

Mid-October Update

Ready To Grow St. Joe

READY
TO GROW
ST. JOE
EARLY CHILDHOOD COALITION

 Spanish copy of Mid- October RTG 2025 Update

STILL TIME TO REGISTER: *2025 Early Childhood Conference on October 25th. Join 350 dedicated early educators and program leaders to connect, network and engage! Experience dynamic speakers (English & Spanish), hands-on workshops, and innovative ideas that will elevate your work with young children !!*



5 REASONS TO ATTEND

Early Childhood Conference

October 25th at Saint Mary's College, 8:30am - 1pm

- 5. Organization Resources:** 12 Resource Tables including 2 Rooms filled with Kaplan and Lakeshore materials to explore! Some of the items will be raffle prizes
- 4. Breakout Sessions That Fit Your Role:** Choose from sessions tailored for early educators, administrators, and specialists - so you receive exactly what you need
- 3. Real World Strategies You Can Use Immediately:** Walk away with tools that work in classrooms, homes, communities--no fluff, just impact.
- 2. A Community That Gets It:** Connect with passionate people who share your commitment to intentional and compassionate early care and learning
- 1. Inspiration that Lasts:** Leave feeling renewed, empowered, and ready to elevate every space you lead and love

Register using the QR Code



2025 EARLY CHILDHOOD CONFERENCE

OUR THEME

*Building Bridges to
Resilience*

OUR KEYNOTES



Prerna Richards (English Conference)
Building Bridges to Resilience: Nurturing Emotional
Intelligence in Early Childhood Education



Elda Perez (Spanish Conference)
Building Strong Connections: Fostering Active Learning and
Engagement with Infants and Toddlers, in partnership with Lakeshore



Saturday,
October 25th, 2025



8am - 1pm



Saint Mary's College

Building Bridges to Resilience: 2025 Annual Early Childhood Conference at Saint Mary's College - October 25th, 2025

English Conference and a Parallel Spanish-Language "Simultaneously!"



Conference Theme: Building Bridges to Resilience



17 Saturday, October 25, 2025 ⌚ 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM (includes complimentary grab and go breakfast)



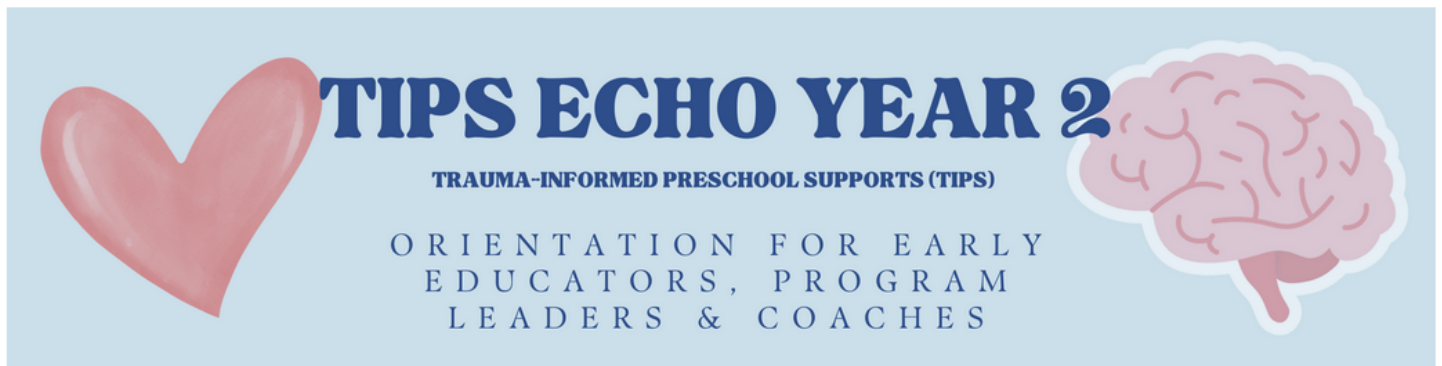
Location: Saint Mary's College - Spes Unica and Madeleva Hall

Frequently Asked Questions - Early Childhood 2025 Conference @ Saint Mary's College



3-Hour Training Certificate Provided

[Eventbrite Registration Here](#)



🌟 What a Fabulous Start to TIPS ECHO Year 2! 🌟

We had an inspiring and informational Kick-Off and Orientation with the Lourie Center TIPS ECHO HUB Team on October 8th and 70+ dedicated early childhood professionals! We are thrilled to have 102 registered participants in Year 2 of TIPS ECHO (TIPS = Trauma-Informed Preschool Supports). The energy, curiosity, and commitment in the room set the stage for another beneficial year of learning, connection and growth together guided by trauma-informed specialists. Here's to strengthening connections and deepening our shared work to support young children who struggle with life's stressors and challenges and their caring early educators! 🙌🌟





Heart-to-Heart:

Connections & Conversations

Conscious Discipline® Bimonthly Focus Group



It's not too late to join our *Conscious Discipline Bi-Monthly Focus Group* to exchange ideas, celebrate successes, and problem-solve together as our collective understanding grows. Join us to connect, collaborate, and celebrate building Conscious Discipline School Families across St. Joseph County! Attend one or all. | [Register Here](#) | Upcoming Dates: Nov 6, 2025, Jan 15, 2026, Mar 5, 2026, Apr 23, 2026 | Time: Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 PM (via Zoom) | 1 Hour Training Certificate per Session | Free



Nurturing Resilience and Building Brains

with Conscious Discipline®



STILL TIME TO REGISTER - Upcoming Conscious Discipline - Infants & Toddler Training

- 📌 **Topic:** *Attachment and Attunement*, focused on Infants and Toddlers with Angela Fraley
- 📅 **Saturday, November 15, 2025 - English, In-person** | [Register Here](#) | Free
- 📍 **Saint Mary's College in Madeleva Hall** - where our conference keynote takes place
- 🕒 **8:30 AM – 3:30 PM:** includes complimentary breakfast, lunch, raffle prizes and fun
- 👉 **Participants** - bring a doll or stuffed animal with you. :) 🎓 **6-Hour Training Certificate Provided**



The Art of Living

Elisabeth Winet, FNP-C, MSN,
MBA, Nurse Practitioner

Focused on Well-being to Support Health,
Energy and Successful Mindset
A Quarterly Series: Nov. Feb. May & Aug.



Thursday, November 20, 2025 @ 6:30 - 7:30pm | Virtual | Free
[Register Here](#) | November 20th Topic - *Nurturing Resiliency in Ourselves*

1 Hour Training Certificate provided per session

Quarterly | Upcoming Spring Dates: February 5, 2026 | May 14, 2026 | August 6, 2026

When early educators and program leaders shared their greatest needs, one theme stood out: support for provider well-being. Ready to Grow is excited to present “The Art of Living,” a

quarterly series designed to help participants nurture holistic well-being. Through practical, everyday strategies, this series empowers educators to boost resilience, restore energy, and cultivate a positive, thriving mindset—so they can show up fully for themselves, the young children and families they serve, and each other. Attend one or all. November 20th Topic - Resilience

The logo consists of a yellow L-shaped line forming a corner, with a short horizontal line extending to the right and a short vertical line extending downwards.

South Bend Quality Improvement Grant

Since 2019, the SBQI Grant has assisted early care and learning programs located in South Bend strengthen quality for young children, early educators, and families through enhancements to their learning environments aligned with their PTQ goals and PTQ standards. This year, we've added Conscious Discipline to the list of approved vendors. Other approved vendors include Kaplan and Lakeshore.

Eligibility: 1) operates in South Bend, IN, 2) enrolled in PTQ by October 1, 2025, and 3) has been in operation for one year as of October 1, 2025.

Grant Timeline:

- Opens: October 3, 2025
- Closes: November 3, 2025 at 5:00 PM
- Awards announced by January 31, 2026.

The SBQI Grant Application and Technical Assistance Resources posted on the Ready to Grow St. Joe website “News” page [here](#).

[Guide: 5 Steps to Apply](#) | [Timeline here](#) | [Recording link to Info Session](#) | [Slidedeck link](#)

LANGUAGE AND LITERACY LAB



TOUR & GET-TOGETHER
DECEMBER 3, 2025, 4:00 P.M.

PRESENTED BY
SUSAN LATHAM, PH.D., CCC-SLP
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE



 **Join Us for a Tour of the Language & Literacy Lab!**
 **Followed by a Ready to Grow (RTG) get-together to connect in-person!**

 **Wednesday, December 3, 2025 | 4:00 PM | [Register here](#)**

 **Who Should Attend:** Early care and learning providers, coaches, trainers, and community members interested in language and literacy development are invited to tour this innovative space and learn about its mission and offerings.

 **Language and Literacy Lab – Room 18, Havican Hall, Saint Mary's College**
 **RTG get-together to follow in Room 20 - to connect in-person and get further acquainted. Some savory and sweet snacks to enjoy too!**

 **Parking:** Use the Science Lot on the Saint Mary's College campus map. Enter campus by the Inn at Saint Mary's, continue straight through the 4-way stop to the Science Parking Lot on your right/north side of street (adjacent to Havican Hall and ECDC at Saint Mary's College). Enter Havican Hall at the door closest to the parking lot near the ECDC-SMC Garden.  Campus Parking Map – click [here](#).

Questions: Terri @ tkosik@saintmarys.edu or 574-298-3353 (text or call)



CONNECT WITH US!

By Email

- Please reach out with questions and to share your ideas and suggestions. We are always eager to know what is working for you in your early childhood setting as well as what would be helpful to you in your work and efforts. Your input and feedback is valued and truly appreciated.

- If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a friend or colleague, let us know you would like to be added to our mailing list - Terri Kosik

On the RTG Facebook Page

- Check our [Facebook page](#) regularly for updates as well as LIKE/FOLLOW the page to extend our RTG engagement.

On the RTG Website

- On the [Ready to Grow St Joe website](#), find 1) Events, 2) News and 3) Resources: Employment Opportunities, EC Resources and Resources for Families.

Ready to Grow St. Joe is a collection of early childhood stakeholders committed to ensuring that all children in St. Joseph County, birth to eight, have the foundation to thrive in school and in life. We work through our members to engage the community, build systems, and empower families, with efforts focused on Quality Early Learning, Health & Wellness, and Family Support.

RTG YouTube Channel

-  **Stay Connected on RTG [YouTube Channel!](#)**
- Catch recordings of our gardening and Conscious Discipline sessions—whether you missed them or want to revisit your favorite moments. 👉 [Subscribe here](#)

Terri Kosik, Director

Ready to Grow St. Joe | Early Childhood Coalition

574-298-3353 | tkosik@saintmarys.edu | [RTG Website](#) | [RTG Facebook](#)