

MACAE Virtual Fall Conference 2021: Renewing, Recharging, Rebuilding
Wednesday- Friday, October 27-29, 2021
Virtual Zoom Webinar

Description:

The Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education (MACAE) Fall 2021 Virtual Conference: Renewing, Recharging, Rebuilding is scheduled for Wednesday- Friday, October 27-29, 2021. virtually via our conference application, Whova. The theme of this year's conference reflects the lessons, challenges and opportunities facing our field past the COVID-19 pandemic. It highlights the transformational nature of adult skill building and the intersectionality of programming in Michigan from cradle to career.

The three-day conference is the premiere event in Michigan for networking and professional development in adult basic education, high school equivalency/completion, family literacy, alternative education, youth populations, integrated education and training, workforce development, digital literacy, English as Second Language, workforce credentialing and postsecondary transitions. We are committed to delivering the same high-quality conference that we have become known for. We are excited about this virtual opportunity! We expect close to 250 attendees will participate in the conference including chief executive officers, administrators, instructors, volunteers, program support staff and officials from our state Department of Education and the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

SCECHS: AGENDA:

Wednesday, October 27, 2021:

1.0 12:00 p.m.– 1:00 p.m.: MACAE Conference Kick Off

An update from MACAE Leadership on the State of Adult Education, presentation of MACAE Awards.

Thursday, October 28, 2021

0.5 8:00 a.m. – 8:30a.m.:Overview of Conference

A welcome and overview of the conference, sessions and outline of strategic planning.

.75 8:30a.m.-9:15a.m.: Keynote Address: Josh Davies, Foresight Not Hindsight

Break: 9:15a.m.-9:30a.m.

1.0 9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.:Breakout Sessions (Choose one)

The Power of Transfer for ESL

Betty Alia, Plainwell Adult Education

The tendency of the brain to compare aspects of a second language to what has already been learned in a first language is called transfer. This experience of depending on past learning to make sense of new information is invaluable in ESL instruction. Participants will examine and discuss both positive and negative transfer and how to use it more thoroughly in classroom instruction. Never underestimate the power of transfer! Past learning always influences the acquisition of new learning.

**MAERS Online Assessment Match Making More Straightforward than Online Match Making:
An Overview of the New MAERS Assessment Screen and Assessment Data Match Process**

Brian Frazier, Department Analyst, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity
Sue Johnson, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Tired of the games with online match making? No games with MAERS, just good ol' data. Join the million dollar MAERS match making team, Sue Johnson and Brian Frazier, who will demonstrate how to dance, flirt and navigate in the new assessment screens and how the system's data match will perfectly match with your online assessments.

MACAE-Pro Literacy Update

Elaine Pardieck, New Readers Press Consultant
Michelle Smith, Senior Vice President, Pro Literacy

Join us as we announce our exciting new partnership with MACAE and ProLiteracy! We will discuss some of the major opportunities including grants, membership benefits, curriculum and materials updates and more!

Tools and Resources for Improving GED Success

Melissa Hultstrand, GED State Relations Manager and Special Populations

Come meet the new GED State Relationship Manager and learn about the many GED updates we have made in the last year. This session will not only provide you with updates on our online proctored test, score report and GED Manager, but we will also show you the updates we have made to the GED website and Student accounts. Time will also be spent exploring the many tools and resources available for Educators, Program Specialists and Program Managers in our Educator portal. Come join us and learn how you can use these valuable tools and resources from GED Testing Service in your classrooms to identify exactly where Students need more focus to be successful on the GED test.

Alternative Education Roundtable

Rena Gowan, Director, Romulus Adult and Alternative Education
Robert Barrett, Romulus Adult and Alternative Education
Dominic Catanzarita, Romulus Adult and Alternative Education

A roundtable discussion on trends and upcoming issues facing alternative education professionals.

10:30a.m.-11:00a.m.: Exhibitor Visits and Vendor Bingo

1.0 11:00a.m.-12:00p.m.: Break Sessions(Choose One)

Case Management and CPN Resources and Supportive Services

Claudia Stephens, Southwest Economic Solutions

Resources and supports are critical for those in education and training. This session will discuss supportive services and the progression of providing case management or career path navigation. Participants can become empowered and educated utilizing knowledge of their awareness in many areas such as emergency assistance, mental health services, housing, financial and legal services. These include active community resources, state resources available to individuals and/or families from MDHHS to Food Banks

Demystifying the Naturalization Process

Frank Castria, United States Customs and Immigration Services

Participants from this session will review the process for naturalization including application and timeline process.

Parent Literacy Together: Supporting Adult Learners with Multi-Generational Learning Strategies

Michael Evans, Executive Director, Kalamazoo Literacy Center

Elaine Pardieck, New Readers Press

Adult learners, whether they are basic literacy, ABE, or ESL, need to be confident and capable first teachers of their children. This is especially true during a global pandemic when many parents and their families are learning from home. Learn how the Kalamazoo Literacy Council (KLC) and Goodwill Industries of Southwestern Michigan developed Parent Literacy Together – a multi-generational learning program designed to increase the involvement of parents in their children's education and improve the literacy and academic outcomes of both adult and youth learners. This program also provides access to free childcare through the Little Scholars Child Development Center located at the adult education site at Goodwill.

Advocacy 101

Maha Ayoub, Assistant Director, Dearborn Community and Adult Education

Oogie La Mar, Director, Kent ISD Adult Education and MACAE Advocacy Chairperson

This session is to engage attendees in a dialogue around organic efforts to advocate for Adult Education with all its facets. How to reach out to local lawmakers/decisionmakers in an easy and streamlined fashion that anyone could do. Helping attendees take the mystery out of what advocacy really looks like.

Budget Basics

Sandra Thelens, State Funds Manger, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Sam Jonker-Burke, Financial Analyst, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Sue Muzillo, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

LEO Adult Education staff will provide updated tools and information on the budget process for Adult Education grants. Discussion will provide useful information to help your budgets to get approved faster. The conversation will include the overall budget process, the updated Budget Development Job Aid, budget error examples and more.

12:00p.m.-12:30p.m.: Lunch

1.0 12:30p.m.-1:30p.m.: Breakout Session (Choose One)

JumpStart Math: Defibrillating GED Math for At-Risk Learners

Jennifer Majorana, Director of Adult Literacy, The Legacy Center for Community Success

Matt Miller, Director of Math Programs, The Legacy Center for Community Success

Do you ever wonder if your educational model is working for your students, especially at-risk learners? The Legacy Center's typically successful model of one-on-one tutoring for learners in pre-GED math usually transpires over 4 to 6 months. When applied to at-risk learners who were receiving services from a local homeless shelter and soup kitchen, Midland's Open Door, the model was less successful, so we went back to the drawing board. Through interagency collaboration and creativity with Midland's Open Door, we created an intensive math course called JumpStart Math for a small group of learners, providing 40 hours of instruction in just five weeks to "defibrillate" their foundational math skills to prepare them for GED study. This intensive program allowed us to draw on the advantages of cohort learning and also utilize the wrap-around services offered by our partner agency, such as transportation and food assistance.

We successfully graduated four learners from the program with 40+ hours of instruction, all of whom improved their confidence, foundational math skills, and test scores, and half of whom made measurable skill gains on the CASAS math assessment. At the program's conclusion, several of the learners decided to continue to work towards their GED through our traditional tutoring program. In this presentation, we share the nuts and bolts of our curriculum and how we made the JumpStart Math program successful through a relationship-building model, which included social and emotional learning, mentoring, and informal conversations centered around life lessons. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss enhancing organizational creativity and flexibility to meet the needs of at-risk populations and collaborating with partner agencies to do so, and will walk away with concrete ideas about how re-envision educational models in their contexts.

Measuring Performance Under WIOA

Matt Shields, Manager, Data and Performance Reporting, Office of Employment and Training, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Sue Johnson, Data Specialist, Data and Performance Reporting, Office of Employment and Training, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Erica Luce, Manager, Adult Education, Office of Employment and Training, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) created common performance measures for the six core programs funded under WIOA. While all programs may have the same performance measures and are working towards a common goal, there are some key differences in how the measures are calculated and evaluated across programs. Join state staff for an overview of the six performance indicators, to understand how the measures are negotiated with the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Education, and learn what the current targets are for Titles I, II and III.

Improving Equity through Digital Skills Acquisition: Northstar Digital Literacy Assessments and Education Resources

Theresa Sladeck, National Partnerships and Northstar Business Development Specialist
According to a 2017 Burning Glass report, 24% of adults in the United States lack basic digital skills preventing them from engaging in remote education, finding and securing employment, and participating efficiently in many aspects of daily living. By effectively teaching and assessing adult students digital literacy skills, programs give them increased access and opportunity, as well as a better chance for them and their children to obtain the education and jobs needed for future success. Join us to see how all of Northstar's assessments and curricula can aid in your goal of closing the digital literacy gap!

Critical Problemsolvers Part 1 of 2

Joy Zug, Royal Oak Adult Education

Bring a team of 3 (must include 1 administrator) to work on a problem of practice or new idea to investigate in one of the following: Retention and Recruitment; Inspiring Leadership and Supportive Services. Your team will be partnered with a Critical Partner who will be an expert in the area you are working on. Your team and your Critical Partner will work on a plan throughout the 1-2 days.

Improving Students' CASAS Scores with Aztec Software and Paxen Publishing pre-HSE and HSE Products

Mitch Rosin, National Consultant, Aztec and CASAS

Karyn Ruiz, Consultant

Let's look at how Aztec and Paxen products can improve students' CASAS scores and bump up your reporting! This webinar will outline specific steps your instructors can use to identify areas of need with CASAS Content Standards Reports and remediate those skills gaps with CASAS-aligned Aztec and Paxen activities.

Break: 1:30p.m.-1:45p.m.

1.0 1:45p.m.-2:45p.m.: Breakout Session (Choose One)

How to Work with your local BSR

Shadia Alia, Business Service Representative, Southwest Economic Solutions

What is the job of a Business Service Representative and how can they help adult education programs? How can you recharge your participant and rebuild your program to include transitions to the American Job Centers? We will cover the role of the BSR, emphasizing customer service and the work they provide for Michigan Works-American Job Center, Employers and the participants. They will also provide ideas for how you can prepare participants with the tools they need when they come to an American Job Center.

Teaching Strategies: Math Activities for ESL/ELL Learners

Michael Matos, Educational Technology Director, Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition

Learn new contextualized activities preparing and motivating students for real world situations. Participants and their students will be rewarded with lessons that actively engage. Well-planned, multi-sensory activities will help develop crucial math skills. Practice integrating the study of mathematics and English vocabulary with hands-on and collaborative activities using manipulative activities building rigor and critical thinking. Games, tech interactions (apps, websites), science experiments, geography studies, and formulas will all be shared throughout the workshop. The integration of the English language within math content is essential for assisting ESL/ELL learners to develop a good understanding of mathematics. Participants will practice integrating the study of mathematics and English vocabulary with hands-on and collaborative activities using manipulative and station-to-station activities in-person and virtually.

Using Sparta's GED and Employability Skills Curriculum to Increase Performance

Heather Holland, Director, Sparta Adult Education

Anne Heyt, HE Instructor, Sparta Adult Education

Review of the free and online GED curriculum and Career Coaching packets created by Sparta Area Schools Adult Education. Participants will leave the session with access to our full curriculum documents and insight on how to use them to positively impact test scores and student experiences.

Corrections Programming Panel

Tammy Brown, Director, Troy Continuing Education

Tony Costello, Director of Educational Programs, Michigan Department of Corrections

Carrie Mink, Milan Adult Education

This panel discussion will explore some of the challenges and opportunities in corrections

programming. We will share best practices and discuss strategies for success.

From Coffee to Careers: Supporting Learners in Adult and Alternative Education
Karl Khoury, Director of Adult and Alternative Education, Ferndale Public Schools Tri-County Educational Center

Pamela Bellaver, Career Navigator, Ferndale Public Schools Tri-County Educational Center

This session addresses best practices, logistics, and supplemental programming to guide adult and alternative learners from enrollment to post-graduation through an interactive and intentional approach to student success.

Break: 2:45p.m.-3:00p.m.

1.0 3:00p.m.-4:00p.m.: Breakout Session (Choose One)

HSE Updates Across Michigan

Whitney Dettmer, Assistant Director, Iosco RESA and MACAE HSE Chairperson

In this session our HSE Committee will share some of the updates and current trends happening in HSE around the state!

Exploring the Literacy and Numeracy Skills of Adults in Michigan

Emily Pawloski, American Institutes for Research

Do you know what percentage of adults in your county have low literacy or numeracy skills? How does your county compare to neighboring counties in Michigan? What implications does this have for your program or how you teach? This session is focused on helping you answer these questions using the U.S. Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) Skills Map.

What Michiganders Want: Investments in Children & Youth

Matt Gillard, President and CEO, Michigan's Children

In this session, "What Michiganders Want: Investments in Children," Michigan's Children President & CEO Matt Gillard reprises a presentation made to the Detroit Chamber of Commerce Mackinac Policy Conference in September on a recent poll commissioned by Michigan's Children and The Skillman Foundation on voter attitudes toward public funding. Querying 800 statewide voters, the poll found strong support across all geographic and demographics for greater public funding for programs that help children and youth thrive. High on their list of areas for improved funding? Career exposure (Jobs and skills training), mental health, preventing youth involvement in the criminal justice system, afterschool programs and child care. Nearly two-thirds (62%) of likely general election voters said they expect their dollars to be put to work to help children and youth lead healthy, productive lives, with 58% saying they would even raise taxes to support increasing investments, according to the poll conducted by Lake Partners Research.

CASAS Update: News and Updates

Elizabeth Scheib, CASAS

An update and overview from CASAS on remote testing, new assessments, and more.

Friday, October 29, 2021

0.5 8:00 a.m. – 8:30a.m.: Overview of Conference

A welcome and overview of the conference, sessions and outline of strategic planning.

.75 8:30a.m.-9:15a.m.: Keynote Address, Michelle Kuo

Break: 9:15a.m.-9:30a.m.

1.0 9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.: Breakout Sessions (Choose one)

SEL Classroom Strategies for Teachers

Amy Wassman, Saginaw Intermediate School District

LOVE PD around SEL but wish you had some tangible strategies to leave with, rather than just reasons WHY you need to practice SEL? This is YOUR session! Participants will leave with activities they can implement immediately in their classroom and/or building.

An Introduction to the Barton Reading System

Laurie Weeks, Tutor Coordinator, Oakland Literacy Council

If you have learners struggling to read and you suspect they may have a learning disability, you may find the Barton Reading System a good solution. Oakland Literacy Council adopted this phonics-based approach based on the Orton-Gillingham method for its lowest-level readers in 2020. It is ideally suited for a one-on-one tutoring environment and is available for online and in-person use. A demo of the online system will be provided, along with information on how our tutors supplement the curriculum to help learners decode and spell words.

CASAS TOPSpro 101: Sorting It Out!

Caitlyn Pisarski, Southwest Solutions Adult Learning Lab

Yaneth Tierrablanca-Garcia, Southwest Solutions Adult Learning Lab

Is your program new to CASAS eTests? Are you interested in diving deeper into your students' pre and posttest scores? Then this session is for you! We will introduce you to TOPSpro Enterprise (TE) Basic, which is available to any program that offers eTests. Learn how to generate targeted score reports, interpret results and manage data for your program to improve student outcomes and program performance!

The Digital Learning Lab: Innovative Experiment Building Self-Efficacy for Teachers and Learners in Digital Literacy and Technology Integration

Michael Matos, Digital Technology Director, Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition

The Digital Learning Lab (IDLL) is an innovative experiment integrating digital literacy skills and technology integration through the development and implementation of best practices. Technology can be a powerful tool for transforming learning in adult education. IDLL supports teaching effectiveness, increases learner engagement, accelerates learning, closes the “technology gap” so adult learners gain 21st century skills and reaches students when in-person services are unattainable. We shrink long-standing digital equity and inclusion gaps. Learn about organizing communities of experimentation, learning, collaboration and action. With technology

offering so much promise, the Digital Learning Lab offers a unique leadership development opportunity to promote entrepreneurship and encourage technology integration for both learners and instructors.

Coffee Conversations: Leadership from the Other Side of the Mug

Erica Luce, Adult Education Services Manager, Michigan Department of LEO

Patrick Brown, Director, MACAE

Join Adult Education Services Manager Erica Luce and Patrick Brown as we discuss the shared project work areas of MACAE and LEO Adult Education, what we are hearing and prioritizing for the future. There will also be time for Q and A.

10:30a.m.-11:00a.m.: Exhibitor Visits and Vendor Bingo

1.0 11:00a.m.-12:00p.m.: Break Sessions(Choose One)

Building Resilience in Staff

Amy Wassman, Saginaw Intermediate School District

While most programs focus on building SEL in students, it is so important that we also work on supporting our adults. Educators have been navigating uncertainty for 3 school years now. We need to make sure that we are building UP and supporting our students' mentors and role models!

Increasing Students' Technology Skills with Burlington English

Rebecca Clark, Burlington English

Brandi Cardwell, Burlington English

In this session, we will demonstrate how to engage and challenge students using various interactive activities from Burlington English that promote language development and critical thinking skills. Teachers will explore best practices and instructional strategies to motivate students to achieve success in any learning environment.

Utilizing a blended learning system that promotes individualized student success

Heather Holland, Sparta Adult Education

John Clark, Alpha II Learning Systems

Alpha II's prescriptive methodology and blended learning system helps individualize a learning path facilitating targeted instruction. Formative assessments provide appropriate placement into learning modules. Summative assessments ensure standard proficiency. This has proven to be a beneficial tool for instructors to bridge learning gaps for ABE students by focusing on foundational skills in the areas of reading and math.

How to Be More Than The Other Wing In the Back: An Adult Ed Program in a K-12 system

Rena Gowan, Director, Romulus Adult and Alternative Education

Are you struggling to connect your adult education programming to larger K-12 initiatives? Do you need ideas on how to show how your program can be a pillar in the school district? Join this expert panel of adult education directors as they discuss some of the challenges and concerns facing programs in a K-12 setting and ideas for remaining relevant and connected!

Eleyo Updates

Tina Bennett, Eleyo

The latest news and updates from Eleyo.

12:00p.m.-12:30p.m.: Lunch

1.0 12:30p.m.-1:30p.m.,: Breakout Session (Choose One)

Networking Session

Heather Robidoux, Networking Chairperson

Join other conference attendees in a constructive networking session! Share ideas, best practices and strategies and connect on ways to stay engaged with each other!

Break: 1:30p.m.-1:45p.m.

1.0 1:45p.m.-2:45p.m.: Breakout Session (Choose One)

Building Resilience in Students

Amy Wassman, Saginaw Intermediate School District

Our students have had everything thrown at them the last couple of years, testing their resolve and their ability to adapt. This session will look at systemic ways we can support students to build on the resiliency they already have.

Do Immigrants Experience Education-Job Mismatch? New Evidence from the U.S. PIAAC

Margareta Pivovarova, Associate Professor, Arizona State University

Jeanne Powers

In this study, we document the patterns of, and the factors associated with, education-job mismatch and analyze how the incidence of mismatch differs by demographic characteristics among U.S.-born and foreign-born workers. The findings indicate that overeducation is more prevalent among foreign-born workers and second-generation workers (i.e., those whose parents are foreign-born). We also find that a good command of English mitigates the chances of overeducation for immigrant workers while the length of stay in the United States does not.

Critical Problemsolvers Part 2

Joy Zug, Royal Oak Adult Education

Bring a team of 3 (must include 1 administrator) to work on a problem of practice or new idea to investigate in one of the following: Retention and Recruitment; Inspiring Leadership and Supportive Services. Your team will be partnered with a Critical Partner who will be an expert in the area you are working on. Your team and your Critical Partner will work on a plan throughout the 1-2 days.

HiSET Program Overview for Michigan Educators and Test Center Staff

Tanya Haug, HiSET

Adam Springwater, HiSET

In this session, we will provide information about the HiSET Exam, resources, registration and administration. We'll review the best resources for test takers and educators including info on testing accommodations and the HiSET Exam At Home. For more info on the HiSET in Michigan, visit: <https://hiset.ets.org/requirements/state/mi>.

Renewing and Rebuilding your math curriculum

Trevor Metzler, Southwest Economic Solutions

For those who are reevaluating their curriculum to make sure it is contextualized, this is the session for you. This curriculum is specific to the construction industry that captures the

necessary skills for introduction to construction math, blueprint reading, and how to build simple projects. This curriculum has imbedded CCRS, GED and NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) standards. This session will review the curriculum, discuss units and will allow you to use the curriculum to expand on your math lessons.

Break: 2:45p.m.-3:00p.m.

1.0 3:00p.m.-4:00p.m.: Breakout Session (Choose One)

Community Education: What It Means to the Community

Andrea Foglietta, Wet Bloomfield Community Education

Brian Puffer, Saline Community Education

This panel discussion will explore some of the challenges and opportunities in community education programming. We will share best practices and discuss strategies for success and how you can highlight the work you are doing within your district!

Recruit the Employer

Danielle Barrette, Career Navigator, Troy Continuing Education

We'll discuss how to think like an employer and set the recruiter up for success, the mechanics behind how an applicant tracking system impacts interview selection, strategies to build a compelling ATS friendly resume, application strategies to prevent job knock-out, and the power of networking to facilitate interview invitations.

Personal and Professional Leadership

Malissa Smith, Milan Community and Adult Education

This presentation will highlight the most popular and easily implemented leadership styles.

Resources for ESL Transitions

Annie Fenton, Global Michigan, Michigan Department of LEO

Resources for ESL Transitions

Total: 13.5 SCECHS