



## Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)

Thursday Sept 21, 2023

### Notes

Minutes from May meeting – Minutes were approved

Introductions – Members and guests were welcomed, and introductions were shared.

Updates -

#### A. Family Support Network Updates -Deborah

- Plan for this year
  - Monthly parent meetings – resource and networking group facilitated by ITP parents. Last Friday of each month.
  - MSDE revised parent guides
  - Attending public awareness activities throughout Montgomery County
    - MC Public Libraries Hatchlings events
    - Down Syndrome Network – Step up to Walk event – Saturday, 10/21/2023.
  - Community-based Parent & Child Early Learning groups. PlumGar and Whetstone Community Center(s)
  - ITP family’s successful completion of Parents Place of Maryland (PPMD) Baby Leaders training – 7 families completed as of August 2023
  - MCITP monthly parent groups
  - MCITP Parent Information & Resource Sharing sessions
  - MCPS/ITP Positive Solutions for Families fall parent training.

Position updates-

- Program Manager, Infants and Toddlers Program: Position has been closed and interviews will begin soon. Expecting to announce a new Program Director by the end of 2023.
- Medical Outreach Coordinator: Contracted position, currently working with contracting company to find a candidate.
- Family Support Network Assistant: There are challenges finding candidates for this position. It has currently been readvertised and interviews will be conducted as candidates are identified.

Coffield Center FIC-

- Opened on 6/6/2023.
- Orientations occur daily and families were registered.
- Daily spaces are filled quickly.
- Open House – Friday, 9/15/2023. County Executive Mark Elrich and many community stakeholders were in attendance. Mr. Elrich shared story-time with the families.

Committee breakouts -

- Family Engagement –
  - Deborah chairs
  - Focus on exploring ways to reach out to families already in the ITP and to new families in the community.
- Inclusive Child Care –
  - Jennifer chairs
  - Focus on improving communication with childcare programs, family childcare centers, and providers on making classrooms more inclusive to ensure children in the ITP can engage with their peers who are not in the ITP program.
- Transition –
  - Faith chairs
  - Focus on improving the transition process of ITP children to next level, prekindergarten, and kindergarten. Families often struggle with this, and the committee works to make the process more user friendly.

<b>Family Engagement</b>	<b>Inclusive Child Care</b>	<b>Transitions</b>
Anna Alderete	Jennifer Arnaiz- Co-Chair	Faith Fischel - Chair
Rachel Bonas	Beth Boyle	Nancy Hiltbrand
Myesha Carter	Tory Pegram	Marie Marino
Deborah Gudger - Chair	Lauren Mangrum - Co-Chair	Kathy Toscano
Sonali Motha		
Sophia Watts-Jenkins		

Committee Report Outs –

- Inclusive Child Care:
  - Resurrecting work begun prior to the pandemic on two different training models for the childcare providers. The group will schedule meetings to discuss.
- Transition:
  - Prior to the pandemic there was momentum behind ideas to support parents and families through transitioning to the next level. The group is revisiting these ideas, looking at them through an equity and anti-racist lens. The group will meet 1-2 times before November LICC meeting. Would like more family participation.
- Family Engagement:
  - Revisiting discussion on how to engage and establish connections with the Ethiopian/Eritrean community in program activities. Several members of the group have ties to these communities and will to develop strategies to connect with key communities and stakeholders.

The November 9, 2023, LICC meeting will be in-person at 1401 Rockville Pike, in the lobby-level training rooms.