

4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

**LEARN,  
ENGAGE,  
DEVELOP!**

---

CONFERENCE FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL  
TIME PROFESSIONALS

3.5.26 | 8AM-2PM | DELOITTE



**NAZA**  
NASHVILLE AFTER ZONE ALLIANCE



2026 LED Conference

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

**2** CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

---

**3** OPENING PANEL

---

**4-8** BREAKOUT SESSIONS

---

**9** ABOUT NAZA & LED  
CONFERENCE

---

**10** EVENT PARTNERS





2026 LED Conference

# SCHEDULE

---

8:00-9:00

REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

---

9:00-10:00

OPENING SESSION

- WELCOME
- OPENING PANEL: PREPARING YOUTH FOR AN AI DRIVEN WORLD

---

10:10-11:00

MORNING SESSIONS ROUND 1

- IMPACT OF PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT
- LIFE SKILLS TRAINING PT. 1
- BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT 102

---

11:10-12:00

MORNING SESSIONS ROUND 2

- FROM PLANNING TO FRUITION
- LIFE SKILLS TRAINING PT. 2
- FROM ADVERSITY TO HOPE
- STRATEGIC PLANNING

---

12:00-12:40

LUNCH

---

12:40-1:30

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

- CREATING INCLUSIVE SPACES
- NETWORKING CORNER
- EMOTIONAL COACHING
- PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

# OPENING SESSION

9:00AM - 10:00AM

LOCATION: NORTH PLENARY



\*Scan QR Code for Speaker Bios



## PREPARING YOUTH FOR AN AI-DRIVEN WORLD

This panel will examine the impact of artificial intelligence on young people, focusing on their learning, academic performance, overall development, and mental health. It will also address strategies for integrating AI literacy into out-of-school time (OST) programs to equip youth with the skills to use AI safely, responsibly, and effectively.



### PRESENTER & MODERATOR:

Anna Harutyunyan. Chief Executive, Nashville After Zone Alliance

### PANELISTS:

Destini Burns. Director of Programs, B.E. Academy

Micah Kimble. Chief Operating Officer, Backfield in Motion  
Youth Panelists



# MORNING SESSIONS: ROUND ONE

10:10AM - 11:00AM



\*Scan QR Code for Speaker Bios

---

## THE IMPACT OF PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

LOCATION: NORTH PLENARY

This session emphasizes the power of authentic partnership engagement in building sustainable, high impact programming that supports the whole child and strengthens student and family outcomes. Participants will engage in interactive content, rich discussion, and real world case examples from MNPS schools and community partners.

### PRESENTERS:

Dr. Yolanda Jackson. Family & Community Coordinator,  
Metro Nashville Public Schools  
Kashonda Babb-Hilliard. Partnerships, Impact & Engagement  
Specialist, Metro Nashville Public Schools



---

## LIFE SKILLS: VISION TRAINING PT. 1

LOCATION: CLASSROOMS A & B



This session provides practical strategies to help youth develop vital life skills beyond academics. Learn how to foster independence through time management, healthy habits, financial literacy, and home economics using engaging activities and real world examples.

### PRESENTER:

Ashley McEwen Broadnax. Founder/CEO, Crowns Up Learning

---

## BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT 102

LOCATION: CLASSROOMS C & D

The session focuses on practical redirection strategies that help staff respond to behavior without escalating situations or relying on punitive approaches. Participants will learn how to interpret common behaviors, choose appropriate responses, and redirect students in ways that preserve relationships while maintaining expectations.

### PRESENTER:

Dr. Quanasha Starks. Founder, Engaged Learning Solutions



# MORNING SESSIONS: ROUND TWO

11:10AM - 12:00PM



\*Scan QR Code for Speaker Bios

---

## FROM PLANNING TO FRUITION: YOUTH-LED INITIATIVES IN PRACTICE

LOCATION: NORTH PLENARY

This session will dive into youth leadership and collaboration with NAZA's Youth In Action team. Learn about Youth In Action's past and present work while exploring new tools and resources to support youth leadership integration for your youth-serving programs.

### PRESENTERS:

Deana Washington. Partnership Manager,  
Nashville After Zone Alliance  
Gabriela Jasso. Youth in Action! Coordinator,  
Nashville After Zone Alliance



---

## LIFE SKILLS: VISION TRAINING PT. 2

LOCATION: CLASSROOMS A & B



This session builds on the Life Skills: Vision Training Part 1. It provides practical strategies for professionals to help youth develop vital life skills beyond academics. Learn how to foster independence through time management, healthy habits, financial literacy, and home economics using engaging activities and real-world examples.

### PRESENTER:

Ashley McEwen Broadnax. Founder/CEO, Crowns Up Learning

# MORNING SESSIONS: ROUND TWO

11:10AM - 12:00PM



\*Scan QR Code for Speaker Bios

---

## FROM ADVERSITY TO HOPE

LOCATION: CLASSROOMS C & D

This session highlights the importance of Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs) and their crucial role in shaping lifelong health and mental well-being. It promotes a constructive, strength-based perspective that encourages us to shift our focus from Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma to proactive strategies for building resilient and vibrant communities together.



### PRESENTER:

Kylan Hadley. Manager of Resilient Communities & PACEs Education Program, Metro Nashville Public Schools

---

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

LOCATION: CLASSROOM E



This session will teach participants how to define their mission, vision, and strategic priorities, and will engage in a hands-on activity using a structured template to begin shaping their organization's strategic intent and goals. By the end of the workshop, attendees will leave with actionable insights and a draft framework to guide their future planning efforts.

### PRESENTER:

Anna Harutyunyan. Chief Executive, Nashville After Zone Alliance

# AFTERNOON SESSIONS:

12:40PM - 1:30PM



\*Scan QR Code for Speaker Bios

---

## CREATING INCLUSIVE SPACES: STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT IMMIGRANT YOUTH & FAMILIES

LOCATION: NORTH PLENARY

This panel will explore effective strategies for recruiting and engaging students from diverse backgrounds. Attendees will gain insight into the unique challenges faced by immigrant and first-generation youth and families, learn practical approaches to providing support during programming, and discover community resources that extend assistance beyond program hours.



### MODERATOR:

Jacob Aparicio. Communication & Events Manager, Nashville After Zone Alliance

### PANELISTS:

Ariel Burton. EL Teacher, Haywood Elementary, Metro Nashville Public Schools

Jazmin Ramirez. Community Organizing Strategist, Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition

Monica Reyna Torres. Family & Community Engagement Specialist, Metro Nashville Public Schools

Nyemia Memba. Coordinator of Youth Success, Nations Ministry Center



---

## NETWORKING CORNER

LOCATION: CLASSROOMS A & B



This networking session will bring together youth service professionals to foster connections, collaboration, and the sharing of effective practices. Attendees will have the chance to forge valuable relationships with their peers, exchange innovative ideas, and gain insights from one another's experiences supporting youth and families.

### PRESENTER:

Monica McLaurine. Capacity Building & Grants Manager, Nashville After Zone Alliance

# AFTERNOON SESSIONS:

12:40PM - 1:30PM



\*Scan QR Code for Speaker Bios

---

## EMOTIONAL COACHING

LOCATION: CLASSROOMS C & D

In this session, participants will practice naming and validating emotions in real time, embedding emotional coaching into daily routines, and facilitating meaningful reflection throughout and at the end of activities. Reflection helps students talk through what they did, how they worked through challenges, how they felt, and what they learned—using purposeful questioning to promote accountability, self-awareness, and growth.



### PRESENTER:

Dr. Quanasha Starks. Founder, Engaged Learning Solutions

---

## PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

LOCATION: CLASSROOM E



This session introduces nonprofit leaders to the fundamentals of performance management at the organizational and individual levels. Participants will learn to set clear goals, identify key performance indicators, and align staff objectives with strategic priorities. Through interactive activities, they will gain practical tools to measure progress and foster accountability.

### PRESENTER:

Anna Harutyunyan. Chief Executive, Nashville After Zone Alliance

# ABOUT NAZA



## NAZA BACKGROUND

The Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA) is a partnership between the Nashville Public Library, Metro Nashville Public Schools, the Mayor's Office, and youth development organizations throughout Davidson County working together to increase access to transformative learning experiences for youth in grades 5-8 during out-of-school-time hours.

NAZA accomplishes this work by funding youth development programs, cultivating youth leadership opportunities, and building the capacity of youth-centered organizations.

Originally founded in 2010 under Mayor Karl Dean, NAZA has grown into citywide out-of-school time system. Since that time, NAZA has funded over 30 nonprofit youth organizations, trained more than 8,000 youth development professionals (duplicated), and has enabled nearly 30,000 young people to access free, quality afterschool and summer youth programs.

## MISSION

TO INCREASE YOUTH'S EQUITABLE ACCESS TO OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME LEARNING EXPERIENCES THAT HELP YOUTH THRIVE & DEVELOP TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

## LED CONFERENCE

The Learn, Engage, Develop! (LED) Conference was established in 2023 to provide a free professional learning and networking opportunities for youth development professionals. The LED Conference educates attendees on pressing issues in youth development including youth leadership, family engagement, and organizational best practices.

The LED Conference is organized by NAZA and features collaborations with several community partners including Metro Nashville Public Schools, local nonprofits, and youth development experts.



2026 LED Conference



# EVENT PARTNERS



## EVENT SURVEY

Please share your feedback for the 2026 LED Conference!





# NAZA

NASHVILLE AFTER ZONE ALLIANCE



[www.naza.nashville.gov](http://www.naza.nashville.gov)



[naza@nashville.gov](mailto:naza@nashville.gov)



@NashvilleZ



@nashvilleafterzonealliance



NASHVILLE'S VISION  
FOR HOLISTIC YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

