



2021 MNAFEE Conference Keynote Presentations



Thursday, April 15, 2021, 8:30-9:45 am



Young children DO remember: how adults help children who experience trauma and intensely stressful events

Young children, even children who do not yet have language, do remember stressful events through their senses and body feelings. Without adult mediation, young children often feel powerless and confused. These effects can persist. Words are necessary to make sense of what happened, and to repair trauma effects that inevitably overwhelm the child's coping resources. This address will explain how, with honest family support, children can recover and even learn from traumas in their

lives.

Anne R. Gearity, PhD

Anne R. Gearity, PhD has a mental health practice in Minneapolis, and consults to agencies and schools about the needs of children, especially young ones. She was on the faculty at the university's infant and early childhood mental health certificate program, and now is clinical faculty in the U's department of psychiatry, training resident fellows in family assessment and engagement. In collaboration with Washburn Center for Children, she created Developmental Repair, an intervention for children who are challenged with aggressive and disruptive behaviors.

Friday, April 16, 2021, 8:30-9:45 am



Change Savvy Leadership

Change savvy leadership is essential in organization success. Whether you are leading organizational or program change, this workshop is essential in understanding the foundations of change and your ability to influence them as a leader. Walk away with simple and authentic frameworks to help you affect lasting change.

Eric M. Skanson, PhD

Dr. Eric Skanson has over 12 years' experience in public school administration and 18 years of education at large. He is a seasoned leader that focuses on positive change, outstanding culture and collaboration. Eric has served on the executive board of MESPA (Minnesota Elementary School Principal's Association) since 2014 and is currently serving as the president. He received his Doctorate in Education from the University of Minnesota in 2016 through the Department of Organizational Leadership, and Policy Development was his academic core focus. His focus was on the use of collaboration for organizational improvement. Eric has used his developed models to help shape the purpose and outcomes of collaboration in multiple organizations for positive change. Eric is a leader of teams, visionary of change and first-class communicator focusing on the balanced use of face-to-face interactions along with social media. He is adept at developmental evaluation practices including survey development, onsite cultural inventory goal setting, and measurement. His beginnings in education, lesson development, and engaging teaching make his professional development experiential and unforgettable.