

First Things First Early Childhood Summit 2018

Submission Review

Submission Number: #1

Topic Area: Strengthening Families

Session Title: Why Do They Act That Way? Understanding Children's Temperament

Session Description (for Program): This workshop will present information to help staff/parents assess the temperament of children, understand why children react to situations differently and suggest discipline styles to address children's distinct temperament.

Session Proposal: Temperament is a set of traits that determines a child's personality and, in turn, their behavior. Temperament is neither good nor bad. It is an inborn trait that we are born with and does not change over the course of our lifetime. But we can teach and instill coping skills and relationship qualities that may modify our children's temperament.

Temperament significantly affects how a child behaves and how the world sees that child. According to contemporary researchers, there are three main temperament styles: the easy going child, the slow to warm child and the feisty or spirited child.

Temperament is a set of nine traits that explain the "how" of children's behavior. In response, there are a range of strategies that parents and staff working with children may implement that have proven effective in helping children with different temperament types to achieve success.

This workshop will present information to help staff and parents assess the temperament of children and understand why children react to certain situations

Comment [DC1]: Does your title catch people's attention? It should be a "headline" that draws people in to the description.

Comment [DC2]: The program description should create interest & encourage people to attend your presentation. What's in it for me? How will I benefit from this content?

Comment [DC3]: Critical information for the review panel to determine if this session is selected. Does it flow logically? Are the main points of the presentation included? Why is this an important topic?

differently (quiet, busy, finicky, cuddly, harsh, compliant, and distant). It will also provide suggestions regarding how to adjust discipline styles to address children's distinct temperament.

Learning Objectives: By applying what you learn in this course, you should be able to:
1. Explain the three temperament styles and how they affect children's behavior.
2. Assess the nine traits of children's temperament.
3. Adjust discipline styles to address children's distinct temperament

Comment [DC4]: Learning objectives clearly state what the learner should be able to do after the presentation.

Interactive Learning Activities: Present power point with guided discussion, will offer one individual and one small group exercise to assess temperament, watch brief video, large group discussion and question and answer period.

Comment [DC5]: These learning objectives match the content in the session proposal.

Comment [DC6]: Feedback from Summit attendees shows that attendees distinctly prefer interactive sessions.

Intended Audience: Direct service providers / practitioners

Comment [DC7]: This example clearly describes how the learners will be engaged in the session.

Days available to present? Both

Which best characterizes the content of your proposed session: Introductory

Lead Presenter:

Name: Mr. Neil Tift

Position: Training Director

Name of Organization: Native American Fatherhood & Families Association

Biography: Neil Tift is the Training Director for Native American

Comment [DC8]: Share your credentials and expertise for the topic you will present. What qualifications do you have to teach this content? What is your work experience with the subject? What is your educational background?

Fatherhood and Families Association in Mesa. Prior to this, Neil was Father Involvement Program Director for Child Crisis Arizona.

Neil has served as director of training for two national fatherhood organizations in Washington DC. Neil was also the founding Director of the Fathers' Resource Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

He served on the national board of directors of Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota, the Minnesota Department of Health's Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force and the Stillwater Human Rights Commission.

For 38 years, Neil has been adjunct faculty at eight universities in Minnesota and Arizona, teaching ethics, family studies and psychology.

He is a fatherhood trainer, family mediator, parent educator, author, college instructor, game maker, and overweight jogger.

Neil has an M.A. in counseling psychology.

Neil is the father of three, grandfather of twelve and foster father of many.

Comment [DC9]: Good explanation of work in the field

Comment [DC10]: Experience facilitating classes.