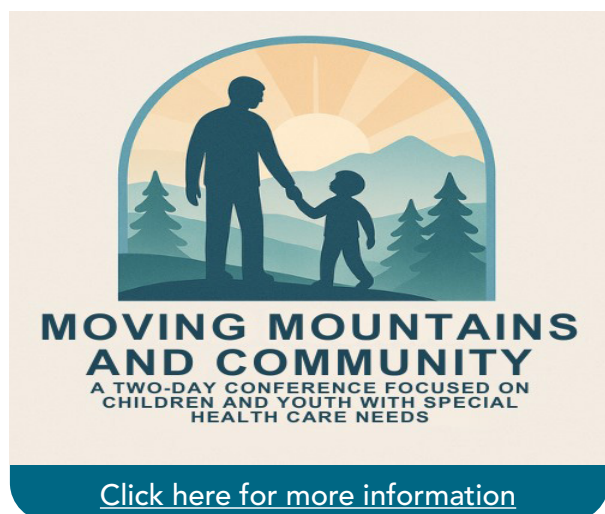


2025 Growing Well Conference: "Moving Mountains and Community"



Sunday, October 12th –

Tuesday, October 14th

Live – In person

Leon Levine Hall of Health Sciences
Appalachian State University
1179 State Farm Road
Boone, NC

This event has **TWO** registration links:

[Preconference registration: www.nwahec.org/76084](http://www.nwahec.org/76084)

[Main conference registration: www.nwahec.org/74859](http://www.nwahec.org/74859)

Overview

Moving Mountains and Community is a two-day, interdisciplinary conference taking place on October 13–14, with a preconference day on October 12. **The preconference day has a separate registration link.** Designed to advance care for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN), this event addresses educational gaps in knowledge, competence, and performance across developmental, behavioral, and advocacy domains. Participants will engage through lectures, expert panels, case-based discussions, workshops, and simulations focused on early identification, trauma-informed care, communication supports, and care transitions. The conference promotes the application of evidence-based practices and fosters interprofessional collaboration to improve outcomes for CYSHCN and their families through equitable, coordinated, and family-centered approaches.

Who Should Participate

Physicians, nurses, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, behavioral health professionals, psychologists, public health professionals and all other health care professionals interested in children and youth with special health care needs. In addition to healthcare professionals, community members, caregivers and parents are welcome.

As part of our commitment to creating a space where all BELONG, Northwest AHEC provides education and encouragement for respectful care for all, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, language, nationality, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, geography, disability, and age.

In partnership with:

Appalachian State University, Appalachian Institute for Health and Wellness and Northwest Area Health Education Center (AHEC), a program of Wake Forest University School of Medicine and part of the NC AHEC System.



Wake Forest University
School of Medicine

NORTHWEST AHEC
PART OF NC AHEC

APPSTATE
Appalachian Institute for
Health and Wellness

Objectives

Upon completion of this program, participants should be better able to:

- Describe the impact of health disparities on access to diagnosis, care coordination, and outcomes for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN).
- Implement strategies that address social determinants of health, such as food insecurity, housing instability, and access to education, when developing care plans for CYSHCN.
- Apply evidence-based practices to support early identification of developmental delays and promote physical health in children with complex needs.
- Demonstrate evidence-based communication techniques and caregiver engagement strategies to support mental well-being and family resilience.
- Integrate evidence-based behavioral communication tools, including parent coaching, into practice to support CYSHCN with complex communication needs.
- Develop and apply transition planning strategies to empower families and youth during shifts between early intervention, school-based services, and adult care systems.

Credit

The amount of credit varies by day and is subject to change.

Accreditation

- The Wake Forest University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Wake Forest University School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 17.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

- 17.25 Contact Hours from Northwest AHEC
- 17.25 Nursing Contact Hours

Northwest Area Health Education Center (NWAHEC) is approved as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the North Carolina Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

- * Criteria for successful completion requires attendance for at least 90% of the activity and submission of the evaluation.
- Northwest AHEC is recognized by the North Carolina Psychology Board as an approved provider of (Category A) Continuing Education for North Carolina Licensed Psychologists. This program will provide 17.25 contact hours of (Category A) continuing education for North Carolina psychologists. No partial credit will be given.
- Application for CHES® (entry-level) / MCHES® (advanced-level) Category I continuing education contact hours (CECH) has been made to the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHEC).
- This course is approved for physical therapy licensees by virtue of NCBPTE Rule 21 NCAC 48G .0108(c)(8) for 13.0 contact hours.
- Speech-Language Pathologists: Northwest AHEC will issue Certificates of Completion only; the participant must self-track and record the certificate for ASHA Certification documentation.
- Occupational Therapists/Assistants: As of July 1, 2018, the NCBOT no longer accepts applications for pre-approval of CCAs. OT practitioners need to make sure they are completing activities that comply with Section .0800 of the NCBOT Rules. 14.25 CCAs.

Agenda

Sunday, October 12, 2025: Preconference

8 am **Registration/Coffee/Networking**

8:30 am **Morning Breakout Sessions**
Resources for Resilience for Parents and Clinicians
Ann DuPre Rogers, MSW, LCSW

HINE
Nathalie Maitre, MD, MPH
Allison McIntyre, MOT OT/L, CCRP

12:30 pm **Lunch**

1 pm **Afternoon Breakout Sessions**
Transition from Schools to Communities
Live Experience, HS Transition
Trenton D'Agostino
Logan Wilson

Public School Transition
Jana Dobbins, MA

Postsecondary Programs
Beth Sibley, MSW

Pre-employment Transition Services
Robert Darcy
Kelsey Trevethan

Supporting Families
Laurel Powell

Medicaid: Tailored Plans, Children and Families Specialty Plan, Self-directing, 1915(i) and other Policy Updates
Rhonda Cox, MS
LaCosta Parker
Steve Strom MEd, MBA
Dylan White, MPH

4 pm **Adjourn**

Monday, October 13, 2025

8:30 am	Registration/Coffee/Networking	
9 am	Welcome, Conference Overview, Housekeeping and Announcements Gavin Colquitt, EdD	
9:10 am	Comprehensive Support throughout the Lifespan Rebecca Putnam, MD	
10:30 am	Breakout Session 1	
	Physical Health	Parent Delivered Upper Extremity Intervention for Children with Early Motor Delays Allison McIntyre, MOT OT/L, CCRP
	Mental Wellbeing	Navigating Difficult Conversations: Parent and Provider Coffee Talk Diane Coffey, Kaaren Hayes, Stacy Morgan
	Communication and Behavior	Language as the Missing Link and the Toolkit Garry McGiboney, PhD
	Advocacy and Empowerment	Transition Planning from School to the Community Jana Dobbins, MA, Beth Sibley, MSW, Robert Darcy, Kelsey Trevethan, MEd
11:45 am	Networking/Lunch (Provided)	
12:45 pm	Breakout Session 2	
	Physical Health	Exercise Recommendations for Children with Developmental Delays Keagan Kiely, DrPH
	Mental Wellbeing	Supporting Parents in Early Diagnosis: Practical Applications From Grief to Hope Tandrea Carter, PhD Thea Wilson, MEd
	Communication and Behavior	Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) and Behavioral Coaching Models Holli Sink, PhD
	Advocacy and Empowerment	Transition from Early Intervention to School-Based Services Stephanie Allen Erin Selle
2:15 pm	Breakout Session 3	
	Physical Health	Tone Management Natalia Byrne, MS, PT
	Mental Wellbeing	The Intersection of Neurological and Psychological Implications for Mental Health Gary Maslow, MD
	Communication and Behavior	Focused Intervention Approaches for Children with ASD Sarah Vess, PhD, LP, HSP-P, NCSP Nicole B Doyle, PhD
	Advocacy and Empowerment	Teaching Self-Advocacy for Children Laurel Powell
3:50 pm	Early Intervention in NC and the World Jennifer Check, MD, MS Jennifer Hollman, MD	
5 pm	Adjourn	

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

8:30 am	Registration/Coffee/Networking	
9 am	Welcome, Conference Overview, Housekeeping and Announcements Gavin Colquitt, EdD	
9:10 am	Advocacy: Partnerships and Relationships Diane Coffey Kay McMillan Talley Wells, EdM, JD	
10:30 am	Breakout Session 1	
	Physical Health	Developmental Coordination Disorder Kathleen Ollendick, PT, DPT, PCS
	Mental Wellbeing	Integrating Resources for Resilience into Clinical Care Ann DuPre Rogers, MSW, LCSW
	Communication and Behavior	Trauma-Informed Behavioral Supports: Psychological and Mental Health First Aid Jennifer Tyson, MPH
	Advocacy and Empowerment	Behind the School Doors: Partnering, Advocating, and Communicating for Better Outcomes Cari Carson, JD, MSW Aimee Combs Haley Gowdy
11:45 am	Networking/Lunch (Provided)	
12:45 pm	Breakout Session 2	
	Physical Health	Medication Management Throughout the Lifespan Elizabeth Farrington, PharmD, FCCP, FCCM, FPPAG, BCPS, BCNSP
	Mental Wellbeing	Therapeutic Approaches and Treatment for Children and Youth with IDD and Mental Health Challenges Jill Hinton, PhD
	Communication and Behavior	Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) for Children with Complex Communication Needs Carolyn Gilmore, MS, PhD, CCC-SLP
	Advocacy and Empowerment	From Resources for Resilience: Empowering Parents to Embrace Therapy and Self-Care Anne DuPre Rogers, MSW, LCSW
2:20 pm	Collaborative Approaches to Child Welfare and Mental Health Dana M. Hagele, MD, MPH	
3:30 pm	Adjourn	

RECORDED Moving Mountains and Community Conference Includes:

- Recordings of the same workshops led by regionally recognized clinicians, researchers, and advocates in pediatric care.
- All recorded sessions mirror the in-person experience, including breakout sessions on physical health, mental wellbeing, communication, and advocacy.

All recorded workshops will be available ON DEMAND for 3 months, for a fee, following the live event. Links to register for the recordings will be available following the live conference.

Faculty

Stephanie Allen

School Psychologist, Hardin Park
Watauga County School System

Elizabeth Barton, MD, FAAPMP

Assistant Professor and
Residency Assistant Program Director
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
UNC School of Medicine

Natalia Byrne, MS, PT

Physical Therapist
Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist

Cari Carson, JD, MSW

Supervising Attorney
Disability Rights North Carolina

Tandrea Carter, PhD

Director, Counseling for Faculty and Staff
Appalachian State University

Jennifer Check, MD, MS

Associate Professor
Neonatology, Pediatrics
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Gavin Colquitt, Ed.D.

Executive Director
Appalachian Institute for Health and Wellness

Diane Coffey

MHTA Director of Programs - NC
Director LightNavigator Advocacy Partnerships a Program of
Mental Health Transformation Alliance

Aimee Combs

Executive Director
Exceptional Children's Assistance Center

Rhonda Cox, MS

EVP and Chief Population Health Officer
Vaya Health

Trenton D'Agostino

Two Time Gold Medalist
Special Olympics World Winter Games

Robert Darcy

Director of Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)
Watauga Opportunities, Inc.

Jana Dobbins, MA

Exceptional Children's Program Director
Watauga County School System

Nicole B Doyle, PhD

Pediatrics - Developmental, Clinical Assistant Professor
Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist

Ann DuPre Rogers, MSW, LCSW

Executive Director
Resources for Resilience

Elizabeth Farrington, PharmD, FCCP, FCCM, FPPAG, BCPS, BCNSP

Clinical Pharmacist
New Hanover Regional Medical Center

Carolyn Gilmore, MS, PhD, CCC-SLP

Assistant Professor
Communication Sciences and Disorders/
Speech-Language Pathology
Appalachian State University

Haley Gowdy

Exceptional Children's Teacher, Hardin Park
Watauga County School System

Kaaren Hayes

Retired Director
Parent to Parent: Family Support Network-High Country

Dana M. Hagele, MD, MPH

Board Certified Child Abuse Pediatrician
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC

Jill Hinton, PhD

Clinical Director
National Center for START Services

Jennifer Holman, MD

Clinical Associate Professor
Neonatology, Pediatrics
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Keagan Kiely, DrPH

Post Doctoral Fellow
Arnold Healthy Kids Initiative
University of South Carolina

Nathalie Maitre, MD, PhD

Professor, Neonatology
Emory University School of Medicine

Gary Maslow, MD

Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Co-Division Director of Child and Family Mental Health
and Community Psychiatry
Clinical Professor in the School of Nursing
Professor of Pediatrics
Duke University School of Medicine

Faculty

Garry McGiboney, PhD

Executive Director
Sharecare

Allison McIntyre, MOT OT/L, CCRP

Lead Occupational Therapist
Department of Pediatrics, Neonatology
Emory University School of Medicine

Kay McMillan

Co-Founder and Board Chair
Youth LEAD NC

Stacy Morgan

Executive Director
Mental Health Transformation Alliance (MHTA)

Kathleen Ollendick, PT, DPT, PCS

Director of Clinical Education, Assistant Professor
Western Carolina University

Laurel Powell

Program Manager
UNC Family Support Program and Family Support
Network of NC

Rebecca Putnam, MD

Family Physician
Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC)
Mission Hospital

Erin Selle

Exceptional Children's PreK Teacher, Hardin Park
Watauga County School System

Beth Sibley, MSW

Assistant Director, Scholars with Diverse Abilities Program
Appalachian State University

Holli Sink, PhD

Chief Program Officer
Southmountain Children and Family Services

Steve Strom, MEd, MBA

Director, Money Follows the Person
NC Department of Health and Human Services

Kelsey Trevethan, MEd

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Coordinator
Watauga Opportunities, Inc

Jennifer Tyson, MPH

Research Faculty
Appalachian State University

Sarah Vess, PhD, LP, HSP-P, NCSP

Pediatric Psychologist
Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Psychology Services
Division Head
Associate Professor
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

Talley Wells, EdM, JD

Executive Director
NC Council on Developmental Disabilities
NC Department of Health and Human Services

Dylan White, MPH

Chief Compliance Officer, Healthy Blue Care Together
Blue Cross Blue Shield North Carolina

Logan Wilson

Business Development Coordinator
Summit Design and Engineering Services, Inc.

Thea Wilson, MEd

Child Find Transition Specialist
Wake County Public School System

Kate Younger, MS, SSP, NCSP

School Psychologist
Watauga Outreach and Family Services Coordinator
Parent to Parent Family Support Network of the
High Country
Appalachian State University

Registration and Cost

Preconference Only (Oct. 12)

\$100

Regular Conference (NO Preconference) (Oct. 13-14)

\$250

1 Day Only (Oct. 13 or 14)

\$150

Register and pay online at www.nwahec.org/76084 (Preconference) or www.nwahec.org/74859 (Regular Conference or 1 Day Only) or complete and return the attached registration form. Payment by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express) is accepted online. Personal check, corporate check, or money order is accepted by mail. Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist internal transfer are also accepted by email or online.

Payment Policy — Payment is required on or before entrance into any Northwest AHEC activity. If a corporate payment has not been received prior to the activity start date, you will be required to provide a personal credit card or check. If and when the corporate payment is received, Northwest AHEC will issue a full refund based on your original form of payment. To avoid personal payment, you should check with the financial staff at your organization to determine status of payment.

Refund Policy — Cancellations received in our office at least two weeks (14 business days) before the activity will receive a 100 percent refund. Registrants cancelling between two weeks and five full business days prior to the first day of the event will be refunded at 70% of the registration fee subject to a minimum \$25 cancellation fee. The registration fee will not be refunded if a cancellation is received less than five days before the activity. Cancellations must be in writing (email). You may send a substitute in your place.

Note — Attendance at this activity grants permission for Northwest AHEC to use any photographs, audio, video, or other images from this activity for promotional or educational purposes. Please notify a Northwest AHEC staff member if you have concerns.

By registering for this activity, your name and email address may be shared with Appalachian State University, a partner of this continuing education activity.

When planning for an educational activity, registration fees are not based on credit hours or agenda. Registration fees are based on expenses such as meeting room rentals, food, equipment, technology services, staff, etc., and are not adjusted by issues such as cancellation of speakers or other unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be given to ensure the activity is a success.

For More Information and Assistance

If you have any questions regarding registration or if you have not received confirmation of your registration 24 hours before the program date, please contact Michelle Adams by email, Michelle.B.Adams@advocatehealth.org or by phone at 336-713-7726. Any requests for special services or auxiliary aids should be made at least five days prior to the activity.

Recommended Hotel Information

Last Day to Book September 11, 2025

Rhode's Motor Lodge
1377 Blowing Rock Rd.
Boone, NC 28607

\$125/night + taxes

[Click Here to Book Now!](#)

Last Day to Book September 12, 2025

Holiday Inn Express in Boone
1943 Blowing Rock Rd
Boone, NC 28607

\$120/night + taxes

To reserve call 828-264-2451 and let the front desk know you are booking under the App State Pediatric Conference 2025 Block for October 12th.

Moving Mountains and Community: A Conference Focusing on Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

[Click here for more information](#)

Preconference (Oct. 12)

☐ \$100

Regular Conference (Oct 13-14)

☐ \$250

One-day Registration Fee

☐ \$150

☐ Attending Day 1 - Oct. 13

☐ Attending Day 2 - Oct. 14

Primary Phone # (last 4 digits only):

** required*

Do you have any special dietary requirements?

Please specify any dietary restrictions:

Please select request for credit:

(See Credit section of brochure for details)

☐ AMA PRA Category 1™

☐ CHES/MCHES

☐ Contact Hours

☐ Nursing Contact Hours

☐ NCBPTE

☐ Psychology (Cat A)

First Name	MI	Last	Degrees (e.g., MD)	
Profession		Job Title		
Home Address	City	State	Zip	County
Home Phone	Cell Phone			
Employer				
Employer Address	City	State	Zip	County
Employer Phone	Employer Fax			

Email Required

☐ Preferred Email ☐ Home Email ☐ Work Email

By providing your fax number, email address and telephone number, you have granted permission for us to contact you via the numbers and address indicated.

Ways to Register:

- ▶ **Register online** by clicking the following link: www.nwahec.org/76084 (Preconference) or www.nwahec.org/74859 (Regular Conference or 1 Day Only) (recommended)

Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express accepted online only.

- ☐ **Make check payable** to Wake Forest University Health Sciences and mail, with registration form, to:

Wake Forest University School of Medicine / NW AHEC
Medical Center Boulevard, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-3311
Attention: Michelle Adams

☐ **Atrium Health Internal Transfer:** Cost Ctr _____ Fund _____ Project(Optional) _____ Gift(Optional) _____

- ☐ **Employer will make payment.** Supervisor completes below and emails to Michelle.B.Adams@advocatehealth.org

Supervisor's Name (Printed)	Signature	Phone
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By signing, I am certifying that agency payment will follow. If you have a balance due and do not attend or send a substitute, you will be invoiced for the full program fee.