

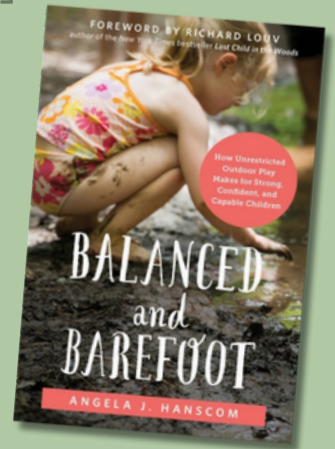
KEYS TO QUALITY CONFERENCE

**Saturday
October 5, 2024
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Redfern Arts Center,
Keene, NH**

Keynote Speaker
Angela Hanscom,
*Pediatric Occupational Therapist
and the Founder of TimberNook*

Closing Speaker
Dr. Junlei Li,
*Faculty Chair in Early Childhood
Education at Harvard Graduate
School of Education*



**Ticket Price:
\$40**



Register on Eventbrite
Registration opens August 29th





Child Care Aware of New Hampshire

Conference Schedule

8:00 AM-8:30 AM Registration

8:30 AM-8:45 AM

Welcome/Introductions

8:45 AM-10:00 AM Keynote

10:00 AM-10:15 AM Break

10:15 AM-11:45 AM

First Break-Out Sessions

11:45 AM-12:45 PM Lunch

12:45 PM-2:15 PM

Second Break-Out Sessions

2:15 PM-2:30 PM Break

2:30 PM-4:00 PM Closing Speaker

Ticket Price:

\$40

*NH Cares Scholarship Available
More information on pg. 5

Pre-registration is **required** for this event. You can click the link [here](#) to view the Eventbrite page:

Or

Scan the QR Code below:

Deadline:

Monday, September 30th



Register on Eventbrite

Registration opens August 29th

Child Care Aware of New Hampshire, a program of Southern New Hampshire Services, is pleased to provide this full-day, in-person conference devoted to quality professional development to assist child care programs, early childhood professionals, and administrators in enhancing and improving their practices.

Our conference will feature engaging speakers, a total of twelve (12) training opportunities that will be offered, and valuable resources to help you enhance the quality of your work in early childhood education.

Don't miss this chance to connect with fellow professionals, gain new skills, and unlock the *keys to quality* in your practice.



Keynote Speaker:
Angela Hanscom
8:45 AM - 10:00 AM

Angela Hanscom is a pediatric occupational therapist and the founder of TimberNook—an award-winning nature-based program that has gained international popularity. She holds a master's degree in occupational therapy and an undergraduate degree in kinesiology (the study of movement) with a concentration in health fitness. Angela's book, *Balanced & Barefoot: How Unrestricted Outdoor Play Makes for Strong, Confident, and Capable Children* (New Harbinger Press, 2016), discusses the effects of restricted movement and lack of outdoor playtime on overall sensory and motor development in children.

When Angela is not speaking about nature's therapeutic benefits or training new TimberNook providers, she enjoys spending time with her husband Paul and three children in the rural town of Barrington, New Hampshire, where the concept behind TimberNook and *Balanced & Barefoot* were first born.





Saturday October 5, 2024
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

8:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Keynote

CKA: Promoting Child Growth & Development

The Decline of Outdoor Play – And the Rise in Sensory Issues

Angela Hanscom, Founder of Timbernook

As we continue to decrease children's time and space to move and play outdoors, we are seeing a simultaneous rise in the number of children that are presenting with sensory and motor deficits. At the same time, classroom teachers are observing more and more children having trouble with attention, falling out of their seats in school, increased clumsiness, and even aggressiveness with games like tag on the playground.

Using the same philosophy that lies at the heart of her popular TimberNook program—that nature is the ultimate sensory experience, and that psychological and physical health improves for children when they spend time outside on a regular basis—Angela Hanscom offers several strategies to help children thrive in outdoor environments using a therapeutic approach to nature play.

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Session 1A

CKA: Promoting Child Growth & Development

CARE Training,

Amelia Verdrager, Child Care Licensing Unit, DHHS

Licensing Coordinator, Amelia Verdrager, will share data on frequently cited rules, offer clarity on those rules, and provide tips for compliance, as well as answer your questions.

All About Play Schemas,

Dee Dee Thurber, M.Ed., ECMPWT, Child Care Aware of New Hampshire, Southern NH Services

During this training, we will learn all about play schemas - what are they? Why are they important? We will discuss the levels of play schemas and learn about the most common schemas that develop during the early childhood years. When you were younger, do you remember repeating patterns in your play? Participants will share what their experience was growing up. Participants will receive the book: **Understanding Schemas in Young Children – Again! Again!** By Stella Louis, Clare Beswick, Liz Magraw, Lisa Hayes

Session 1B

CKA: Observing, Documenting & Assessing

STEM and Preschoolers Go Hand in Hand

Kerry Belknap Morris, M.Ed., CTRS-EC, Program Director, Early Childhood Education & Social Services & Colleen Ross, River Valley ECE Graduate Student

Preschoolers are ready to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. They are full of curiosity, enthusiasm, and wonder. Preschoolers need opportunities to talk about their discoveries and to document their findings. Join us as we examine the key content, tools, and terminology we can use to help children learn about the world around them. Specific materials and experiences are highlighted.

Session 1C

CKA: Teaching & Learning

2

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Session 1D

**CKA: Building Family &
Community Relationships**

What is an Inclusive Program? Supporting Children with Special Needs PT. 1

*Stephanie Therrien, M.Ed, ECMPWTPC, Child Care
Aware of New Hampshire, Southern NH Services*

This two-part series is designed to empower early childhood educators with the knowledge and tools to create supportive learning environments that celebrate and accommodate diverse abilities and unique health needs. In this session, we will learn about special needs laws, explore the IEP and IFSP, and identify supports for providers in NH including community-based services.

Session 1E

**CKA: Promoting Child Growth &
Development**

Let's Learn About Lice

Laurene Plourde, Owner of Let's Learn About Lice, LLC

Join Laurene for information on head lice that is backed up with scientific data and studies, so you know you are getting the right information. She will walk you through checking, detecting, treating, and preventing head lice.

12:45 PM – 2:15 PM

Session 2A

CKA: Developing as a Professional

Supporting Staff Mental & Emotional Wellness,

Dr. Kendra Lewis; Health & Well-being State Specialist

This interactive session will provide staff with strategies to support the mental and emotional wellness of themselves and the youth they serve. We will focus on tips and skills, mindful moments to build throughout the day and resources to promote our own wellness.

Session 2B

CKA: Teaching & Learning

Nature Based Play,

*Dee Dee Thurber, M.Ed., ECMPWT, Child Care Aware
of New Hampshire, Southern NH Services*

Nature is a great teacher. Extending outdoor play can be beneficial for both children and teachers. Let's take a look at why children (and adults) connect to nature and how to bring more nature into daily activities and play. We will explore how to work with the weather and the resilience that is created when young children experience all kinds of weather.

12:45 PM – 2:15 PM

Session 2C

CKA: Promoting Child Growth & Development

Friendly Crocodiles, Groovy Cats, and Runaway Bunnies--Oh, My

Kerry Belknap Morris, M.Ed., CTRS-EC, Program Director, Early Childhood Education & Social Services, & Colleen Ross, River Valley ECE Program Graduate

Join us for an exploration of quality board and picture books suitable for infants and toddlers. A review of the classics--those children's books that continue to withstand the test of time--and more recently published materials will be included. In addition, participants will plan how to use the NH Early Learning Standards and guidelines for developmentally appropriate practice to promote early language & literacy learning. By the end of the session, participants will have the knowledge and skills to ensure that book-sharing times are special moments in their classrooms.

Session 2D

CKA: Building Family & Community Relationships

What is an Inclusive Program? Supporting Children with Special Needs PT. 2

Stephanie Therrien, M.Ed, ECMPWTPC, Child Care Aware of New Hampshire, Southern NH Services

This two-part series is designed to empower early childhood educators with the knowledge and tools to create supportive learning environments that celebrate and accommodate diverse abilities and unique health needs. In this session, we will explore specific ways to help children in your classroom with various exceptionalities and how to enrich your environment and teaching practices for all children.

Session 2E

CKA: Observing, Documenting & Assessing

Screening with Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ)

Jennifer Pineo, BS, Lead Trainer at NH Family Voices

Join this session for a sample of the certified ASQ training that Watch Me Grow provides for organizations in person or online. These interactive and hands-on ASQ trainings go over the importance of developmental screening, how to administer the screening tools and score the results, as well as best practices in engaging with families around the screening process. Typically, this training is 3-6 hours but during this session, participants will get a scaled-down version to see what the training has to offer and if full-length training would be something they would like to schedule for their staff at a future date! Remember: WMG provides all developmental screening materials and training for FREE!!

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

**Closing
Speaker**

How Do We Know We Are Enough?

Dr. Junlei Li, Ph.D., Program Chair of the Human Development and Education and the Saul Zaentz Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at Harvard Graduate School of Education

What makes any of us “good enough”? Whether we teach children directly, or support families and educators, we invest ourselves in building healthy relationships with human beings. Often, no matter what we do or how much we do, it seems that early childhood professionals work in a “never enough” environment. This presentation is intended as a reflection and a reminder that the simple, ordinary things we do with other human beings do in fact matter. They matter in ways that can be seen and felt in moments when we really show up for others, and in ways that can be measured over the long run even if we are not there to see or hear it ourselves.

CKA: Developing as a Professional



Closing Speaker: **Dr. Junlei Li**

Junlei Li, Ph.D. is the Program Chair of the Human Development and Education and the Saul Zaentz Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at Harvard Graduate School of Education.

As a developmental psychologist, his research and practice focus on supporting the helpers – those who serve children and families on the frontlines of education and social services. Studying orphanages, child care, schools, youth programs, he co-develops the “Simple Interactions” approach (www.simpleinteractions.org) to help affirm what ordinary people do extraordinarily well with children in everyday moments. His work is significantly inspired by the pioneering work of Fred Rogers when he served as the Co-Director and Rita M. McGinley Chair for Early Learning and Children’s Media at the Fred Rogers Center.

The **NH Cares Scholarship** is awarded to New Hampshire child care providers who are currently working 30 hours per week or more in a licensed program. This scholarship will cover the total fee to attend designated Child Care Aware of NH hosted conferences, specials, and training sessions, giving child care providers the benefit to attend and earn professional development hours at no-cost.

To receive the NH Cares Scholarship please send the following information to

ccrtraining@snhs.org with the subject line “**NH Cares Scholarship**”

- Name
- Email
- Phone Number
- Place of Employment
- Hours You Work Per Week
- How the NH Cares Scholarship will Benefit You



Child Care Aware of New Hampshire

Lunch Options:

There are many options available for lunch at Keene State College.

- *You can bring your own and enjoy it anywhere on the campus*
- *Keene State College Dining Commons for purchase*
- *Keene State College Student Union for purchase*
- *Or there are numerous take-out places close by*

Pre-registration is **required** for this event. You can click the link [here](#) to view the Eventbrite page:

Or

Scan the QR Code below:

Deadline:

Monday, September 30th



Register on Eventbrite

Registration opens August 29th

Information to Support Your Day

Child Care Aware of New Hampshire would like to acknowledge all of the organizations and groups who collaborated and are contributing to the success of this conference.

Thank you for your support and contributions to promote quality practices in early childhood settings!

- [Southern New Hampshire Services/Child Care Aware Of New Hampshire](#)
- [Vroom](#)
- [Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program/Department of Labor](#)
- [T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® New Hampshire](#)
- [NH Family Voices](#)
- [Watch Me Grow](#)
- [NH Department of Health and Human Services](#)
- [NH Child Care Licensing Unit](#)
- [NH Choose Safe Places for Early Care and Education](#)
- [Let's Learn About Lice](#)
- [Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration](#)
- [Dr. Junlei Li and the Simple Interactions Approach](#)
- [Angela Hanscom and Timbernook](#)
- [River Valley Community College Early Childhood Education](#)
- [Keene State College Early Childhood Development](#)
- [UNH Cooperative Extension-Building Community Resilience in NH](#)

Contact Us

For more information about our services, visit nh-connections.org or visit our agency site at snhs.org. Check us out on [Facebook](#) and "Like Us" at **Child Care Aware of New Hampshire**. We look forward to seeing you!
Questions? Call Toll Free: 1-855-393-1731, ext. 2532

