NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NAEHCY 2026 CONFERENCE

38TH ANNUAL NAEHCY CONFERENCE

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Pathways With Promise: Centering Students, Strengthening Systems

OCTOBER 31 TO NOVEMBER 3, 2026 | GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER | NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Dear NAEHCY Conference Attendees,

We are so excited to welcome you to Nashville for the 38th Annual NAEHCY Conference, *Pathways With Promise: Centering Students, Strengthening Systems*, taking place October 31 to November 3, 2026 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center.

Whether this is your first NAEHCY Conference or one of many, we are grateful that you are joining us. Over the course of several days, you will have opportunities to learn from colleagues, hear from national and local leaders, connect with peers from across the country, celebrate the work happening in communities nationwide, and build relationships that continue well beyond the conference.

We know that preparing for a large national conference can involve a lot of details, so we have gathered the most important information in this Know Before You Go to help make your arrival and conference experience as smooth as possible. We encourage you to review the information below before traveling and keep it handy while you are onsite.

1 A Quick Time Check: We're on Central Time!

Please remember that all NAEHCY Conference events and activities are scheduled in **Central Time (CT)**.

Also, don't forget that Daylight Saving Time ends on **Sunday, November 1**. Clocks will "fall back" one hour early Sunday morning. If your phone or other device is set to update automatically, it should adjust on its own. Still, we encourage you to double-check your devices Sunday morning so you arrive at your sessions at the correct time.

2 Conference Registration & Check-In

Your first stop when you arrive should be Conference Registration, located in **Tennessee Lobby A**, where you can pick up your conference materials and get ready for the days ahead.

> **Registration Hours (Tennessee Lobby A)**
> Saturday, October 31: 7:00 am to 4:30 pm | Sunday, November 1: 7:00 am to 4:30 pm
> Monday, November 2: 7:00 am to 4:00 pm | Tuesday, November 3: 7:00 am to 11:00 am

Registration & Badge Pickup

Before arriving onsite, please confirm that your registration is paid in full or that you have a Purchase Order on file with the NAEHCY Registration Center.

- **Paid in full or Purchase Order on file:** Proceed directly to the badge printing kiosks to print your badge and pick up your meeting materials.
- **Outstanding balance with no Purchase Order on file:** Please visit Assisted Registration first. You will need to sign a payment acknowledgement form before receiving your badge and meeting materials.

Questions regarding conference registration may be directed to the NAEHCY Conference Registration Team at **naehcyregistration@spargoinc.com**.

3 Let the Cadmium Conference App Be Your Guide

The NAEHCY 2026 Conference App, powered by Cadmium, will be an important resource throughout your time in Nashville. Use the app to:

- Review the conference agenda and session descriptions
- Build your personalized conference schedule
- Locate session rooms and conference activities
- Receive conference announcements and updates
- Stay informed of schedule or room changes

> **App availability:** The app is currently available in the Google Play Store for Android users. NAEHCY is still awaiting availability of the app in the Apple App Store and will share an update with Apple users as soon as it becomes available.

We strongly encourage attendees to use the Conference App as their primary onsite guide, as it will contain the most current conference information.

4 Plan Your Conference Experience

With general sessions, keynote speakers, concurrent learning sessions, special events, networking opportunities, and more, there is a lot happening throughout our four days together. Take a few minutes before arriving in Nashville to review the complete conference schedule, now updated with final room assignments and learning tracks, and begin identifying the sessions and experiences you do not want to miss.

VIEW THE FULL 2026 NAEHCY CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sessions, rooms, keynotes, meals, and special events, all in one place.

naehcy.org/2026-conference-schedule/

Remember that all conference activities are listed in Central Time, and check the Cadmium Conference App while onsite for the most current schedule and location information.

5 Staying at the Gaylord Opryland?

The Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center is a large and unique property, so we encourage attendees staying onsite to review their hotel reservation information before traveling.

Important Information Regarding Hotel Check-In, Credit/Debit Card Authorizations & Incidentals

Upon check-in, the Gaylord will request a credit or debit card for an incidental hold. They will charge the card provided $100 per room per day, which is held starting at check-in. If you provide a debit card, please note that the funds withdrawn from your account are refunded after your stay, whereas a credit

card is only a pending hold. If the hold presents an issue, you may request to forgo the incidental hold, but you will not be allowed to post any charges to your room during your stay at the Gaylord. You may elect to forgo the hold at check-in.

Please note that the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center is a cashless property, but the resort does have ATMs that can convert cash to a card if needed. Please remember that hotel accommodations and incidental charges are separate from your NAEHCY conference registration unless otherwise specifically communicated to you.

Hotel Address & Contact Information
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center | 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214 | Phone: (615) 889-1000

6 Make a Difference: Volunteer with NAEHCY!

Want to become even more connected to the NAEHCY Conference community? Volunteer with us! Conference volunteers play an important role in creating a welcoming, organized, and engaging experience for attendees. Volunteer opportunities may include assisting with session scanning and other conference support activities. Volunteering is also a great way to meet other NAEHCY members, connect with colleagues from across the country, and help us create an exceptional experience for fellow attendees.

Already signed up to volunteer? Thank you! Have questions about volunteering during the conference or ready to sign in for your volunteer shift? Visit the NAEHCY Conference Volunteer Center, located in **Magnolia Mezzanine 21**, for assistance and volunteer check-in.

7 Share Your NAEHCY 2026 Experience

We would love to see Nashville through your eyes. Share your conference moments, photos, takeaways, and connections on social media using:

#NAEHCY2026 #NAEHCYNashville #PathwaysWithPromise #CenteringStudents #StrengtheningSystems

8 Pages With Promise Book Drive

Bring a book. Share a story. Become a Literacy Champion.

This year, NAEHCY invites you to participate in our Pages With Promise Book Drive, supporting children's literacy and celebrating the collective impact our conference community can make through the gift of reading. Attendees are encouraged to bring new children's books to Nashville and contribute them during the conference.

Giving & Shelfie Station: Delta A Lobby. Stop by to drop off your books and capture a photo commemorating your contribution.

Every book represents an opportunity to inspire curiosity, imagination, learning, and possibility in the life of a child. Together, NAEHCY attendees can become Literacy Champions and leave a lasting impact in our Nashville host community. Don't forget to pack a book!

Help us spread the word about the Pages With Promise Book Drive by sharing your donation, your "Shelfie," and your experience on social media using **#PagesWithPromise, #LiteracyChampion, and #NAEHCY2026**.

9 Bid for a Cause: NAEHCY Annual Silent Auction

Be sure to visit the NAEHCY Annual Silent Auction, located in the **Tennessee Ballroom**. The auction will open for attendees on Sunday, November 1 and will feature a variety of items available for bidding in support of NAEHCY's work.

A Few Final Tips Before You Travel

- Remember: All conference events are scheduled in Central Time (CT).
- Set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 1 for the end of Daylight Saving Time.
- Download the Cadmium Conference App if you are an Android user, and watch for an update regarding Apple App Store availability.
- Review the full conference schedule and identify your must-attend sessions.
- Pack comfortable shoes. The Gaylord Opryland is a large resort, and you will be moving throughout the property.
- Bring a new children's book for the Pages With Promise Book Drive.
- Consider volunteering and becoming even more involved in the conference community.
- Leave room in your schedule to connect. Some of the best conference moments happen through conversations with colleagues between sessions.
- Watch your email and the conference app for important updates throughout the conference.
- Have a question onsite? Visit the Conference Registration Desk in Tennessee Lobby A for assistance.

We'll See You in Nashville!

We are grateful that you have chosen to spend these days with the NAEHCY community. The Annual Conference is an opportunity to learn from one another, celebrate the work happening across the country, deepen relationships, and return home with new ideas and renewed energy for supporting children and youth experiencing homelessness.

This year, we gather around the theme: **Pathways With Promise: Centering Students, Strengthening Systems.** We hope you arrive ready to learn, connect, celebrate, and share.

Safe travels, and we look forward to welcoming you to Nashville!
The NAEHCY Team