

Region C PTAC – 2026 Conference Agenda

Tuesday, September 22, 2026 Theme: Communication & Dispute Resolution with CADRE			
			Room
7:30 – 8:30		REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST	
8:30 – 9:00		WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	
9:00 – 10:30		Plenary: <i>Finding Opportunities to Build Stronger Relationships through Productive Conflict Engagement</i> PRESENTERS: Melanie Reese & Randall Reese	
10:30 – 10:45		BREAK	
10:45 – 12:15		Plenary: <i>Understanding & Working with Different Communication & Conflict Styles</i>	
12:15 – 1:15		LUNCH	
1:30 – 2:45		Breakout Session for Staff: <i>Coaching Parents in Effective Conflict Engagement</i>	
		Breakout Session for Directors: <i>Practical Leadership Strategies for Productive Conflict Engagement in the Everyday</i>	
2:45 – 3:00		BREAK	
3:00 – 4:00		Breakout Sessions Continue	
Wednesday, September 23, 2026			
8:00 – 9:00		BREAKFAST	
9:00 – 10:15		Keynote: <i>Federal Policy Update: What's Happening in Washington, DC</i> PRESENTER: Laura Kaloi	
10:15 – 10:45		Break to Check Out of Hotel	
10:45 – 12:00		Breakout session 1: <i>Crisis Calls, Compassionate Responses: Supporting Families Through Their Hardest Moments</i> MODERATOR: Kanika Littleton PANELISTS: Paula Wills - Family Matters, Amy Sanderson - Michigan Alliance for Families, Alicia Karwal - ASK Resource Center	
		Breakout session 2: <i>Data with Purpose: How Parent Centers Use Information to Strengthen Services and Tell Their Story</i> MODERATOR: Joe LaBelle PANELISTS: Lesli Girard – Families Together, Heidi Gibson – MT Empowerment Center	
12:00 – 1:00		LUNCH – <i>Using CPIR Products to Support Parent Centers: An Onboarding Workshop</i> PRESENTERS: Michele Tyler & Ellie Santiago - CPIR	

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1:15 – 2:45		Breakout session 3: <i>When Emotions Run High: Balancing Empathy and Boundaries in Family Support</i> PRESENTER: Victor Kilpatrick - Mental Health America	
		Breakout session 4: <i>Bylaws That Work: Practical Guidance for Building in What Centers Need (Panel)</i> MODERATOR: Karen Thompson PANELISTS: Carla Miller – South Dakota Family Connection, Krystyne Ethridge – Wyoming Parent Information Center, Courtney Salzer - WI FACETS	
		Breakout session 5: <i>Youth Engagement in Kansas – One Year Later</i> PRESENTER: Brad Girard - Family Matters	
2:45 – 3:00		BREAK	
3:00 – 3:30		Closing Session with Project Officer	