



MARCH 2024



## IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Executive Director Updates	2
Bright Futures Successes	3
KPATA Conference 2024	4-5
Upcoming Trainings	6-7
Lunch & Learn	8
Partner Trainings	9
Behavior Checker	10
Upcoming Events & WHKDFY	11

learn  
**SOMETHING**  
- new -  
**EVERYDAY**



March 1, 2024

# March



**A NOTE FROM THE  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

## ITEMS TO HIGHLIGHT

- KPATA ANNUAL CONFERENCE APRIL 23RD AND 24TH IN SALINA, KS
- JOIN US FOR THE KPATA MEMBERS MEETING ON APRIL 24TH FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE

Dear KPATA Members -

*"Spring work is going on with joyful enthusiasm." - John Muir*

*This is my favorite time of year! The sunshine just has a way of making the week better! I hope that you have some fun activities planned for your PAT families! If you are doing something awesome, please share it with me at [hkoehn@kpata.org](mailto:hkoehn@kpata.org). I can't wait to hear about it!*

Our February work included:

- Preparing for an incredible KPATA conference... we hope you are planning to join us! The committee members have been working very hard!
- Supporting and planning for Early Learning Advocacy Day: KPATA will provide the storytime and songs in the Rotunda.
- KPATA Social Media improvements and membership video



Regards,  
**Hilary Koehn**

Hilary Koehn  
Executive Director

# BRIGHT FUTURES SUCSESSES

## SUCCESS STORY

Mom was holding [baby] and gave him a bottle when I was there (she is still pumping and he is getting all breastmilk and some baby food now). She was excited to tell me all about how the kids are growing and how [baby] is meeting a lot of his milestones. [Partner] was playing with [baby] and helping him have tummy time and play with the pat mat. The family is planning to get a YMCA family pass this summer. They offer all kinds of classes for the kids and they think it will be fun for them. This will be a great way for the family to get out of the house and do some activities.

- 17 NEW REFERRALS
- 88 ACTIVE REFERRALS
- 37 PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS



# KPATA Conference 2024

Webster Conference Center, Salina, KS  
(Tuesday) April 23rd & (Wednesday) 24th



**2024 KPATA CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES**

**CONNECT**

- Connect and collaborate to grow and thrive as early childhood professionals.

**LEARN**

- Gain knowledge about best practices in home visiting as well as effective ways to support the needs of children and families.

**CELEBRATE**

- Join us in celebrating the incredible work that is being done with Kansas PAT Programs!



**CALL and ASK FOR THE "Group Block" KPATA RATE**

**RECOMMENDED HOTEL OPTIONS:**

**Comfort Inn and Suites**  
1949 North 9th  
785-502-8007  
Rate is \$109 for each room suite or standard  
Group Name: **KPATA**, Group Number: **KT44X7**  
Includes Breakfast  
Cut Off for the room rate is *before* April 1, 2024

**Holiday Inn Express**  
755 West Diamond Drive ( I-70 and north 9th street)  
785-404-3300  
Rate is \$119.99  
Block code: **KPA**  
Includes Breakfast  
Cut off for the room rate is *before* March 23, 2024

**Courtyard Marriott**  
3020 Riffel Dr  
785-309-1300  
Rate is \$119  
Cut off for this rate will be *before* April 9th, 2024

**KPATA 2024 CONFERENCE HOTEL INFO.**

**\*Remember to mention TAX EXEMPT and code: KPATA**

If you need assistance please contact Amanda Winch at [awinch@kpata.org](mailto:awinch@kpata.org)

# KPATA Conference 2024

**Webster Conference Center, Salina, KS  
(Tuesday) April 23rd & (Wednesday) 24th**



## "YOUR SPOT ON THE RED CARPET"

2024 KPATA CONFERENCE  
WEBSTER  
CONFERENCE CENTER  
2601 N. OHIO ST.  
SALINA, KS

### APRIL 23RD

1:00 pm - 4:15 pm

### APRIL 24TH

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

KPATA Membership Meeting  
1:00 - 2:00 pm



### KEYNOTE

Anne Meeker Watson  
Early Childhood Consultant/Creator  
of Sing.Play.Love. program  
Meeker Creative LLC



### REGISTER

Please register by **April 5th**  
by completing the form [here](#).

Cost to attend includes in-person  
and access to the VIRTUAL  
conference on Google Drive

KPATA MEMBERS

\$75

NON-KPATA MEMBERS

\$125



# Upcoming KPATA Trainings

KPATA IS PLEASED TO HOST  
A VIRTUAL TRAINING



## SCREEN TIME

EMPOWER PARENTS  
TO CREATE  
TIME WELL SPENT



GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHY PARENTS MIGHT FEEL CONFUSED OR CONFLICTED ABOUT WHAT IS APPROPRIATE SCREEN-TIME FOR CHILDREN.

LEARN TO REPLACE PARENT CONFUSION AND INDECISION WITH EMPOWERMENT AND CONFIDENCE IN MANAGING HOUSEHOLD SCREEN-TIME.

LEARN TO LIFT PARENTS' BURDEN OF SELF-DOUBT, SHAME, GUILT AND FEAR OF HOW THEY CHOOSE TO HANDLE DIGITAL MEDIA WITH THEIR CHILDREN.

BE ABLE TO PROVIDE PARENTS WITH QUICK AND SIMPLE IDEAS ON HOW THEY CAN MODEL GOOD DIGITAL MEDIA BOUNDARIES AND ROUTINES IN THEIR HOME. AND  
CREATE TIME WELL SPENT.

★ **YOU MUST BE A KPATA MEMBER  
IN ORDER TO ATTEND THIS  
TRAINING**

**MARCH 7TH  
1:00 - 2:30 PM**

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)

### GRETCHEN SHANAHAN, DIGITALLY WISE CONSULTANT

GRETCHEN'S PASSION FOR DIGITAL WELLNESS BEGAN IN 2018 WHEN SHE NOTICED EDTECH BEING OVERUSED AND MISUSED IN HER LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOL ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS. BY CONSULTING WITH HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, AND IMMERSING HERSELF IN THE RESEARCH WITH RESPECT TO THE RISKS OF DIGITAL MEDIA EXPOSURE, SHE BECAME A VOCAL SUPPORTER OF BALANCED SCREEN TIME. SHE ASSISTS FAMILIES, SCHOOLS & BUSINESSES WITH CUSTOMIZED PRESENTATIONS AND SUPPORT THAT EMPOWER INDIVIDUALS IN IDENTIFYING AND REACHING THEIR PERSONAL GOALS BY REDUCING THEIR DIGITAL MEDIA USE AND CONSUMPTION.

# Upcoming KPATA Trainings

**ATTEND ALL TRAININGS WITH A CURRENT KPATA MEMBERSHIP!  
RENEW OR PURCHASE A MEMBERSHIP [HERE](#)**

## TRAINING SCHEDULE

PARENT EDUCATORS AND COORDINATORS  
KPATA BRIGHT FUTURES 2023-24

<p>JULY</p> <p><b>Podcast: The Science of Intimacy With Our Kids</b></p> <p>UNRUFFLED - JANET LANSBURY</p> <p>7/20 1:00-2:30 PM</p>	<p>AUGUST / SEPTEMBER</p> <p><b>SAFE SLEEP (1 &amp; 2)</b></p> <p>8/31 1:00 - 2:30PM 9/27 1:00 - 2:30PM</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p><b>"Literacy Loving" Home Visits</b></p> <p>9/21 1:00-2:30 PM</p>
<p>OCTOBER</p> <p><b>Perinatal Mental Health</b></p> <p>10/19 1:00-2:30 PM</p>	<p>★ NOVEMBER</p> <p><b>Racial Equity</b></p> <p>Choose Your Own Session Series *Will Start in November</p> <p><b>POSTPONED</b></p> <p>11/16 1:00-3:00 PM</p>	<p>★ DECEMBER</p> <p><b>AUTISM</b></p> <p><i>Within Families</i></p> <p>12/14 1:00-3:00 PM</p>
<p>JANUARY</p> <p><b>Prioritize PLAY</b></p> <p>Lifelong Importance</p> <p>1/18 1:00-2:30 PM</p>	<p>★ FEBRUARY</p> <p><b>Intimate Partner Violence</b></p> <p>Collaboration in Communities</p> <p>2/15 1:00-2:30PM</p>	<p>MARCH</p> <p><b>Screen Time</b></p> <p>Talk About the Impact</p> <p>3/7 1:00-2:30 PM</p>
<p>★ APRIL</p> <p><b>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</b></p> <p>KCSL</p> <p>4/18 1:00-2:00 PM</p>	<p>★ MAY</p> <p><b>Substance Use Disorder</b></p> <p>Part 2 - DCCCA</p> <p>5/16 1:00-2:30PM</p>	<p>JUNE</p> <p><b>No Training in June</b></p>

★ INDICATES A PATNC QUALITY STANDARD TRAINING REQUIREMENT



# Social Media Lunch & Learn

March 28, 2024 - 12:00pm

[Register Here](#)

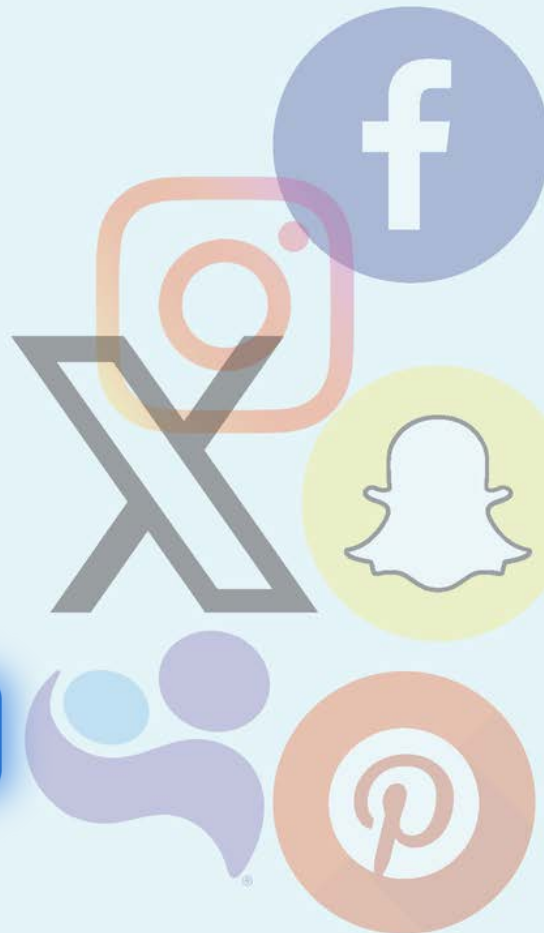


March 28, 2024

12:00 pm

Join us virtually to share ideas  
and learn from your peers!

[Register Here](#)





# Upcoming Partner Trainings

## Wrestling with Safe Sleep



### 4 scheduled class opportunities

Jan. 26, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Feb. 14, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

March 13, 1-3 p.m.

May 9, 1-3 p.m.

**TO REGISTER CONTACT LINDA GALLAGHER AT**

**[LINDA.GALLAGHER@KS.GOV](mailto:LINDA.GALLAGHER@KS.GOV)**

# Behavior Checker



PARENTING IS HEALTHCARE®

## WE INVITE YOU TO TAKE PART IN A BEHAVIOR CHECKER FOCUS GROUP

[Register Here](https://kpata.behaviorchecker.org/)

<https://kpata.behaviorchecker.org/>



## What has KPATA Done For you?

I was a part of KPATA 10 plus years ago, as a coordinator and a parent educator. I left to work as a preschool teacher, and a coordinator for another early childhood program. The information I learned all that time ago from the PATNC curriculum and model fidelity helped me immensely when I was in the classroom and working with children's families. It never left me. I feel so blessed to come back to the KPATA family, it truly feels like coming home! I missed the relationships and the powerful, important, fulfilling work we do. I think the addition of the Bright Futures Program and how we work with other agencies across the state is ground-breaking and inspiring. I look forward to working with all of you to strengthen families across the state.

-Jenny Smith, KPATA Affiliate Director

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### MARCH

- 6TH - ADVOCACY DAY
- 7TH - SCREEN TIME TRAINING
- 22ND - KPATA BOARD MEETING
- 28TH - SOCIAL MEDIA LUNCH & LEARN

#### APRIL

- 18TH - CHILD ABUSE TRAINING
- 19TH - KPATA BOARD MEETING
- 23RD & 24TH - KPATA CONFERENCE