Afterschool Network, Columbia, MO	
	Clint Darr, Afterschool Regional Educator, Missouri Afterschool Network, Columbia, MO	
	The <i>Beyond the Bell Toolkit</i> is a comprehensive resource designed to give afterschool professionals the tools they need to run successful, high-quality afterschool and expanded learning programs. This session will provide an overview of the Toolkit's structure and format as well as tips and strategies for putting it to use. Come join us as we work together to transform the Toolkit from "that big book on my desk" to "my go-to resource for running my program"!	

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Time	Session	Location
10:10–11:25 a.m.	<p>Developing Innovative Approaches and Partnerships to Support Postsecondary Pathways</p> <p>Michael J. Hannan, Program Director, Alternative Schools Network, Chicago, IL Marie Snyder, Site Coordinator, Alternative Schools Network, Chicago, IL Tanya Hudson, Site Coordinator, Alternative Schools Network, Chicago, IL Jacqueline Molina, Site Coordinator, ASPIRA Inc., Chicago, IL Javier Maisonet, Program Director, ASPIRA Inc., Chicago, IL</p> <p>Alternative Schools Network (ASN) and their partners have long emphasized the importance of career training and work experience for all high school students. ASN will share ways in which their schools and partners develop opportunities through private and public partnerships to connect youth to the world of work, postsecondary education and training, and small business entrepreneurship. Workshop participants will develop goals for future partnerships and pitch their ideas to colleagues.</p>	Redbird A
10:10–11:25 a.m.	<p>Evaluation of Social-Emotional Learning: Strategies and Tools</p> <p>Sophia Mansori, Senior Research Associate, Education Development Center Inc. (EDC), Waltham, MA Sheila Rodriguez, Research Associate, Education Development Center Inc. (EDC), Chicago, IL Josh Cox, Research Associate, Education Development Center Inc. (EDC), Chicago, IL</p> <p>Social-emotional learning, or SEL, has become increasingly important in the realm of afterschool, as improved social-emotional skills is a goal of the 21st CCLC program. However, assessing SEL and measuring outcomes in this area is a challenge. In this session, the statewide evaluation team will share strategies and tools for understanding SEL, drawing upon approaches currently being employed by grantees as well as current research. The session will also provide an opportunity for grantees to share their own approaches to evaluating SEL in their programs.</p>	Redbird E
10:10–11:25 a.m.	<p>Connecting the Dots: Managing Your 21st CCLC Program</p> <p>Hershawna Turner, Education Specialist, You for Youth (Y4Y), Mt. Laurel, NJ</p> <p>Whether you are new or an experienced out-of-school time provider, the U.S. Department of Education's You for Youth (Y4Y) portal has something for you! Join members of the Technical Assistance Team as they help you connect the dots of program planning. From assessing needs to staffing and recruiting students, from start to finish, Y4Y has hundreds of tools and resources that will help you plan and facilitate a successful 21st CCLC program.</p>	Redbird F
10:10–11:25 a.m.	<p>(Repeated Session)</p> <p>Keeping Positive for the Win</p> <p>Donna McCaw, President, School Consulting Inc., Macomb, IL Tami Roskamp, Consultant, School Consulting Inc., Macomb, IL</p> <p>How does one win a race of one? What makes for winning and what prevents it? Personal and, in turn, professional growth happen not through the answers we find, but through the questions we ask when seeking those answers. For this very engaging and participatory session, be ready to do some serious—and fun—work.</p>	Redbird G

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Time	Session	Location
10:10–11:25 a.m.	STRAND III – AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT	
10:10–11:25 a.m.	Making a Game Plan for Summer Learning David McConnell, Education Specialist, You for Youth (Y4Y), Mt. Laurel, NJ Planning for summer programming should start at the beginning of the school year to ensure maximum impact. An intentionally designed summer learning program will help meet targeted student needs and decrease summer learning loss. Intentionality means providing targeted interventions and enrichment activities that help students retain and build new knowledge and skills through engaging, real-life, and relevant activities. This session will teach learners how to accomplish work within an eight-step process, explore components of high-quality programs, and get tools and resources to help you carry out a game plan.	Fell Room B
11:25 a.m.– 12:55 p.m.	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN	
	Concurrent Sessions II	
12:55–2:10 p.m.	STRAND I – ACADEMICS AFTERSCHOOL	
12:55–2:10 p.m.	Leap Into Science Maggie Kempel, 21st Century Community Outreach Coordinator, Rockford School District 205, Rockford, IL Originally funded by NSA grants, the Leap Into Science program is an integrated science and literacy program with STEM activities that started as a shared project with Franklin Institute and the Philadelphia Free Library. Expansion grants were extended to 10 different sites in the country. Rockford School District 21 st CCLC programs and Rockford's Discovery Center Museum partner to offer Leap Into Science. Participants will learn how these units, geared for elementary students, incorporate both literacy and hands-on science activities.	Redbird F
12:55–2:10 p.m.	STRAND II – CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT	
12:55–2:10 p.m.	How to Avoid Burnout and What to Do If You're on the Edge Brad Lademann, Resource Center Coordinator, Missouri Afterschool Network, Columbia, MO The world of afterschool is usually a high-energy environment that comes toward the end of the traditional workday. We are constantly moving things forward and often “the end” is not in sight. This is a perfect set up for a person to become burned out. This session will look at how burnout can occur and offer some suggestions on how to avoid it and what to do if you find yourself feeling on the edge.	Fell Room A

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Time	Session	Location
12:55–2:10 p.m.	<p>Lessons From the Field: Grantee Perspectives on Program Evaluation</p> <p>Sophia Mansori, Senior Research Associate, Education Development Center Inc. (EDC), Waltham, MA</p> <p>Sheila Rodriguez, Research Associate, Education Development Center Inc. (EDC), Chicago, IL</p> <p>Joseph Fischer, Project Director, America Baila, Chicago, IL</p> <p>Jesus Esquivel, Evaluator, America Baila, Chicago, IL</p> <p>Kate Greenwood, Evaluator, Benton Consolidated High School District 103, Benton, IL</p> <p>Becky Spindler, Project Director, Boys & Girls Club of Freeport and Stephenson County, Freeport, IL</p> <p>Penny Billman, Evaluator, Boys & Girls Club of Freeport and Stephenson County, Freeport, IL</p> <p>Susan Castrogiovanni, Project Director, West Chicago District 33, West Chicago, IL</p> <p>In this session, EDC will facilitate a panel of grantees that will share strategies, experiences, and lessons learned from their own program evaluations. What role does evaluation play in their program and organization, and who manages it? What strategies do they use for data collection? What challenges do they encounter in conducting their evaluations, and how do they address them? Come hear examples of how grantees are conducting their evaluations and learn from your colleagues.</p>	Redbird A
12:55–2:10 p.m.	<p>(Repeated Session)</p> <p>Utilizing Climate Data to Engage Families and Communities in Afterschool Program Improvement</p> <p>Jacob Thornton, Principal Consultant, Regulatory Support and Wellness, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, IL</p> <p>Family and community engagement is a vital component to the success of both students and schools. In this interactive session, participants will learn how leveraging climate and culture data can help design and implement quality afterschool programming. The Illinois 5Essentials Survey is a robust tool for gathering perception data around a school's culture and climate. The data provides a snapshot of the school environment that can add context to student achievement, teacher effectiveness, and family engagement data.</p>	Redbird B
12:55–2:10 p.m.	<p>Healthy and Thriving Students Grant: Developing a Collaborative Proposal</p> <p>Brian Parker, Director of Middle School Programs, Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), Evanston, IL</p> <p>Leslie Warner, Grants Manager, Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), Evanston, IL</p> <p>This presentation will detail Y.O.U.'s experience in serving as the lead applicant to develop a collaborative proposal and comprehensive program plan for ISBE's Healthy and Thriving Students grant, which is designed to support enhanced integration of afterschool community services. Working with three school districts, Y.O.U. incorporated activities that facilitate best practices in project-based/STEM learning, trauma-informed services, social-emotional learning, community schools, and parent engagement.</p>	Redbird E

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Time	Session	Location
12:55–2:10 p.m.	(Repeated Session) Keeping Positive for the Win Donna McCaw, President, School Consulting Inc., Macomb, IL Tami Roskamp, Consultant, School Consulting Inc., Macomb, IL How does one win a race of one? What makes for winning and what prevents it? Personal and, in turn, professional growth happen not through the answers we find, but through the questions we ask when seeking those answers. For this very engaging and participatory session, be ready to do some serious—and fun—work.	Redbird G
12:55–2:10 p.m.	STRAND III – AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT	
12:55–2:10 p.m.	Building Youth-Led Civic Engagement Projects With Y4Y Hershawna Turner, Education Specialist, You for Youth (Y4Y), Mt. Laurel, NJ David McConnell, Education Specialist, You for Youth (Y4Y), Mt. Laurel, NJ Youth-led civic engagement uses project-based learning to foster opportunities for academic and civic engagement and growth. Participants will learn how to plan and implement civic engagement projects that enhance the knowledge and 21 st century skills of students. Learn how Y4Y can help you design and move youth-led plans into action, and how to use evaluation and reflection tools to measure and document a project's impact on student learning and the community.	Fell Room B
2:10–2:20 p.m.	Break	
	Concurrent Sessions III	
2:20–3:35 p.m.	STRAND I – ACADEMICS AFTERSCHOOL	
2:20–3:35 p.m.	Exploring STEM With Y4Y Hershawna Turner, Education Specialist, You for Youth (Y4Y), Mt. Laurel, NJ David McConnell, Education Specialist, You for Youth (Y4Y), Mt. Laurel, NJ STEM—science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—skills are essential for all paths of education and for success in the 21 st century. This session will introduce examples of Y4Y activities that aim to spark curiosity about STEM topics through inquiry and investigation. Participants will collaborate around integrating STEM skill-building into out-of-school time programs, sharing STEM learning opportunities from their programs, and exploring strategies for connecting to school-day partners and community resources around STEM. Please bring a laptop, tablet, or Internet-accessible device to explore Y4Y during the session.	Fell Room B

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Time	Session	Location
2:20–3:35 p.m.	STRAND II – CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT	
2:20–3:35 p.m.	(Repeated Session) Elevate Your Program With the <i>Beyond the Bell® Toolkit</i> Brad Lademann, Resource Center Coordinator, Missouri Afterschool Network, Columbia, MO Clint Darr, Afterschool Regional Educator, Missouri Afterschool Network, Columbia, MO The <i>Beyond the Bell Toolkit</i> is a comprehensive resource designed to give afterschool professionals the tools they need to run successful, high-quality afterschool and expanded learning programs. This session will provide an overview of the Toolkit's structure and format as well as tips and strategies for putting it to use. Come join us as we work together to transform the Toolkit from "that big book on my desk" to "my go-to resource for running my program"!	Fell Room A
2:20–3:35 p.m.	Hot Spotting Intervention: A Collaborative Community Effort to Increase Attendance Carol Frericks, Director of Student Services, Quincy Public School District 172, Quincy, IL Marilyn Smith, Family/Community Coordinator, Quincy Public School District 172, Quincy, IL Victoria Sale, Hot Spotting Consultant, VSA Inc., Springfield, IL Christina Gaebel, Community Health Worker, SIU Family Medicine, Quincy, IL Eryn Beswick, Director of Special Education, Quincy Public School District 172, Quincy, IL Quincy Public School District (QPS) formed an advisory committee with community partners to explore root causes for chronic truancy of students. The partnership piloted the Hot Spotting strategy with community health workers to address a subset of chronically truant students for individual case management. By studying these outlier truancy cases, QPS developed systemwide improvements. The advisory committee monitors the Hot Spotting Intervention to build self-sufficiency with students and families. As a result, students are reconnecting with 21 st CCLC afterschool programs.	Redbird A
2:20–3:35 p.m.	(Repeated Session) Utilizing Climate Data to Engage Families and Communities in Afterschool Program Improvement Jacob Thornton, Principal Consultant, Regulatory Support and Wellness, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, IL Family and community engagement is a vital component to the success of both students and schools. In this interactive session, participants will learn how leveraging climate and culture data can help design and implement quality afterschool programming. The Illinois 5Essentials Survey is a robust tool for gathering perception data around a school's culture and climate. The data provides a snapshot of the school environment that can add context to student achievement, teacher effectiveness, and family engagement data.	Redbird B

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Time	Session	Location
2:20–3:35 p.m.	Exploring Quality Improvement to Better Support Staff and Boost Outcomes Susan Stanton, Network Lead, Afterschool for Children and Teens Now (ACT Now) Coalition, Chicago, IL Learn about the Illinois Statewide Afterschool Quality Standards, which are research based, to boost student outcomes. Utilize free tools and resources that can help you make quality improvement an ongoing conversation with your entire organization and external stakeholders. And begin to create action plans for how to incorporate these quality standards into your afterschool program.	Redbird G
2:20–3:35 p.m.	STRAND III – AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT	
2:20–3:35 p.m.	Turning Our Students Into Grant Writers Amy Hayden, Program Director, The HUB Project, Rochelle Elementary School District 231, Rochelle, IL Jodee Craven, Program Director Emeritus, The HUB Project, Rochelle Elementary School District 231, Rochelle, IL This presentation will share information about how we supported our 4th and 5th graders in a student-led grant writing initiative to improve the refrigeration capacity at one of our sites in order to provide better, more filling, and nutritious snacks. Various stages of the project will be shared along with relevant research about students participating in their communities and solving problems.	Redbird E
2:20–3:35 p.m.	Escape the Mundane With Escape Rooms That Entertain Tiffanie Hobbs, Project Director, Christopher Unit School District 99, Christopher, IL Escape rooms are a fun way to involve students in their own learning. They provide hidden opportunities for students to learn the skills necessary to succeed not only in the classroom, but also in life. Collaboration, team building, perseverance, compromise, and reasoning are all skills that are used throughout an escape. As afterschool providers, it is our job to come up with innovative ways for students to connect to learning. Escape rooms provide a way to engage students, parents, and staff in a fun experience that is both challenging and rewarding.	Redbird F

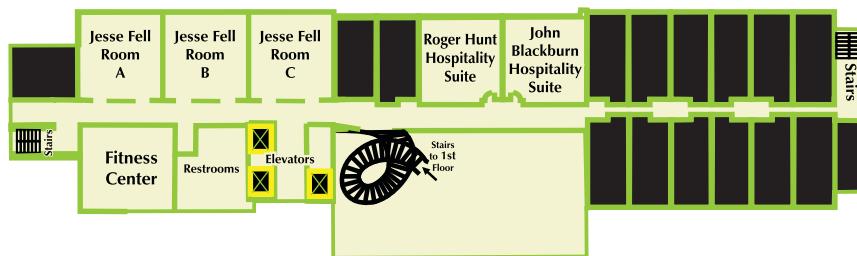
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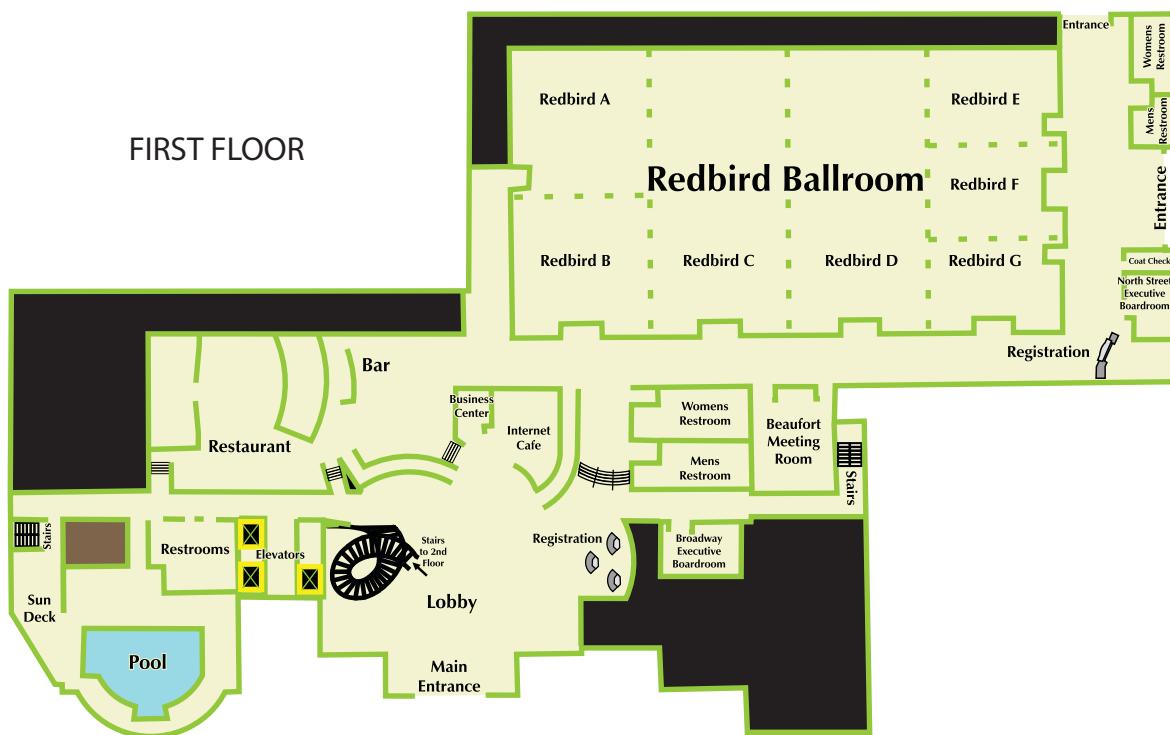
Time	Session	Location
3:35–3:45 p.m.	Break	
Role-Specific Sessions		
3:45–4:30 p.m.	PROJECT DIRECTORS MEETING Illinois State Board of Education Staff	Redbird B
3:45–4:30 p.m.	SITE COORDINATORS, RESOURCE COORDINATORS, PROGRAM STAFF, EVALUATORS, AND PARTNERS You Gotta Laugh—Seriously! Clint Darr, Afterschool Regional Educator, Missouri Afterschool Network, Columbia, MO Laughter truly is the best medicine! Embrace the power of laughter and how it can improve your out-of-school time program and energize you, your staff, and your students! Learn about the physical and social-emotional benefits of laughter and, when not ROTFL, hear anecdotes, tips, and strategies for using humor and laughter in your out-of-school time program as well as in your personal life. This is a highly interactive, informative, and fun session led by a certified laughter yoga instructor. If you want happier, healthier, more engaged students and staff, then You Gotta Laugh!	Redbird C & D
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

Conference Center Floor Plan

SECOND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR





KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Caryn Curry, M.A.

Center for Childhood Resilience

Mental Health Consultant

Caryn Curry, M.A., is a mental health consultant with the Center for Childhood Resilience (CCR) in Chicago. The Center, housed within the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital, is dedicated to promoting access to high-quality mental health services for children and adolescents across Illinois and nationwide.

For more than 30 years, Curry has worked on behalf of children and families as a practitioner, program director, manager, and advisor in hospital, community-based, and school settings. Through her work with CCR, she provides training, coaching, and on-site support to schools and community organizations on social and emotional skill building, creating healthy emotional climates for young people to thrive, and implementing trauma-informed practices.

Curry earned a B.A. from Harvard University in psychology and social relations and a master's degree in clinical practice from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. She also holds certificates in Social and Emotional Intelligence for Leadership and Coaching from the Wright Graduate University for the Realization of Human Potential.

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