



**2025 Spring Conference for Owners and Directors
March 27-28, 2025
Hilton Conference Center, Peachtree City GA**

March 27, 2025	
7:00 pm-9:00 pm	GCCA CELEBRATE: A Derby Experience featuring great food, drinks and networking with ECE leaders from across Georgia
March 28, 2025	
7:30-8:00 am	Morning Reception and Exhibitor Showcase
8:00-8:10 am	Welcome
8:10-9:25 am	Opening Plenary Session The Resilient Child Care Leader: Thriving in a Changing Industry– Panel Discussion lead by Jennifer Paschal, Otter Learning This engaging panel will highlight diverse perspectives on leadership within Georgia’s childcare landscape, focusing on building resilience and success.
9:25-9:45 am	Exhibitor Showcase & Networking
9:45 am– 11 am	Breakout Session #1
Leading Self	From Playground to Purpose: A Journey of Growth and Resilience ~ Luke Thomas, Children’s Academy at Hickory Flat Discover how to lead authentically, navigate challenges with resilience, and balance life, family, and entrepreneurship in this inspiring workshop.
Leading Others	Recognizing and Addressing Stress in Staff and Parents: Strategies for Childcare Administrators ~Nicole Williams Equip childcare administrators with tools to identify and address stress, build stronger relationships, and foster a culture of resilience and support
Leading Success	Let Them, but Let Me: From Insurance Crisis to Confidence - Samantha Phillips, Comply Join industry expert Sam Phillips to explore the childcare insurance crisis and learn how to protect your program and secure its future.
11:00-11:20 am	Exhibitor Showcase & Networking
11:20 am-12:35 pm	Breakout Session #2
Leading Self	Managing your Personal Growth through Emotional Intelligence ~ Christina Caradine from Cadence Schools



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	Discover how shifting your thoughts and patterns can build resilience, accountability, and a stronger, more positive leadership approach.
Leading Others	We Are Family: Building a Winning Culture~ Amber Tucker and Leann Marquis, Milestone Education Get ready to dive into the heart of what makes a team truly unstoppable! In this presentation, we'll explore how family values can transform your workplace into a powerhouse of trust, support, and collaboration
Leading Success	Grow! The Art of Building, Redeveloping and Acquiring Schools ~ Alec Ligon and Nan Rikard, Hinge Advisors Looking to expand your early education footprint? Discover the critical factors to consider when investing in new facilities or businesses
12:35-1:35 pm	Leading Together Luncheon hosted by CEO Ideisha Bellamy
1:35-1:55 pm	Exhibitor Showcase & Networking
1:55 pm–3:10 pm	Breakout Session #3
Leading Self	Unleashing your Power: A Women' Guide to Leadership and Influence~Paula Charles, Flood & Flame Restoration and (formerly) The Suzuki Schools Examine the challenges of unequal access to leadership opportunities for women and explore strategies to overcome barriers and foster growth.
Leading Others	Roots and Wings: Retaining Staff and Growing Future Leaders ~ Danielle Millman and Jaime Rechkemmer from GCCA Explore strategies to retain passionate educators, reduce turnover, and cultivate future leaders for thriving, visionary childcare centers.
Leading Success	Harmony in Action: Operational Excellence in Early Learning Communities ~ Crystal Shaw-Nasir from EducatorsNOW Learn how optimizing your day to day operations can transform your childcare center into a hub of growth and success.
3:10-3:30 pm	Exhibitors Showcase and Networking **Silent auction item pick up
3:30-4:45 pm	Closing Plenary Session Transforming Childcare: Unleashing the Power of AI for a Brighter Future ~ Parissa Snider and Stephanie Deputy from WatchMeGrow A practical session on the ways that child care leaders can be empowered to use AI (artificial intelligence) to transform their work and their programs.
4:45-5:00 pm	Conference Closing Announcements & Expressions of Gratitude



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