

IT'S ALL RELATIVE...

Social & Emotional Intelligence Summit

April 11, 2026

Event Agenda

Social & Emotional Intelligence Summit

Building Communication, Connection & Emotional Wellness for Our Children

8:25 AM – 8:55 AM Check-In & Registration

Light networking and continental refreshments.

9:00 AM – 9:10 AM Welcome & Purpose Dr. Kimberly A. Janha

Co-Founder/CEO Kindred Hearts SC

9:10 AM – 9:15 AM Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Saturday, April 11

Alexis W. Scurry, LMSW, Associate Director of Field Education, USC College of Social Works, Kindred Hearts South Carolina, Board Chair

Midlands Technical College–Airport Campus

Student Center

1260 Lexington Drive, West Columbia, SC

9:15 AM – 9:40 AM Keynote Address

Ms. Jackie Hennegan-Gadsden, ABD, MA, B; Founder, Bumble Bee Productions

Setting the tone for the day with insights on social and emotional intelligence and its impact on families and communities.

Parents & Caregivers
Educators & School Administrators
Social Workers & Counselors

9:40 AM – 9:50 AM Transition & Snack Break

Elected Officials
Community Leaders

9:50 AM – 10:35 AM

Breakout Session I: Panel Discussions Engaging conversation with panelists on practical strategies and lived experiences related to emotional regulation, relationships, and child well-being.

Group 1: Adults interacting with children from Early Childhood – 2nd Grade

Focus: safety, attachment, emotional modeling, and co-regulation

Moderated by: **Valisa Palmer**, MA, LPC, NCC Co-Founder, Therapist & Life Coach

Panelists: **John A. Browne**, MA, CEO, Vital Connections of The Midlands; **Dr. Crystal Y. Campbell**, Executive Director Dorchester County First Steps; **Mila Burgess-Conway**, LPC, Inner Journey Counseling; **Althea Benson, MA, BA**, Education Manager, Vital Connections of the Midlands; **Tyneshia Robinson**, M.Ed., BCBA, Clinical Director/Founder, Childhood Reimagined, LLC

Group 2: Adults interacting with children from 3rd– 6th Grade

Focus: identity, emotional awareness, accountability, and peer influence

Moderated by: **Dr. Stephanie Payne**, LMSW, Acting Chair, Human Services, South Carolina State University

Panelist: **Elizabeth Morris**, Student Service Managers, SCDJJ; **Jewel Rembert**, MA, BSW, LPC, LPCS, The Ultimate Choice Consulting, LLC; **Dr. James M. Thompson**, Workforce Development Manager at the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education; **Dr. John M. Thompson**, MBA, ICMA-CM, CPM, SCCEM, Assistant County Administrator, Richland County Government

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- ✓ Keynote Speaker
- ✓ Panel Discussions
- ✓ Breakout Sessions
- ✓ Round-Table Conversations

Check-In 8:25 - 8:55 AM

Keynote Address 9:15 - 9:40 AM

Breakouts & Discussions

Lunch 12:30 - 1:30 PM

MIDLANDS

TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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Group 3: Adults interacting with children from 7th – 12th Grade

Focus: independence, identity formation, decision-making, and long-term outcomes

Moderated by: **Dr. Phillip Harris**, Director, Government and Community Engagement Richland County Government

Panelists: **Dr. Barron Davis**, Founder/CEO The Noegenesis Group, LLC; **Dr. Brooke Wymer Ellis** N.C.C., LISW-CP/S, PMH-C, Associate Clinical Professor, Clemson University; **Dr. Debra King**, LPC, LPCS, LCMHC, LAC, CEAP, Regional Program Director, SC Dept. of Children's Advocacy — Continuum of Care; **Reese Palmer**, LMFT, Founder/Couples Therapist, Palmer Counseling and Consulting

10:35 AM – 10:40 AM Transition Break

10:40 AM – 11:25 AM Breakout Session II:

Saturday, April 11

Featured Speaker(s) Topic: How to Effectively Communicate with Everyone – The Impact of Communication Exploring how communication styles influence connection, conflict resolution, and healthy outcomes for children and families.

Group 1 Speaker: **Cherell S. Butler**, LISW, CPAP, Owner, Aiken Counseling Group

Group 2 Speaker: **Ari Foster**, LISW-CP, VSP, Outreach & Education Co-Lead, PSI-SC, Renewed Path Counseling and Consulting/LLC

Group 3 Speaker: **James Morrall**, M.Ed., Director, Prevention & Outreach Hopeful Horizons

11:25 AM – 11:30 AM Transition to Main Room

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM Group Discussions

Facilitated small-group discussions to reflect, share insights, and identify actionable steps.

Facilitator: Alexis W. Scurry, LMSW, Associate Director of Field Education, USC School of Social Works, Kindred Hearts South Carolina, Board Chair

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM Closing Remarks

Kayla Mallett-Bacote, Co-Founder, Organization Representative, Kindred Hearts South Carolina; Philanthropic Program Officer, Cypress Action Fund

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch (On-Site or Carry-Out Option Available)

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- ✓ Breakout Sessions

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS:

- ✓ Check-In 8:25 - 8:55 AM
- ✓ Keynote Address 9:15 - 9:40 AM
- ✓ Breakouts & Discussions

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\$20.00

Because when it comes to our children...

It's All Relative. ♥

For more information, email:

KindredHeartSC@KindredHearts.org