



# Creating Healthy Communities Through Early Childhood Excellence



Join early childhood professionals from across Montana for a day of learning, collaboration, and inspiration at the 2026 Spring Mini-Conference, hosted by the Central Montana Childcare Alliance.

 **SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026**

 **9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

 **YOGO INN - LEWISTOWN, MT**

**Free Event**

*\*lunch included*

**6 ECP** *training hours*

This year's premiere early childhood mini-conference highlights the role of holistic child health and quality early childhood programming as fundamental to community well-being. Engage in insightful workshops, listen to expert speakers, and network with others dedicated to fostering the growth and development of young children. Whether you're an early childhood educator, program director, family childcare provider, or simply an enthusiast for early learning, this event is designed for you!

**REGISTER NOW—  
DEADLINE  
MARCH 29, 2026!**

**VISIT OUR CONFERENCE WEBPAGE ON OUR WEBSITE AT:  
[mtchildcarealliance.org/2026-spring-mini-conference](https://mtchildcarealliance.org/2026-spring-mini-conference)**



*We are proud to present our keynote speaker, Andrew R. Laue, LCSW*

Andrew is a psychotherapist in private practice in Western Montana and a nationally recognized leader in secondary trauma and resilience for human service professionals. Andrew is the founder of STAR-T (Secondary Trauma Activates Resilience Training) and is widely respected for his work supporting the sustainability and well-being of caregivers and frontline professionals.

An adjunct faculty member at the University of Montana School of Social Work, Andrew teaches Dynamic Supervision and has helped develop statewide training in clinical supervision. His work has been recognized with both a National County Association Award and the Governor's Award for HIV Prevention. He consults with agencies across healthcare, social services, and tribal systems throughout the Northwest and lives on the Flathead Reservation in rural Montana.



**Andrew R. Laue, LCSW**

Psychotherapist, private practice in MT  
Nationally recognized leader in addressing secondary trauma

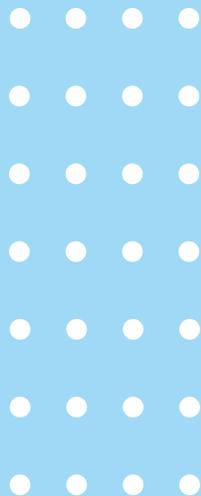
*Keynote Session: BUILDING POWER OUT OF THE TRAUMA WE ENGAGE AT WORK*



Understand the hidden toll of trauma-exposed caregiving and discover skills that help early childhood professionals move from burnout to resilience.

*Agenda:*

- **8:30 am - Doors Open, Networking & Vendor Tables**
  - Check-in, grab coffee, and visit vendors.
- **9:00 am - Welcome & Keynote Speaker, Andrew R. Laue, LCSW**
  - Building Power Out of the Trauma We Engage at Work
- **10:45 am - Breakout Session #1**
  - Choose from 4 engaging, tailored session options
- **12:00 pm - Lunch & Speakers**
  - Enjoy a buffet lunch and learn
- **1:15 pm - Breakout Session #2**
  - Second round of breakout sessions with 4 new in-depth topics
- **2:30 pm - Closing Remarks & Wrap-Up**
  - Final thoughts and evaluation forms
- **3:00 pm - Conference Close**



# Partner With Us!

## Vendor & Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite community organizations, businesses, and partners to join us as a vendor and/or sponsor for our upcoming conference supporting early childhood professionals and the organizations that serve them. This event brings together educators, administrators, healthcare partners, and human service professionals from across our state for a day of learning, connection, and whole-person wellness. Your participation helps strengthen the early childhood workforce while offering meaningful visibility for your organization.

Please contact us at [mtchildcarealliance@gmail.com](mailto:mtchildcarealliance@gmail.com) or **406-366-4777** to reserve your spot or discuss customized sponsorship opportunities.

**1**

### Vendor

**\$50**

- Vendor table (1 table & 2 chairs)
- Recognition in conference signage and program

**2**

### Impact Partner

**\$150**

- Vendor table (1 table & 2 chairs)
- One-page insert (flyer or promo item) included in conference bags
- Recognition in conference program and during opening remarks

**3**

### Sponsor

**\$500 - \$1,000**

- Priority vendor placement (1 table & 2 chairs)
- One-page insert and swag item in conference bags
- Mini- presentation during Lunch & Learn
- Prominent logo placement on all conference materials
- Recognition from the stage and throughout the event
- Opportunity to sponsor a key conference element (meal, keynote, a breakout session, etc.)

Contact us at [mtchildcarealliance@gmail.com](mailto:mtchildcarealliance@gmail.com) or **406-366-4777** to discuss your vendor and/or sponsorship interest today!

# VOICES OF PAST ATTENDEES

Excellence You Can Feel!



"This was hands-down the best professional development conference I attended all year. The presenters were engaging, knowledgeable, and truly understood the realities of working in early childhood. I left feeling inspired, equipped with practical strategies I could implement immediately, and reminded why this work matters so deeply."

"I was blown away by the quality of this conference. Every presenter delivered meaningful, relevant content that was both inspiring and practical. It was so impactful that I've already decided to bring my entire staff next year. This is the kind of professional development that truly strengthens teams and transforms programs."



"This conference was amazing, I haven't heard presenters this strong in a long time. I walked away feeling refreshed, re-energized, and proud to be part of the early childhood profession."



Last year's attendees rated our conference 4.8 out of 5 stars! Our conference continues to exceed expectations and deliver meaningful, high-impact professional development for early childhood professionals throughout Montana.

