



## 2023 MACAE Fall Conference: Celebrating 40 Years Sunday, October 15, 2023- Wednesday, October 18, 2023 Lansing Center

### Description:

The Michigan Adult, Community and Alternative Education (MACAE) Association is excited to announce our Fall 2023 in-person experience for adult, alternative, community education and workforce development professionals and vested education and business partners, October 15-18, 2023. We expect over 250 attendees to our conference! This is THE conference to attend regarding adult, alternative, community education and integrated education and training in Michigan. Plenary sessions will include options for professional learning communities, instructional strategies, program design, best practices to meet measurable academic outcomes, transition to employment and postsecondary access, etc. Our membership is strong, active, and engaged in our annual conference and ongoing professional development throughout the year. We will have state leadership, statewide partners, administrators, teachers and instructional staff, support staff, data management personnel all present.

### SCECHS: AGENDA:

## Monday, October 16, 2023

**8:00am-8:30am: Breakfast**  
**General Session Room**

**8:30 a.m. – 9:00a.m.: Strategic Overview of Conference**  
**General Session Room**

A welcome and strategic overview of the conference, sessions and outline of the association's strategic planning. A special welcome from the Greater Lansing Events Bureau as well.

### 1.25 9:00a.m.-10:15a.m.: Keynote Address:

**General Session Room**

*Robert Sainz*

This keynote will examine the conference's focus on progress examining how we can all progress in our mindset, partnerships, community, programs, during crisis, as a field, and as individuals. Attendees will hear real life examples of this work and be inspired and challenged to identify a goal in their professional workspace. Robert has extensive experience in systems integration and will outline strategies for successful systems integration across workforce and education systems.

**10:15am-10:45am: Exhibitor Hall Break and Coffee Break**

Visit our vendors in the Exhibit Hall!

**1.25 10:45am-12:00pm: Breakout Session (Choose One)**

**Interlanguage (Learner language): A Developmental Approach**

**Room 101**

*Hamid Ahari, Adult Tutoring Program Literacy Coordinator, Literacy Center of West Michigan*

*Yilin Wendland-Liu, Adult Tutoring Program Director, Literacy Center of West Michigan*

This presentation will explore the theory of Interlanguage (learner's language) and will closely examine and analyze the conception from the Cognitivist – Emergentist perspectives.

**Adult ESL, Workforce Preparation, and Workforce Training: Getting Started with an IET Program**

**Room 102**

*Jan Hobbs, Adult Education Program Coordinator, Lansing School District*

*Cindy Kendall, Adult Education Pathways to Options Specialist, Lansing School District*

The Adult Education Department of the Lansing School District started an Integrated Education and Training (IET) Program as part of the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) State of Michigan Grant. Targeting English Language Learners, the IET program combines English as a Second Language instruction, Workforce Preparation, and Workforce Training with the end goal of preparing adult learners to successfully enter the workforce. The presenters will share why and how certain career training opportunities were selected, how the IET program is structured, surprises and challenges during implementation, and advice for those seeking to create an IET program in their community.

**How to utilize paid and free resources to boost student enrollment in your local program**

**Room 103**

*Dr. Anthony Mangiafico, Director of Wallingford Adult Education and President, Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education*

Do you have \$1,000 to spend on recruiting new students to your program? Do you have no money at all? Come learn both free and paid ways to boost the number of students you have in your program. Hear what the Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education did as a state, and what several local programs did with limited funding. Print, TV, mail, digital marketing, and social media will be discussed.

**Telling Your Story: How to Share Your Success with Policymakers and the Public**

**Room 104**

*Teri Banas, Director of Programs and Communications, Michigan's Children*

Numbers numb, jargon jars and no one ever marched on Washington because of a pie chart. . .

Tell stories." Nationally acclaimed author and consultant Andy Goodman (Good ideas for a Good Cause) used these words to encourage nonprofits to tell real stories with real people at the heart of them. In keeping with this theme, Michigan's Children's Director of Programs and Communications Teri Banas helps you explore the elements of good story telling to encourage positive change, inspire public support, seek or secure program funding, and extoll the unequivocal value of your program. Experts can be hired, but real people – students,

educators, program directors – and their experiences provide compelling evidence that policymakers must hear.

### **Value of GED Mobile Testing Centers**

#### **Room 201**

*Natalie Cummins, Pearson VUE Client Channel Operations Manager, Pearson VUE*

Often, the local GED programs with stationary PC testing centers remark that “If only I could get out to a specific distant or rural location to deliver a test in that area.” The answer is that you can do as many other local programs do. Come learn more about the the process and take advantage of the opportunity to ask questions in person.

### **Digital Literacy and Learning: Supporting Newcomers in Michigan**

#### **Room 202**

*Amy Cheadle, Digital Literacy and Learning Program Coordinator, Office of Global Michigan*

*Carmen Bordea, Community Engagement Coordinator, Office of Global Michigan*

The Office of Global Michigan (OGM) provides Digital Literacy and ESOL services to Michigan Newcomer families. In this session, they will share lessons learned from the Digital Literacy and Learning Program. Specifically, the speakers will discuss findings related to digital literacy assessment and instruction and share information about available resources and partnerships.

**Lunch: 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.**

## **1.25 1:00p.m.-2:15p.m.:Breakout Sessions (Choose one)**

### **Adult Literacy Opportunities**

#### **Room 101**

*Patrick Brown, Executive Director, MACAE*

*Melissa Moore, Executive Director, READ Muskegon*

Are you a nonprofit entity in the adult learning landscape? Come join this roundtable discussion on the latest development in adult literacy in Michigan. We will discuss new funding streams, new resources and trends and explore what’s next for programming in this space.

### **Crafting Marketing Magic with Brochure Brilliance**

#### **Room 102**

*Brian Puffer, Director of Community Education, Area Schools*

*John Dixon, Director of Operations and Sales Hearst Newspapers*

Join us for an informative session to empower you with the knowledge and tools needed to promote and market your program successfully. Whether you're a community, adult or alternative educator, program coordinator, or administrator, this session is designed to help you reach a wider audience, engage your community, and enhance the impact of your educational offerings. We will then transition to the importance of the Community Education brochure. In the world of community education, a well-designed brochure is a powerful tool for attracting learners and communicating the value of your programs. This session will guide you through the process of crafting an appealing brochure tailored to your department's specific goals. Key topics covered include: The Brochure's Purpose, Target Audience and Messaging, Design Principles, Brochure Formats and Styles, Printing and Distribution Options, Budget Considerations.

**Teaching Skills That Matter: Connecting Transferable Skills in the Adult Ed Classroom  
Room 103**

*Carrie Machkouri, Integrated Education and Training Coordinator, Literacy Center of West Michigan*

Teaching Skills That Matter is a toolkit compiled in partnership with OCTAE and AIR. The project focuses on improving adult education and literacy practices as a means of helping adult learners acquire and put into practice the skills needed for meeting the demands within the critical domains of their lives. The toolkit is grounded in research and evidence-based learner-centered design framework that will build capacity among instructors, administrators, and other support staff for the effective integration of the skills that matter into adult education.

**Engaging Structures (Part 1 of 2)**

**Room 104**

*Ted Kroll, Director of Adult and Alternative Education, Livingston ESA*

Are you looking for ways to build more authentic relationships? In Session 1 learn how to use different activities to build engagement, teamwork, and relationships with students, staff, and other partners.

In Session 2, Building off session 1 you will learn how create plans to usher in change by engaging your staff, students and partners to brainstorm, create, and implement change.

**Harnessing AI Tools To Enhance The Learning Experience**

**Room 201**

*Katie Thompson, Integrated Education and Training Coordinator, Troy Continuing Education*

Join us as we explore the exciting world of AI tools revolutionizing education. Discover how cutting-edge artificial intelligence technologies are reshaping the teaching landscape, enhancing learning outcomes, and simplifying educators' lives. From personalized tutoring to automated grading, we'll delve into the innovative ways AI is transforming the education sector, making teaching more effective, engaging, and efficient. Unlock the potential of AI in education and stay ahead in the ever-evolving field of teaching. Bring your laptop!

**Employer Engagement-How do I start?**

**Room 202**

*Karyn Goven, Senior Director of Workforce Development, Southwest Solutions*

Workplace literacy is an important facet of adult education. Pre-apprentice and apprentice programs are in the spotlight and the new way to work with adults in the education and workforce field. The Workforce Committee at COABE, with Anson Green from Tyson Foods, created a toolkit that will help programs begin the conversation within their organization and with employers. This session will review the toolkit and discuss the perception of employers and adult education programs. How can we move towards a win-win relationship to create workplace literacy programs and apprenticeship programs.

**Afternoon Snack Break: 2:15pm-2:30pm (Exhibitor Room)**

Please visit the vendors in the Exhibit Room and grab a tasty snack!

**1.25 2:30pm-3:45pm: Break Sessions(Choose One)**

**Accommodating Mind, Body, and the Adult Learner**

**Room 101**

*Monica Robbins, Business Relations Consultant, Michigan Rehabilitation Services*  
*Keisha Hall-Dilligard, Michigan Rehabilitations Services*

Transparently discussing conversations and scenarios for the purpose of collaboration and customized services leading customers to a career, while educating businesses about talent preparations, supports and services.

**Power Hour Session: Looking at Your Mandated and Community Education Programs Through a Socially Just Lens to Reach All Potential Students (2:30pm-3:00pm)**

**Room 102**

*Dr. Anthony Mangiafico, Director of Wallingford Adult Education and President, Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education*

How can you create a program that is welcoming to all members of the community, including seniors, younger people, students who do not speak English well, People of Color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other groups. Bring your own ideas and learn some tips on creating a welcoming environment for all. Discussion will also focus on different types of professional development that may assist you in your goal of teaching a diverse group of students.

**Power Hour Session: Supporting Teachers, Not Replacing Them: Choosing curriculum supports (3:15pm-3:45pm)**

**Room 102**

Zac Bunn, Educational Consultant, Boardworks US

We all know the strain teachers are under in modern classrooms. They are pulled in so many directions that are not truly the core of what they are meant to do; build relationships and teach students. As administrators have tried to support teachers we have ended up with scattered resources, unused subscriptions, and frustrated staff. So, what should I look for when shopping for teacher support resources? Let's talk about that...

**Are you the gatekeeper?**

**Room 103**

*Sara Brooks, Foundational Skills Instructor, SER Metro Youthbuild*

Let's talk about student motivation and student perseverance in a unique but focused way.

**Engaging Structures (Part 2 of 2)**

**Room 104**

*Ted Kroll, Director of Adult and Alternative Education, Livingston ESA*

Are you looking for ways to build more authentic relationships? In Session 1 learn how to use different activities to build engagement, teamwork, and relationships with students, staff, and other partners.

In Session 2, Building off session 1 you will learn how create plans to usher in change by engaging your staff, students and partners to brainstorm, create, and implement change.

**Unlocking Career Pathway Opportunities with Integrated Education and Training (IET) Programs: Requirements, Best Practices, and Planning Resources**

**Room 201**

*Kari Hiner, Department Analyst, Adult Education, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity*

*Erica Luce, Adult Education Services Manager, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity*

Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs utilize a career-centered, contextualized approach to learning that combines adult education and literacy, workforce preparation, and workforce training into a cohesive curriculum. Adult educators, administrators, and curriculum coordinators are invited to join State staff to deepen their understanding of the essential components of IET programs, with a focus on best practices and resources for designing and implementing high-quality, sustainable initiatives.

#### **Updates from GED Testing Service™**

##### **Room 202**

*Melissa Hultstrand, Michigan GED State Relationship Manager, GED Testing Service*

Come learn about the many GED® updates we have made in the last year. This session will not only provide you with updates to GED Manager™, voucher purchasing options (GED Direct and GED Marketplace) and student accounts, but we will also preview the GED Mobile app. In addition, we will spend some time reviewing the NEW GED Student Handbook as well as the GED Playbook.

**Break: 3:45pm-4:00pm**

#### **1.0 4:00pm-4:45pm: General Session: Innovative Strategies**

##### **General Session Room**

In facilitated roundtable discussions we will share out what innovative practices and strategies will be employed in programs all across the state for the next year.

#### **VENDOR RECEPTION: 4:45pm-6:00pm**

Join all the vendors as we celebrate the conference! Learn about new products and new initiatives!

#### **AFTER HOURS SOCIAL EVENT: Spare Time Lansing 6:00pm-9:00pm (offsite event)**

Join your MACAE colleagues old and new for a social event. Free bowling and appetizers. We will also host our legendary Euchre Tournament!

**End of Day Two (Total SCECHs for Day is 6.0 SCECHs)**

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#### **Total Conference SCECHs: 17.75 SCECHS**

List of Presenters:

Marcus Little is the Director of the Customized English Workplace Literacy Program at the Literacy Center of West Michigan.

Jennifer Summers is the senior instructional leader for the Customized English Workplace Literacy Program at the Literacy Center of West Michigan.

Tammy Brown is the President of the MACAE Board of Directors. She has served in that capacity for over two years directing the operations and strategic vision of the association. She is also the Director of Troy Continuing Education.

Patrick Brown is the Executive Director of the Michigan Adult, Community and Alternative Education (MACAE) Association. He has presented at the statewide and national levels.

Carrie Machkouri is the IET and ELL Instructor at the Literacy Center of West Michigan. She also serves as Michigan's Coalition on Adult Basic Education State Advocates Fellow.

Natalie Cummins is a national consultant at Pearson. Her expertise is in the area of instructional design and program capacity building with an emphasis in student accommodations.

Manon Steel is the Senior Program Associate for TICAS, The Institute for College Access Success. Her expertise lies in statewide higher education college access strategy and policy development.

Laura Warren Gross is from the Michigan Library System

Christy Nelson is the Director of Adult Learning at the Networks Northwest, a collaboration of services in adult education and workforce development.

Ibrahim Elabed is the Director of Federal Funds for Southwest Solutions in Detroit. He coordinates all reporting and outcomes measurements for programming for youth and adult services.

Elaine Pardieck is a national consultant for education and curriculum for New Readers Press.

Jon Weiss and Michael Johnson are national consultants from Data Recognition Corporation.

Laura Saline is the Career and College Readiness Coordinator for all of Livingston county. She serves as a coordinator or services and programming for youth and adults transitions to postsecondary and employment opportunities.

Angelia Izzo is an instructor with Beecher Adult Education

Todd Wamester is the Senior Consultant with En Gen.

Karyn Goven has served in adult education for a number of years. Her expertise is in program design from early childhood through adult skill building. She currently serves as the Vice President of the MACAE Association.

Teri Banas is the Director of Communications and Programming at Michigan's Children. Her expertise lies in communications strategy, student voice advocacy and program development.

Mellissa Hulstrandt is a Senior National State Consultant with GED Testing Services.

Yilin Wendland-Liu is the Director of Adult Literacy at the Literacy Center of West Michigan. She is joined by Megan Bowers and Hamid Ahara, coordinators for the same program.

Monica Robbins is a Business Relations Consultant for the Michigan Rehabilitation Services.

Brian Smith works for the Michigan Rehabilitation Services at the Michigan Career Technical Institute.

Callan Eschenburg and Schume Harrison are from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity State Apprenticeship Expansion Office. Their expertise is in grant writing and program design.

Katie Thompson is the Integrated Education and Training Coordinator for Troy Continuing Education. She has vast experience in IET design and implementation. She also coordinates curriculum alignment and resource and career preparation for adult learners.

Karyn Ruiz is the National Senior Academic Specialist for Aztec.

Michelle Smith is the Senior Vice President for ProLiteracy. She oversees much of the programming and educational resource gathering.

Joy Zug is the Coordinator of the Royal Oak Adult Education program.

Alexandra Stamm is the Education Policy person for the Michigan League for Public Policy. Her expertise lies in developing statewide policy recommendations for preK- higher education initiatives.

Anne Kuhnen is the Policy Analyst for the Kids Count Michigan Project at the Michigan League for Public Policy.

Manon Steel is from TICAS, The Institute for College Access and Success. She has expertise in grant writing, legislative writing and facilitation of key statewide stakeholders around postsecondary access.

Ted Kroll is the Director of Adult and Alternative Education at the Livingston ESA. He has held various instructional and administrative positions in K-12. He currently serves on the MACAE Board of Directors.

Brand Cardwell is a regional consultant for Burlington English. She has expertise in instructional delivery and program design for many adult education providers across numerous states.

Louie Paras is a the Michigan representative for Burlington English. He has experience in postsecondary student affairs and leadership across educational access opportunities for students.

Ana Manzano is the ECHO Program Manager for the Michigan College Access Network

Tricia Kane and Carrie Price are department analysts with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

Claudia Stephens is a Career Center Manager in Detroit. Her expertise is coordinating WIOA Title Services for several hundred clients in Southwest Detroit.

Jan Hobbs is the Adult Education Coordinator for Lansing Adult Education. She has expertise in program design and curriculum development as well as high school equivalency test administration.

Whitney Dettmer is the Assistant Director of Adult Education at the Iosco RESA. She also serves as the chairperson of the high school equivalency committee.



Laurie Weeks is the Director of Tutor Programming at the Oakland Literacy Council. She has vast experience in volunteer recruitment, volunteer tutor preparation and curriculum development and design.

Vincent De’Ettorre is the Lead Teacher for Michigan Works! Southeast. He has experience working with youth and adult populations.

Brian Puffer is the Director of Saline Community Education. He has administrative experience in grant writing and programming development. He also has experience with facilities management and maintenance, before and after school programming.

Elizbeth Scheib works for CASAS. Her responsibilities included assessment training and e Tests strategy implementation.

Rich Heide is the Health Care Coordinator at Maccomb Community College. He has expertise in a variety of integrated education and training program implementation models.

Anthony Mangiafico is the Director of Community and Adult Education at Wallingford Adult Education. He also serves as the President of the Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education. He has vast experience in program implementation, grant writing and program design. In 2022 he was voted the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Administrator of the Year.

Hamid Ahari is the Family Literacy Coordinator for the Literacy Center of West Michigan.

Amy Cheadle is the Digital Learning and Program Coordinator at the Office of Global Michigan with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Development.

Carmen Bordea is the Community Engagement Coordinator for the Office of Global Michigan with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

Beth Lindley is the Director of the Michigan State University Kinship Resource Center. She also serves on the Advisory Board of the Michigan Kinship Care Coalition.

Erica Luce is the Manager of Adult Education Services at the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

Sara Brooks is the Youth Services Director for SER Metro. She has decades of experience in alternative, adult education and youth opportunities.

Kari Hiner is a Department Analyst for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. Her expertise is in Integrated Education and Training.

Chad Patton is the Director of Development and Innovation for the West Michigan Works! system. He has vast experience in the integration of education and training into programming. He also has expertise in leveraging braided funding and in engaging multi-sector partners.

Tasha Evans is the Director of Talent Solutions for the West Michigan Works! system. Her expertise is in talent recruitment strategies to meet the needs of employers and businesses. She also has vast expertise in leveraging partnerships across entities and utilizing braided funding.

Sue Johnson is a Department Specialist for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. She oversees the data management system, Michigan Adult Education Reporting System, MAERS.

David Zin is a Financial Analyst for the Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency. His expertise is in economic projections.

Brian Fraizer is a Department Specialist for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. He helps with the statewide assessment policy.

Linda Kell, a seasoned educational leader with 32 years of experience, currently serves as the Leadership Development Consultant at Wayne RESA. She holds an undergraduate degree in Education from Alma College and a master's degree from the University of Michigan, along with an Educational Specialist Degree in Administration from Wayne State University.

Maidie Baker is the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Centric Learning. Prior to joining the Centric team, Maidie was the Principal of a Title I Elementary School in Bradenton, Florida. Maidie's career in education has taken several different paths in her 27 years since her first teaching job. She has served at the school, district, and state level of public K-12 education in a variety of roles and also spent several years in the higher ed world as a student services administrator. Her passion has always been supporting at-opportunity students and ensuring educational equity for all.