



Early Childhood Coordinating Council
Wednesday, May 19, 2021
Virtual Meeting
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes
Approved

Members Present: Barbara Andrews, Jennifer Arnaiz, JoAnn Barnes, Jody Burghardt, Robin Chernoff, Amy Cropp, Richard Crump, Liran Laor, Mary Manning-Falzarano, Laurie Moran, Bernadine Occhiuzzo, Kimberly Rusnak, Charisse Scott, Rebecca Smith, Louise Tolin, Taniesha Woods Myles, Vivian Yao

Members Absent: Stephanie Brant, Cindy Chichester, Joan Glick, Lauren Martino, Carrie Meyer, Charlene Muhammad, Jade-Ann Rennie, Paula Sayag, Lynnette Weaver

Guests: Leah Bradley, Lydia Chiang, Sharon Friedman, Michelle Gallipoli

Staff Support: Sarah Wilch-Spamer

Jody Burghardt called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Convene Meeting: Jody Burghardt welcomed members and guests. Roll call was taken, 17 members were present. The meeting minutes from March 17, 2021 were approved unanimously. Motion: Bernadine Occhiuzzo, Second: JoAnn Barnes. The meeting minutes from April 21, 2021 were approved unanimously. Motion: Richard Crump, Second: Taniesha Woods Myles.

LECAC Grant Update – Taniesha Woods Myles and Barbara Andrews: All books and manipulatives arrived, and volunteers are scheduled to assemble the kits on Monday, May 24, 2021; 12:30-3:00 p.m. Please email Michelle Gallipoli at Michelle.Gallipoli@montgomerycountymd.gov if you would like to help. The kits will be distributed to families through the Family Involvement Center in mid-June 2021. Any remaining kits will be distributed to Early Head Start families. The final report to Year 1 is in process and will be transmitted to Maryland State Department of Education soon.

Breakout Groups-Early Childhood Coordinating Board (ECCB) Proposal Discussion: Members discussed the membership, structure, and leadership of the proposed ECCB.

Breakout Groups Report Out: A spokesperson from each group reported on the discussions. All groups will forward the discussion notes to Barbara Andrews so she can determine where clarification is needed and/or revisions needed. Amy Cropp will assist Barbara with the correct Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) titles.

State ECAC Meeting: Taniesha Woods Myles provided an overview of the state ECAC meeting held on May 5, 2021. The state meeting included discussion of funding opportunities, fiscal mapping and how a locale's budget can be presented so it is child/family-centered in addition to agency-department centered, a Head Start presentation given by Charlene Muhammad, a presentation by Liran Laor, and a presentation given by the University of Maryland School of Social Work regarding the Maryland Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Support Services workforce across the state.

Member Announcements, Updates and Commentary:

- Kimberly Rusnak provided an update on Waterford Upstart.

- Sharon Friedman gave an update on state advocacy efforts by Maryland Moving Forward (MMF).
- Jennifer Arnaiz provided an update on child care capacity limits and ratios. Masks continued to be required in child care facilities.
- Laurie Moran confirmed social distancing and masks remain in effect in child care programs.
- The proposed Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services budget has gone through committee and to Council.

Chair and Co-Chair Plans for FY22: Due to the possible changes to the structure of the ECCC, voting on the Chair and Co-Chair are on hold until Fall 2021. Jody Burghardt and Taniesha Woods Myles will stay on board to help support the transition.

Action: Michelle Gallipoli will send links and information shared in the chat to the group.

Action: Barbara Andrews will provide an update on the Early Care and Education Initiative at the June 2021 ECCC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.