



SOUTH REGION WORKSHOP

10:00 AM TO 10:30 AM

Betty Kelso Room

Welcome and Opening Session

10:45 AM TO 11:45 AM

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Including People with Disabilities in Recreation: Participation Tools (0.1 CEU) * This continuing education session content is pre-approved by NCTRC

Erin Fogarty, North Community Outreach Regional Coordinator

Communities often provide valuable adaptive recreation programs for people with disabilities. But what if individuals want to participate in an inclusive environment with their non-disabled peers? This workshop introduces recreation professionals to the benefits of and approaches to inclusive recreation, with practical strategies and resources to increase successful inclusive participation.

Outcomes:

1. Describe the benefits of inclusive recreation participation for people with and without disabilities.
2. Examine general accommodations and strategies that can be employed to support inclusive recreation participation across five functioning domains.
3. Compare resources and tools that can aid recreation professionals and individuals with disabilities or their family members to discuss the need for inclusive recreation participation.

Classroom A

Texas Parks and Wildlife: Recreation Grant Funding For Your Community (0.1 CEU)

Dan Reece, Local Grant Manager - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

The TPWD Recreation Grants Division is committed to assisting communities throughout Texas in meeting their outdoor recreation needs. Each year, these grants significantly impact the creation of new parks, improved access, development of outdoor programs, and more. You can learn about the Local Parks, Boating Access & Infrastructure, Recreational Trails, Target Range, and Community Outdoor Outreach Programs. Find out how these grants can benefit your community and learn how to apply for them.

Outcomes:

1. Recall 5 potential funding opportunities
2. Describe the updated Local Park grant scoring criteria
3. Identify 1 area of opportunity to leverage grant funds to create or improve a park

Classroom B

Exploring the Pickleball Phenomenon: Paddle Power for Parks Progress (0.1 CEU)

William Spencer and Hunter Rush, MHS Planning and Design

Play has often been credited with the development of problem-solving skills. This session will focus particularly on the cognitive and social skills development of the individual and the impact/influence on group dynamics. Through activities (demonstration and hands-on), participants will sharpen their observation and communication competencies in an effort to enhance their consumer's engagement in activities and problem-solving processes.

Outcomes:

1. Define "problem-solving" and outline the process; as well as identify at least two prerequisites (e.g., identifying deviation between what is and what should be; or motivation to solve problem or resources available)
2. Recall at least three limitations to effective problem-solving (decision-making) including the importance of identifying connections among problems.
3. Discuss how a designated activity promotes cognitive and social skill development (Activity Analysis).

12:00 PM TO 12:30 PM

Betty Kelso Room

Lunch – Networking Unboxed: Thinking Outside the Norm in Conference Networking

Jason O'Mara, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation - Angleton Parks and Recreation

Unleash the power of networking in parks and recreation! In this engaging session, we explore innovative strategies to forge meaningful connections beyond the ordinary. Discover how to break free from traditional networking constraints and cultivate impactful relationships that propel your career and expand your network of influence. We'll explore fresh perspectives, creative approaches, and unexpected avenues for networking success in the dynamic world of parks and recreation.

Outcomes:

1. Practice simple tricks to engage colleague on a basic level
2. Identify 2 new connections for their networking circle
3. Apply innovative networking strategies through "unboxed items"

12:45 PM TO 1:45 PM

Betty Kelso Room

Advocacy in Action: Empowering Legislative Efforts of Young Professionals

Jeff Achee, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation - City of Pflugerville

This session is tailored for emerging professionals in the parks and recreation field, offering practical guidance on how to engage in advocacy efforts at the local, state, and federal levels. Participants will learn essential skills in communication, networking, and strategic planning to effectively influence policy and decision-making processes. The session provides valuable insights and tools to empower young professionals to become influential advocates in the industry.

Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the advocacy processes at local, state, and federal levels.
2. Appraise their skills in networking and communicating effectively with policymakers and stakeholders.
3. Construct a personalized action plan for engaging in advocacy efforts

Classroom A

That's a Bold Strategy Cotton (0.1 CEU)

Joe Guzman, Assistant Program Manager - City of Corpus Christi

This session will focus on how to incorporate more niche sports into your recreation programming to help include a wider variety of participants. Things like pop-a-shot, quidditch, cornhole, darts, etc. will be discussed as to how they can be used to increase participation in your recreational programming.

Outcomes:

1. Attendees will be able to identify non-traditional sports
2. Attendees will experience program ideas for accessible activities to bring back to their staff
3. Attendees will collaborate on program activities to bring the non-traditional athlete into their recreation programming

Classroom B

Joyful Learning: The Power of Play for Everyone (0.1 CEU)

Kelsie Crabb and Christopher Villareal - San Antonio Park and Recreation

This session is designed for recreation professionals eager to elevate their programming. During this session, we delve into the transformative power of play and its pivotal role in enhancing learning, development, and community engagement. Discover the scientific findings regarding play and its multitude of benefits across cognitive, emotional, social, and physical domains. Learn how to integrate various types of play into your programs, ensuring they are not only fun but also impactful. We'll showcase how play can be an effective tool for education, development, and building stronger communities. Get ready to transform the way you think about programming and discover how incorporating play can lead to more engaging, effective, and memorable experiences for your participants.

Outcomes:

1. Understand types of play and needs for meaningful play
2. Tools to identify Play Access
3. How to incorporate play into their programming in a meaningful way

1:50 PM TO 2:00 PM

Betty Kelso Room

Closing

The San Antonio Botanical Garden is open to all to explore through 7:00 pm. We welcome you to enjoy this beautiful space. Maps will be available for more information on the Garden.