

2024 COCAcon: Better Together, Groovin' Forever!

Celebrating strength in unity, as we learn, grow, and support each other. "Better Together" honors the collective efforts of Region 7 co-hosting the conference, and that we as COCA are better when we support each other.

Time slots will be updated weekly as new sessions are added. All times and room assignments are subject to change.

FD- Fundraising
 SD- Staff Development
 CD- Child Development
 PR- Programming
 OP- Operations/Leadership
 MD- Medical CEU
 RT- Roundtable

Wednesday, November 13

8:30 am- 4:30 pm COCA Board Meeting- Redwood Board Room (2nd floor)

Thursday, November 14

8:30 AM-Noon COCA Board Meeting- Redwood Board Room (2nd floor)

8:00 AM- 5 PM Conference Registration & Information Desk -Pre-function 1

	Maple Ballroom	Meeting Room 1	Meeting Room 2	Meeting Room 3	
1:00 PM	30 Minute New Attendee Meet & Greet				
	RT- Networking Hour with Peers, Executives, Camp/Program Directors, Medical Staff, Social Media/Marketing, Fundraising				
1:45 PM					
2:45 PM	BREAK				
	MD, SD, OP: Behavioral Health Roundtable: Focus on Staff & Volunteers, Brandon Briery, PhD	OP: Danger, Danger Will Robinson- Tracking Our Risks and Opportunities, Dennis DePaul and Lisa Susslin	PR: Mad Hatter Tea Party, Incorporating themed meals, Heather and Tyler Olsen	PR, OP, CD: Navigating Camp Participation: The Social Worker's Role in Supporting Youth with Medical Complications and Their Families, Michelle Fritsch, LCSW and Larry Geiger	
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM	BREAK				
	PR, SD, OP, CD, FD: The Magic of Camp Sparkle: Creating a Year Long Program, Michelle Massey, MSW, LICSW	SD, OP, CD: Freedom to Fail, Tini Graff, CPA	PR, CD: Improving Camper Engagement- Using Achievement Badges to Encourage Participation, Jamie Ekstrom, M.Ed.	MD, PR, SD, CD: Let's Talk About Grief, Baby, Laurel Christensen, LCSW, OSW-C	
4:15 PM					
5:15 PM	Dinner on your own				
6:30-8:30 PM	Conference Kick-Off Reception -Flat Stick Pub (Couple blocks from Hotel)				
9:00-11:00 PM	Hospitality Suite Open (Governor's Suite)				

Friday, November 15

7:30 AM- 5 PM Conference Registration & Information Desk -Pre-function 1

7:30- 9 AM Buffet Breakfast- Grand Ballroom A

8:30 AM WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS - Grand Ballroom A

	Grand Ballroom A	Maple Ballroom	Meeting Room 2	Meeting Room 3	Meeting Room 1	Birch
9:00 AM	KEYNOTE: "Everyone Fundraise" with David Phillips, Immersive 1st-Grand Ballroom A					
	COC Academy: A Training Smorgasbord: A Buffet of Ideas to Engage Your Staff in the Learning Process (2 Hours), Kim Aycock, MST	FD: Strong Board/Weak Board - the key to your future! David Phillips, Immersive 1st	RT, OP: Social Media Roundtable, Michael "Knuckles" Vasquez	PR, SD, OP, CD, FD: The Magic of Camp Sparkle: Creating a Year Long Program, Michelle Massey, MSW, LICSW	MD, OP: Essentials of Health Services Orientation for Camp Leaders and Staff, Tracey Gaslin, PhD, CPNP, FNP-BC, CRNI, RN-BC, ACH CEO	PR, OP: Gold Ribbon Accreditation Program 2025 Overview, Dr. Mike Amylon
10:15 AM	COC Academy: A Training Smorgasbord: A Buffet of Ideas to Engage Your Staff in the Learning Process (2 Hours), Kim Aycock, MST	MD, PR, CD, OP, SD: More Room at the Table: Supporting Campers with Disabilities and Medical Conditions Beyond Cancer, Brandon Briery, PhD	PR, SD, CD: Caring for the Caregivers, Including Ourselves!, Stephanie Irwin, BS, CCLS and Morgan Shelton, MS, CCLS	RT, PR: Camp Brave Hearts, Zeff Gomes and Heather Donnelly	PR, SD, OP: Does the Mission End? Supporting Campers who Can't be Counselors, Jessica Hopper	SD, OP: Walnuts & Popcorn: Strategies for Self and Time Management, Mark Lowry (Offered twice)
11:30 AM	Network and Visit w/Exhibitors					
11:30 AM	Network and Visit w/Exhibitors					
12:30 PM	Region Meetings with Box Lunch					
	COC Academy: The Telephone Game for Learning Group Games: Calling All Staff to Have the Opportunity to Lead, Kim Aycock, MST	FD: Staff Supervision - an organizational imperative David Phillips, Immersive 1st	PR, SD, OP: Compassionate Caregiving for Camp Counselors, Cameron Lynn Brown, D.Min, M.Div., BSSW	PR, CD: Share and Care- A family camp experience, Kym Allen and Stephanie Grayson, CCLS	MD, PR, CD, OP, SD: Watering is Never Wasted: Creating a Meaningful Life, Tracey Gaslin, PhD, CPNP, FNP-BC, CRNI, RN-BC, ACH CEO	OP- 1st Hour-View from the Executive Chair-Challenges & Opportunities-Open Forum Discussion-Executive Session for CEO's, ED's and COO's only please- Led by Michele Vernon, Melissa McNichol & Erin Ulmer
2:00 PM	COC Academy: This Is Not That: Guiding Staff On A Journey From The Ordinary World To The Extraordinary Camp World, Kim Aycock, MST	MD, PR: Camp New Horizons - Grief Camp for Bereaved Siblings, Tara Rose, PsyD and Caitlin Sullivan, LMSW	RT, PR, FD: Volunteer Recruitment and Cultivation, Stephanie Feyler, MBA	PR: Welcome to THUNDERDOME: Planning Approachable Activities, Tony Clinger	PR: Engaging Long-Term Cancer Survivors in Year-Round Programs, Larry Geiger	OP- 2nd Hour-View from the Executive Chair-Challenges & Opportunities-Open Forum Discussion-Executive Session for CEO's, ED's and COO's only please- Led by Michele Vernon, Melissa McNichol & Erin Ulmer
3:15 PM						
4:30 PM	Dinner on your own					
9:00- 11:00 PM	Hospitality Suite Open (Governor's Suite)					

Saturday, November 16						
8:00 AM- 5 PM	Conference Registration & Information Desk -Pre-function 1					
8:30 AM	Announcements					
	Grand Ballroom A	Maple Ballroom	Meeting Room 2	Meeting Room 3	Meeting Room 1	Birch
9:00 AM	Care Camps Foundation Huddle, Gwynn Sullivan, MSN, and Lexi Bickford	MD, OP: Jeopardy for Camp Health Services, Tracey Gaslin, PhD, CPNP, FNP-BC, CRNI, RN-BC, ACH CEO				
10:00 AM-10:15 AM	BREAK					
10:15 AM	COCAcademy: 4 Rules to Personal and Professional Success/Fulfillment, Trevor Nelson	PR, OP: Pursuing American Camp Association Accreditation, Tamara Korth	PR, SD, OP, CD: The Camp CULT-ure, Rich Brundige, Matt Rutler, Brandon Briery, Ph. D.	MD: Pediatric Oncology Camp Healthcare Provider Round Table, Kaye Wagner, MD MME	PR, SD, OP: My Favorite Team Builders, John Batchelder	RT, OP: Site Owners Roundtable, Ryan Campbell and Jennifer Benton
11:15 AM-11:30 AM	BREAK					
11:45 AM	COCAcademy: Your Mission's Message in 10 Words or Less- Elevator Pitch Workshop, Trevor Nelson	PR: Game On!, Dave Smith and Holly Senn, CCLS	RT, OP, PR, SD, CD:- Day Camps Round Table- Come share what you do, learn from others or get ideas to start one, Deanna Slade	MD, PR, CD, OP, SD, FD: Examining the Sibling Experience and How Camp Can Help, Mike Amylon, MD	FD, SD, OP: Navigating the Muddy Waters of Board Member Changes, Erin Marie Ulmer	PR, OP, CD: Child Life Specialists to Program Directors- Improving the Therapeutic Goals of a Pediatric Oncology Non-Profit, Mary Blackwelder, MS, CCLS, CTRS and Catie Stallworth, MS, CCLS
12:45 PM	Lunch On Your Own					
2:15 PM	COCAcademy: Sponsorship Workshop, Trevor Nelson	PR: Let's Go to Camp! Energize Your Afternoon & Camp Programming: Large Group Games (Tyler and Heather Olsen)	PR: Let's Go to Camp! Energize Your Afternoon & Camp Programming: STEM Activity (Robots), Knuckles Vasquez	MD, SD, CD: The Kids Ain't Alright!, Laurel Christensen, LCSW, OSW-C and Holly Senn, CCLS	PR: Let's Go to Camp! Energize Your Afternoon & Camp Programming: When it comes to camp songs, everyone can sing!, Mark Lowry	PR: Let's Go to Camp! Energize Your Afternoon & Camp Programming: Arts & Crafts
3:15-3:30 PM	BREAK					
3:30 PM	COCAcademy: Best of COCA: Fundraising Panel-Camps that submit may present what they did; during this session- Trevor Nelson will facilitate this panel	PR, OP, CD: True Inclusion for Neurodiverse Populations, Erin Marie Ulmer	PR, SD, OP: Does the Mission End? Supporting Campers who Can't be Counselors, Jessica Hopper	SD, OP: Walnuts & Popcorn: Strategies for Self and Time Management, Mark Lowry (Offered twice)	MD, CD, OP, SD: Behavioral Health Roundtable: Focus on Campers, Brandon Briery, PhD	PR, SD, OP: Exploring American Camp Association Resources, Tamara Korth
4:45 PM		OP: Lessons from Strategic Planning Process, Bridget Dolan and Sarah Swanberg	RT: Camp Traditions Roundtable, Belinda Jacobsen and Marilyn Taylor	PR, SD, OP, CD: Trauma-Informed Approach at Camp using Trust-Based Relational Interventions, Cameron Lynn Brown, D.Min, M.Div, BSSW	SD, OP: Connection, Purpose, and Play. I Got 99 Problems but Teambuilding Ain't One, Russel Birdwell, MFA	PR, SD, OP: Crisis – It Really Can Happen to You - Lessons from the ACA Crisis Hotline Team, Tamara Korth
6:30- 9:00 PM	Silent Auction, Bead Game, Cash Bars (Grand Ballroom A)					
7:00 PM	Dinner & Best of COCA Awards Banquet (Grand Ballroom A)					
9:00- 11:00 PM	Hospitality Suite Open (Governor's Suite)					
Saturday, November 16						
Sunday, November 17						
Safe travels home! Thank you for joining us for COCAcon 2024, we hope to see you for COCAcon 2025!						