Maryland's State Early Childhood Advisory Council

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE

MD State Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting (Virtual)

June 3, 2020

WELCOME/HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

- All participants will be muted upon joining the webinar
- Participants will be able to ask questions by typing their questions or comments into the questions pane in the control panel.
- Presenters will stop frequently to review and answer questions in the questions pane.
- All questions will be answered and emailed to all participants after the meeting along with the recording of the full webinar.

State Early Childhood Advisory Council Virtual Meeting Agenda

Time	Task
10:00 - 10:15	**Welcome / Introductions and Announcements** • *Cyndi La Marca Lessner, Branch Chief, Collaboration and Program Improvement Branch, Division of Early Childhood (DEC), Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)* • *Dr. Carol A Williamson, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Teaching and Learning, MSDE*
10:15 – 10:45	**New Business/Presentations** • *Maryland Together: Maryland's Recovery Plan for Child Care and the Covid-19 Response and the Path Forward- Steven Hicks, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Early Childhood, MSDE and Jennifer Nizer, Director of the Office of Child Care, Division of Early Childhood, MSDE*
10:45 – 11:45	**Presentations**
10:45-11:05	• *Maryland Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Needs Assessment Update – Mary Leonardi LaCasse, M.S. Ed, Chief, Early Childhood and Family Support, Maternal, Infant, & Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and Maggie Geraghty, Health Policy Analyst, Maryland Maternal, Infant, & Early Childhood Home Visiting Program*
11:05-11:25	• *Reimagining the Work – Keri Hyde, Executive Director, Ready At Five*
11:25-11:35	• *Early Childhood Systems Recovery Guide – Steven Hicks, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Early Childhood, MSDE*
11:35-11:45	• *MFN Early Childhood Survey - Laura Weeldreyer, Executive Director, Maryland Family Network*
11:45-12:00	**General Announcements and Next Steps** • *State Early Childhood Advisory Council Announcements – Wendy Dantzler, Early Childhood Coordinator, Division of Early Childhood, MSDE*
12:00	**Adjournment of Council**

Division of Early Childhood

An Update

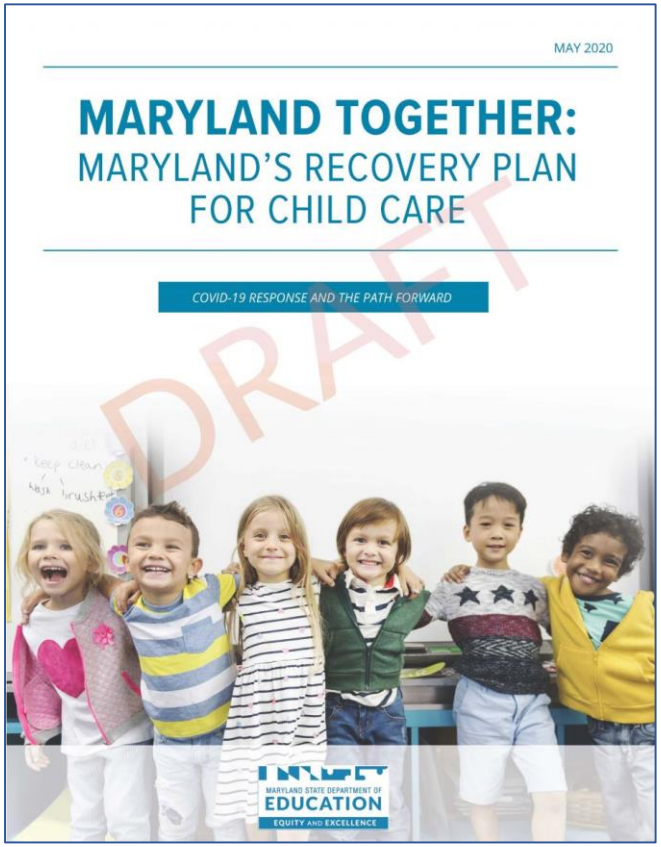
June 3, 2020

Steven Hicks
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Early Childhood

Jennifer Nizer
Director, Office of Child Care
Division of Early Childhood

MARYLAND TOGETHER:
MARYLAND'S RECOVERY PLAN FOR CHILD CARE

COVID-19 RESPONSE AND THE PATH FORWARD



MARYLAND TOGETHER:
MARYLAND'S RECOVERY PLAN FOR CHILD CARE

COVID-19 RESPONSE AND THE PATH FORWARD

- The DRAFT plan is an MSDE publication that is not endorsed by the Workgroup.
- The document includes in the appendix a list of Workgroup participants and recommendations and resources submitted.
- Now approved by the Governor and released, the document will be revised by the Workgroup and submitted to Dr. Salmon.
- Comments can be sent to earlychildhood.msde@Maryland.gov

Updated Frequently Asked Questions Released

For Parents & Providers
(Abbreviated)

Q: Who can access child care?
A: Essential persons and parents who work in businesses, organizations, and facilities opened by the Governor.

Q: When will all child care programs open to all parents?
A: Opening child care to all parents is part of the second phase of recovery.

Q: If my jurisdiction has not fully opened, can I operate my child care with the guidance given to the rest of the state?
A: Care programs must follow local jurisdiction restrictions.

Updated Frequently Asked Questions Released

For Parents & Providers
(Abbreviated & Continued)

Q: Is there a cost for child care services?
A: Essential persons receive child care services at no cost until June 7, 2020. Beginning June, 8, 2020, all parents pay tuition.

Q: When can I serve more than a maximum of 10 persons per room?
A: The Governor has prohibited gatherings of more than 10 persons. Until the Governor increases this, child care programs are limited.

Q: Can I use serve the maximum group size in spaces in large rooms sectioned off by half-walls, partitions, and other barriers?
A: Yes, you may use large rooms sectioned off by half-walls and other barriers if that is how you operated previous to COVID-19

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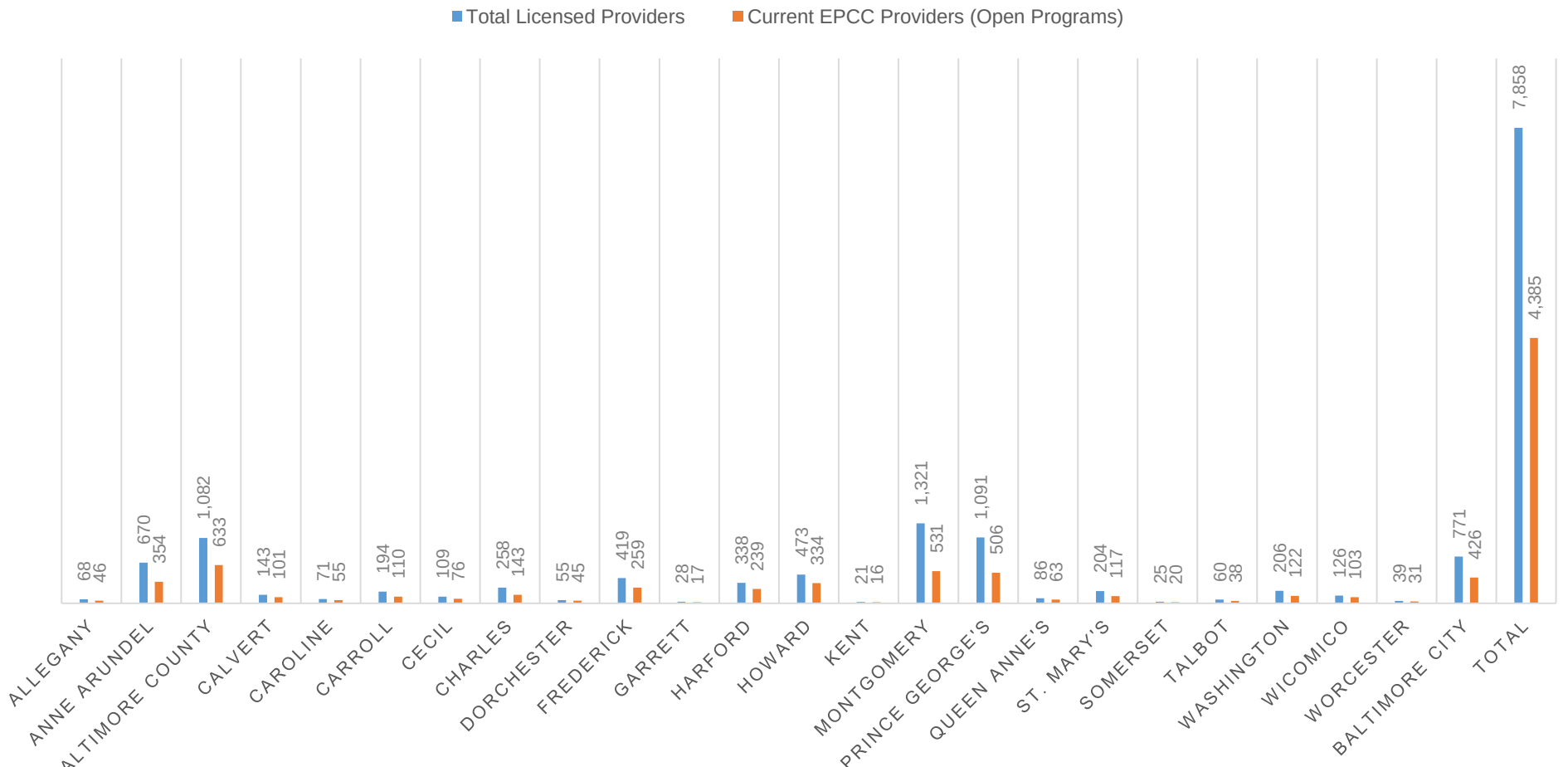
CHILD CARE PROGRAMS IN MARYLAND 6-2-2020



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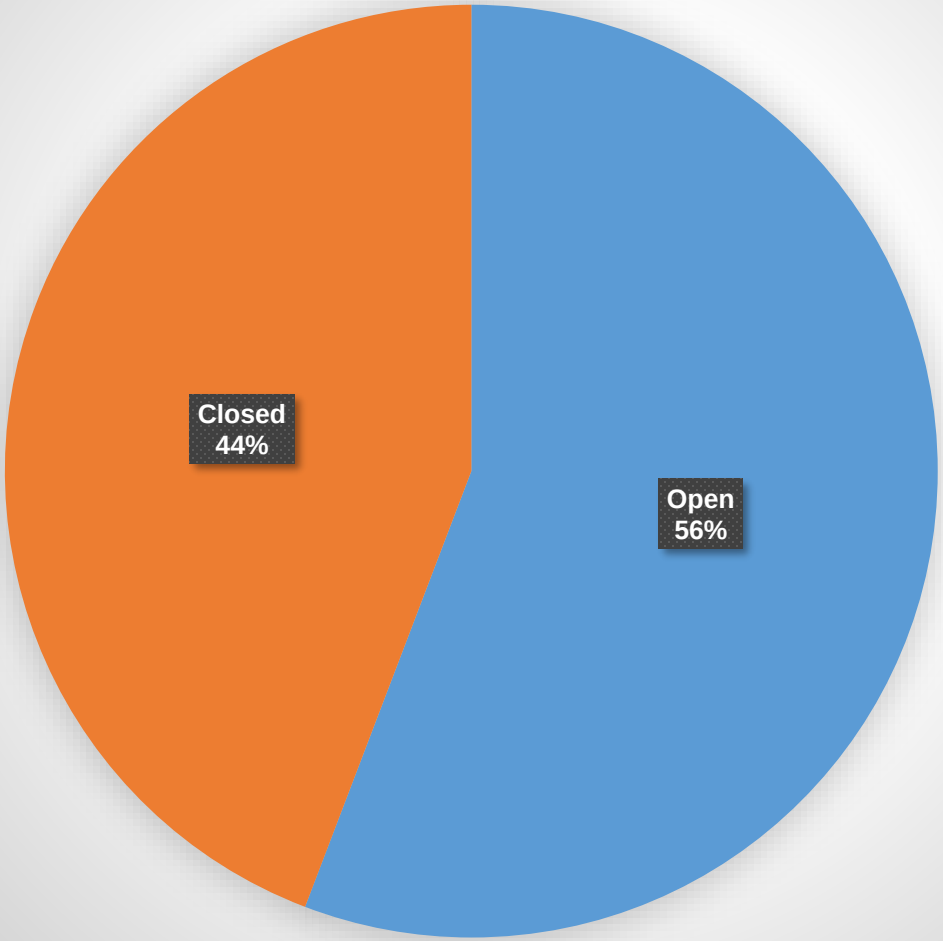
Open vs. Closed Child Care Programs in Maryland (6/2/20)



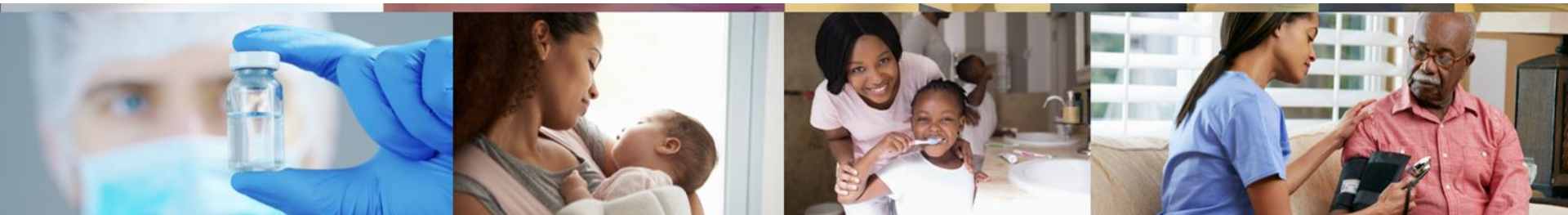
Questions
&
Comments

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Presentation to the Early Childhood Advisory Council
June 3, 2020

Maryland Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Mary LaCasse, Chief of Home Visiting and Family Support
Maggie Geraghty, Health Policy Analyst



Objectives

By the end of this presentation you should be able to:

- Understand preliminary needs assessment findings
- Have an opportunity to provide feedback on the survey distribution
- Know how to take the survey and share with your networks
- Have an opportunity to recommend others that can be part of focus groups.

About MIECHV

- Established in 2010 under the Affordable Care Act
- Federally funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Reauthorized for five years (through 2022)
- Uses evidence-based home visiting models (22 models nationally)

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The Updated Needs Assessment

- Updated mapping in 2019 using most recent data available: https://maps.health.maryland.gov/phpa/mch/indicators/

- Qualitative and quantitative measures used

- Sharing what we have learned and asking for input

DUE: September 2020

Capacity and Need

Finding: According to findings from the 2019 Preschool Development Grant Needs Assessment (n=472) many parents in Maryland do not know about home visiting programs or do not find home visiting programs to be accessible.

My early child care and education program/setting:	n	Mean	SD	% I don't know
I am aware of home visiting services.	472	0.55	0.50	0.25
there are enough home visiting programs to meet the needs of families in the community.	472	0.49	0.50	0.55

My early child care and education program/setting:	Baltimore (n=57)	Central (n=100)	Western (n=32)	Southern (n=36)	Eastern (n=96)	Capital (n=139)	F-statistic
I am aware of home visiting services.	0.36	0.49	0.65	0.85	0.73	0.39	8.69***
There are enough home visiting programs to meet the needs of families in the community.	0.32	0.43	0.59	0.31	0.57	0.58	2.01

Source: Preschool Development Grant Stakeholder Survey, 2019

Capacity and Need cont'd

Finding: The need for home visiting services exceeds the current capacity.

- The state is currently serving around 22% of the families estimated to be eligible for service
- Out of the 24 jurisdictions, 14 (58%) serve less than half of the families estimated to be eligible for service

Source: Governor's Report on Home Visiting, 2019

Capacity and Need cont'd

Finding: Across Maryland, programs struggle with family retention

Out of the total of 4,357 women who enrolled in home visiting programs across the state, 1,229 women disengaged from services in FY 2019

families moving (18%)	termination due to non-compliance (6%)
being unable to contact or locate families (18%)	child transitioning to center-based care (5%)
scheduling conflicts (15%) of which three were due to clients getting new jobs	child aging out of program (5%)
refusal/declining services (15%), of which three cit-ed unwillingness to work with a new HV	homelessness (2%)
Overall 28% of participants who engage in home visiting do not complete the program	

Source: Governor's Report on Home Visiting, 2019

Guiding Questions

Maryland's comprehensive needs assessment is focused on the following guiding questions:

- What communities in Maryland have a high concentration of risk factors?
- What are the specific needs of eligible families living in "at risk" communities
- To what extent are home visiting programs providing high quality services in Maryland?
- What is Maryland's capacity for providing substance abuse treatment and counseling to individuals who need such treatment and services
- To what extent do home visiting programs coordinate and collaborate with other early childhood programs in the state?

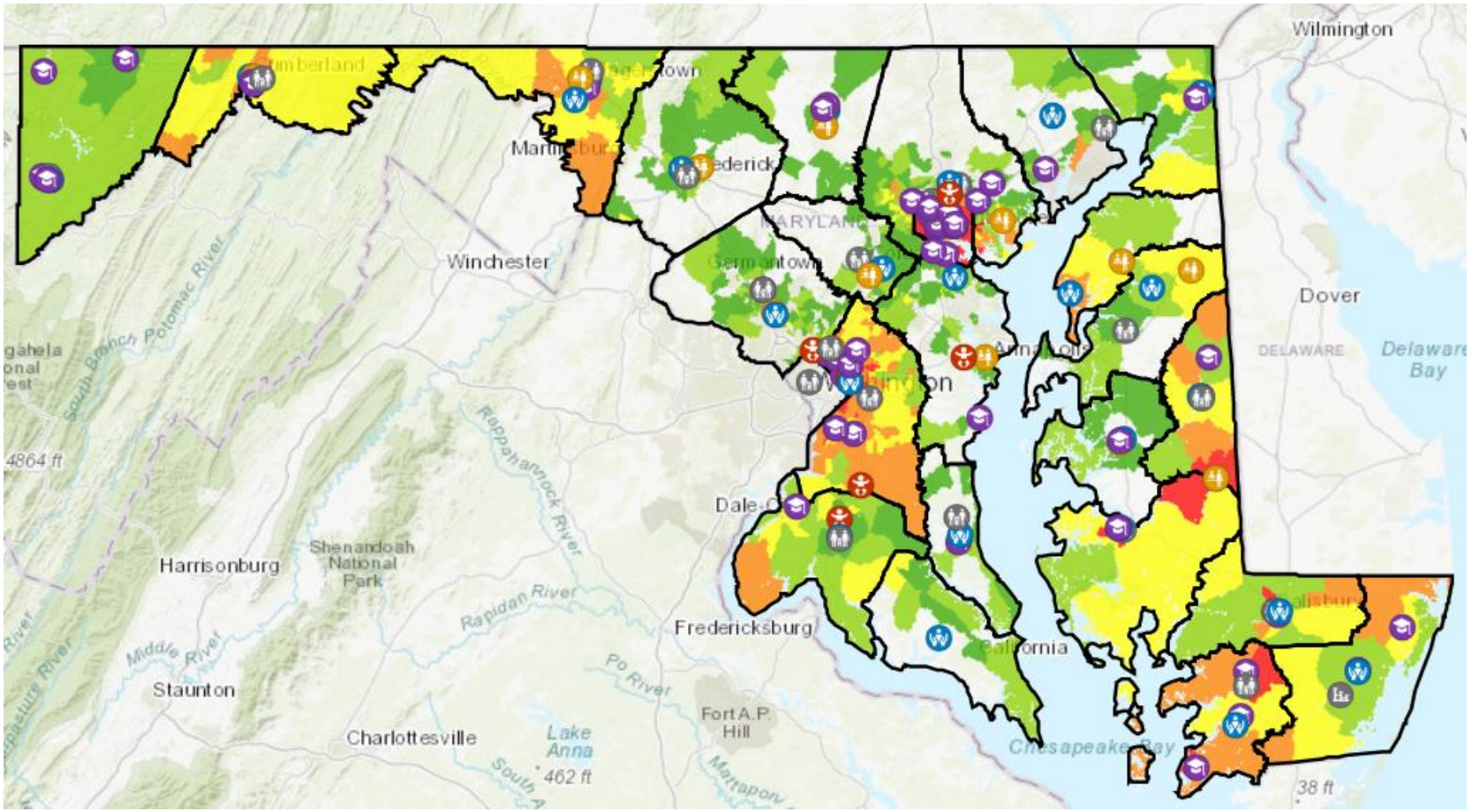
Areas of Risk: Elevated Indicators

We have used ArcGIS mapping to inform and visually display areas of risk in this needs assessment. Indicators were established though HRSA as well as add ons with stakeholder input. The four overarching areas were the driver for the direction of the qualitative design.

- Adverse Perinatal Outcomes: eleven indicators having to do with the health of the mother and child during the perinatal period
- Socio-Economic Indicators: five indicators having to do with the socio-economic wellbeing of a community
- Child Maltreatment: Two indicators having to do with the safety and wellbeing of children
- Other: Three indicators having to do with other aspects of the community

[SEE HANDOUT FOR DETAILS ON INDICATORS]

Preliminary Findings: Jurisdictions at Risk



21 https://maps.health.maryland.gov/phpa/mch/indicators/

Survey Distribution

- Home Visiting Consortium members
- Early Childhood Advisory Council members
- Collaborative Action for Family Engagement Advisory Council
- Local Child Welfare Offices
- MSDE Thursday Tidbits office
- Child Care Resource Centers
- Home visiting programs in Maryland
- Pediatricians, Obstetricians, Family Physi**cians**
- Head Start and Early Head Start offices
- MDH Maternal & Child Health Bureau programs
- **Family Resource Centers**
- **Judy Centers**

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Survey Distribution cont'd

- MD MIECHV Newsletter
- All 24 local Health Department offices
- Teen moms
- Parents currently receiving home visiting services
- WIC
- School Health
- Family Support Centers
- Homeless Education Services
- Centering Pregnancy and Centering Parenting groups
- March of Dimes Supportive Pregnancy Care Program
- UMBC Home Visiting Training Program

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Other Stakeholder Suggestions/Social Media Ideas for Survey Distribution cont'd

- MD SHIP through MDH
- Maxwell Trainings for Home Visitors
- MSDE Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services HV grantees
- Maryland Family Network
- B'more for Healthy Babies social media platforms
- Current/former trainees of UMBC's Home Visiting Training Certificate Program

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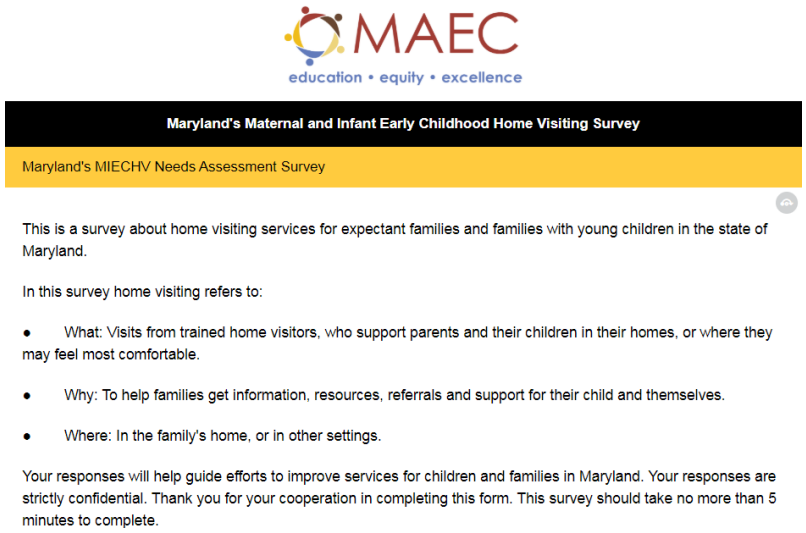
Needs Assessment Survey

The survey is available at:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MDhomevisiting2020

- Stakeholders **are** parents, home visitors and community members
- Survey incorporates feedback from the needs assessment steering committee
- Available in Spanish
- Other languages available
- **Open until June 30, 2020**
- Direct link to register for focus groups in stakeholders survey


MAEC
education • equity • excellence

Maryland's Maternal and Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Survey

Maryland's MIECHV Needs Assessment Survey

This is a survey about home visiting services for expectant families and families with young children in the state of Maryland.

In this survey home visiting refers to:

- What: Visits from trained home visitors, who support parents and their children in their homes, or where they may feel most comfortable.
- Why: To help families get information, resources, referrals and support for their child and themselves.
- Where: In the family's home, or in other settings.

Your responses will help guide efforts to improve services for children and families in Maryland. Your responses are strictly confidential. Thank you for your cooperation in completing this form. This survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

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Updated Data Collection Plan
Focus Groups and Interviews

- Parents and community stakeholders will receive a Target Gift Card.
- Home visitors will receive a gift card to a bookstore
- **Launched on June 1st**
- Registration will **be** first come/first served
- **We need your help to reach parents**

Registration in the focus groups can be found here:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZRVM3T8

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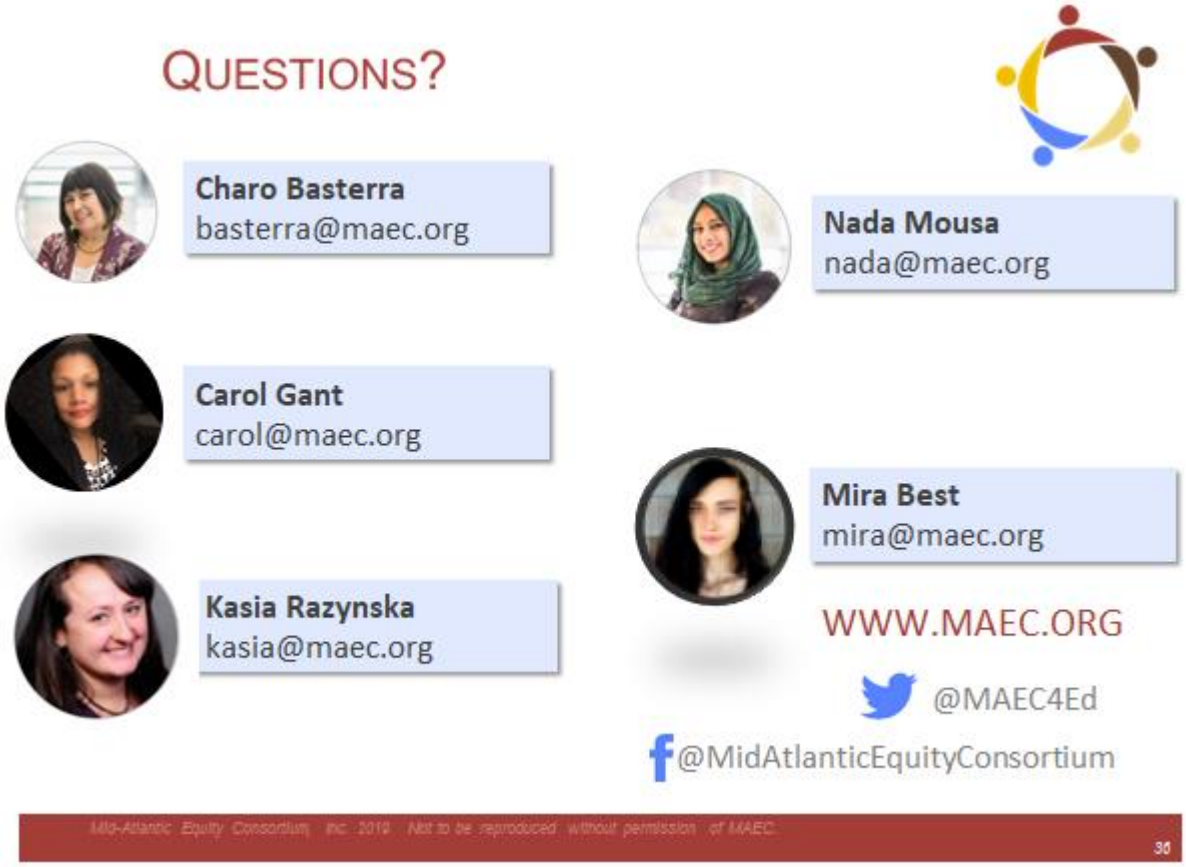
Questions for the Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC)?



The Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC) is the winning bidder for the home visiting needs assessment

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Questions for MIECHV?

Program: Dona Mullen - dona.mullen@maryland.gov
Fiscal/Data: Jarvis Askew- jarvis.patterson-askew@maryland.gov
CQI: Maelondy Holman - maelondy.holman@maryland.gov
Health Policy: Maggie Geraghty – margaret.geraghty@maryland.gov
Special Projects: Dillon McManus- dillon.mcmanus@maryland.gov
Program Administrator: Mary LaCasse - mary.lacasse@maryland.gov

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MISSION: Ready At Five is committed to comprehensive school readiness for all Maryland children.

VISION: Every child in Maryland has the foundational skills needed for success in school, career and life.

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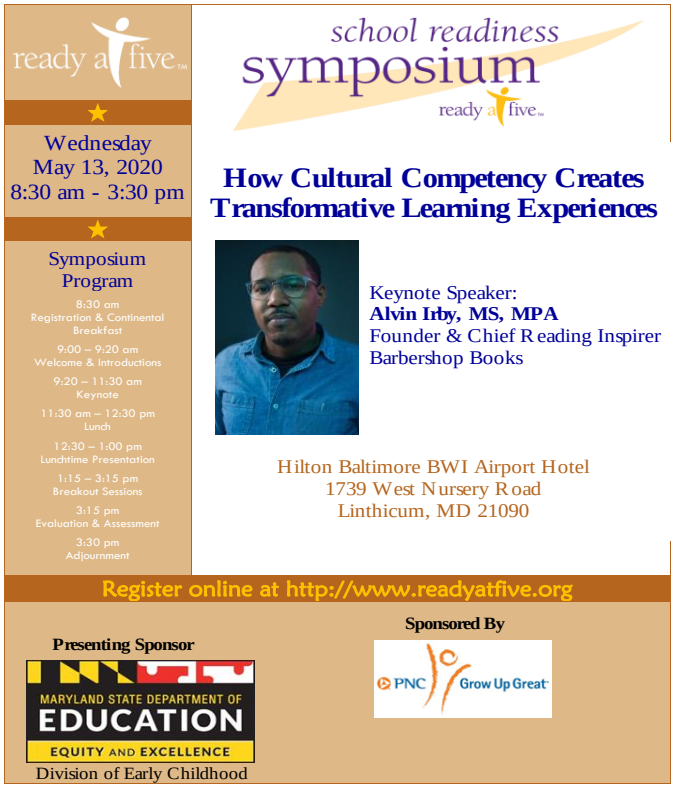
engaged families

committed communities

effective early learning programs

children ready to succeed

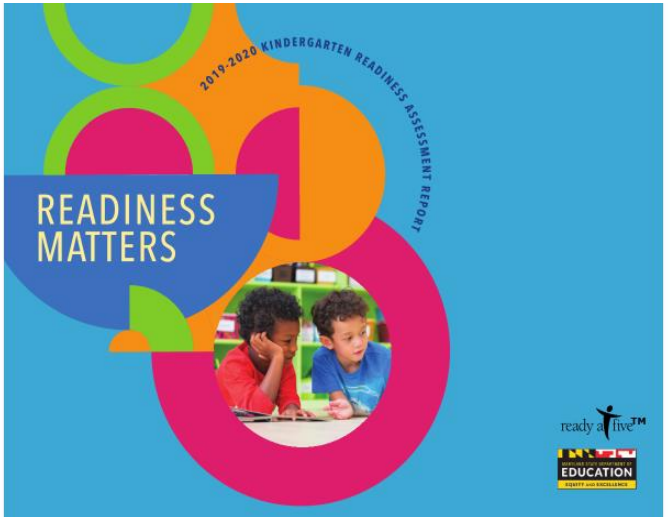
A Typical Ready At Five Spring:



Training of Trainers

Learning Parties

Piloting New Content



Engaging and Connecting Initial Response

- Linking to partners and community resources
  - Enoch Pratt Library e-card
  - Maryland State Library Calendar
  - MPT and PBS Kids
- Sharing information from Experts
  - Center for the Developing Child
  - Maryland State Department of Education
  - CDC
- Outreach to families and caregivers through social media
  - Tips for easy to do activities that build readiness skills and don't require special materials or an education degree
  - Reading to pets
  - Distance Reading with Grandparents

ready at five™

Join us on Friday, May 8, 2020 at 11 am on ZOOM for
Ready At Five School Readiness Symposium Presenter
Rob Levit's Workshop on
"Conscious Pause: Self-Care In Stressful Times"

Space is Limited to 30 Attendees - Please Register at
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DCYV3NC

ready at five™

Learning Parties Live!

Join Us on Monday May 18, 2020 at 10 am on Facebook Live

www.facebook.com/ReadyAtFive

This next activity centered Learning Party Live will focus on Physical Development and be led by Brigid Cook, a Ready At Five Learning Party Educator. Brigid will be joined by her special guests as she guides you through easy to do activities that you and your children can do together from home!

ready at five™

We are bringing Mister Rogers to YOUR Neighborhood!

Join Us on Friday May 15, 2020 at 10:30 am

With so many children and families out of their typical routines, adults may be wondering about the best ways to help children feel safe and continue to learn and grow. In 1983, in his first book for parents - "Mister Rogers Talks with Parents" - Fred Rogers described six basic necessities of learning. Today, the list serves as a reminder of what is deep and simple about what children - and their helpers - need. Join our School Readiness Symposium presenters Dr. Junlei Li and Dr. Dana Winters for a discussion on Fred Rogers' ideas and what they might mean for our work and life during COVID-19.

Reimagining Our Work

Rethinking professional development

Creating new ways to engage families

Offering workshops from our highly regarded presenters

Using a variety of platforms to offer content

Evaluating the impact and reach of the work

Highlighting our partners and Symposium sponsors

https://www.readyatfive.org/

Early Childhood System Recovery Plan

June 3, 2020

Steven Hicks
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Early Childhood

Cynthia Lessner
Collaboration and Program Improvement
Division of Early Childhood

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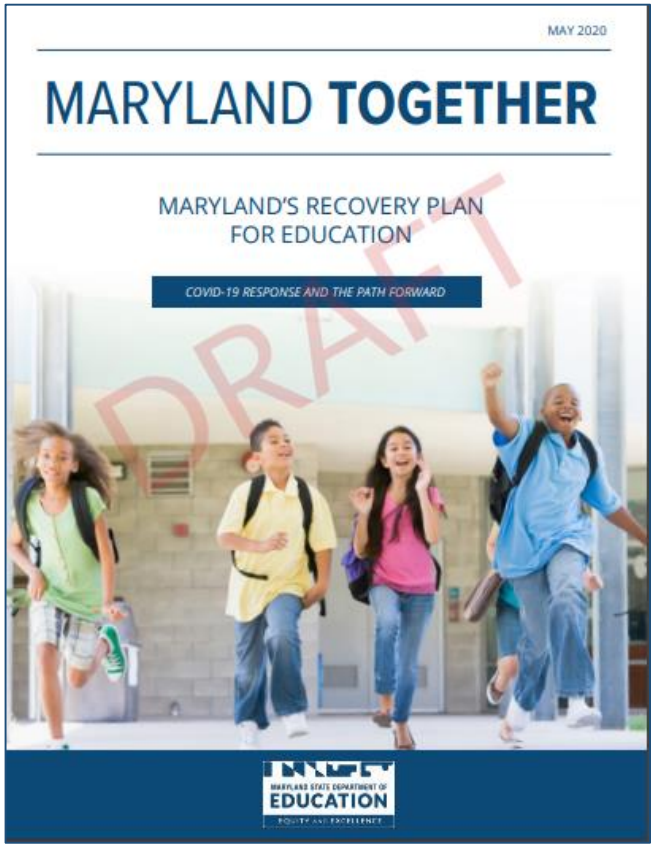
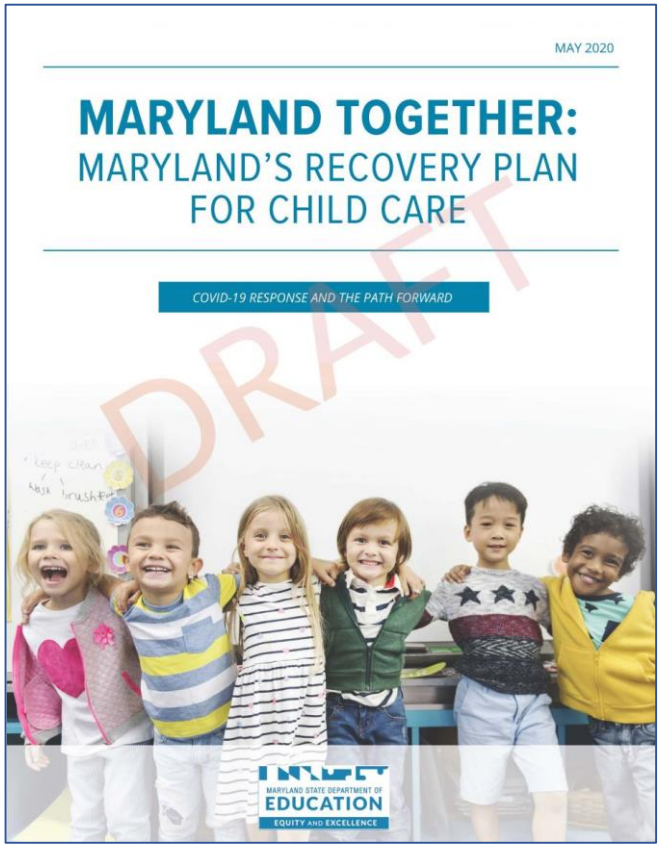
Aligned with Current Recovery Plans





What is the goal of the guide?

- Support state and local program administrators as they work to address the needs of Maryland ECE providers, families, and children through the equitable distribution of state resources, better coordination of services, and consistent communication

- Provide important context and information for program administrators and providers about what to expect as children and families return to ECE programs and services

Who is the audience for the guide?

- State and local administrators of early childhood programs and services

What will be the core content of the guide?

- The guide will be framed around the six goals outlined in *Maryland's Prenatal-Age Eight 2020-2025 Strategic Plan*

- Strengthen availability and access
- Improve and support program quality
- Deepen family engagement
- Ensure successful transition experiences
- Expand and enhance workforce development
- Improve systems for infrastructure, data and resource management

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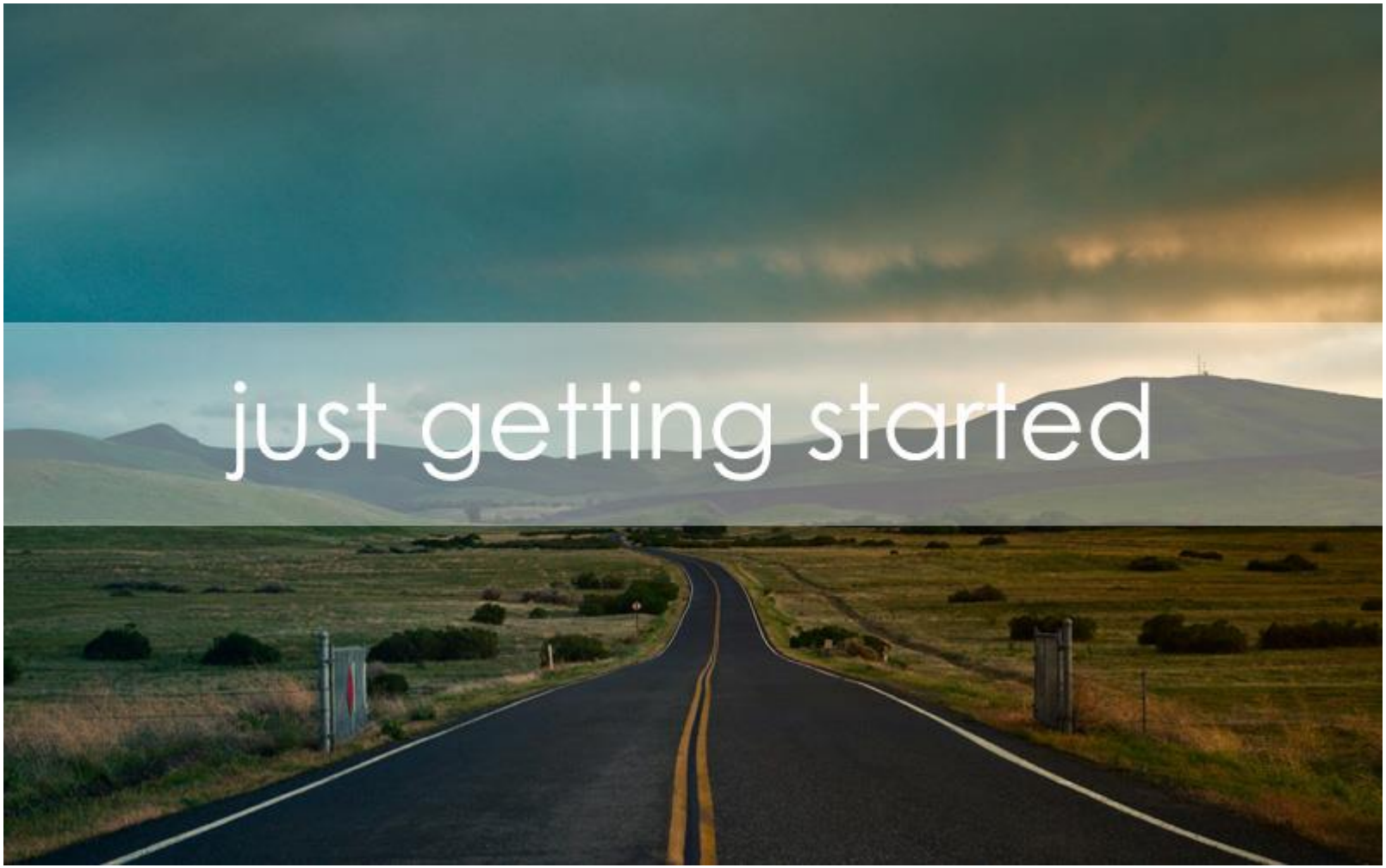
What ECE Programs and Services should be addressed in the Guide?


just getting started

MFN Statewide Survey

Laura Weeldreyer
Executive Director
Maryland Family Network

- Adapted survey conducted by Louisiana
- Was live May 5 – May 15, 2020
- Survey Monkey
- Publicized through:
  - E mail to providers/programs we had on the LOCATE: Child Care Database;
  - Through Child Care Resource Centers (CCRCs)
  - Through partners of State Associations and their chapters
  - MSDE and Tuesday Tidbits
- Several reminders sent out during it being live
- Response rate of 44%
- Responding programs/providers
  - Open, 68%
  - Closed, 32%

- All jurisdictions of the State represented
- All types of care represented
  - Family Child Care, 69%
  - Child Care Centers, 20%
  - Large Family Child Care, 3%
  - Letter of Compliance, 1%
  - Nursery Schools, 2%
  - Pre-K, 1%
  - School Age Care, 2%
  - Unknown, 2%

- **Financial Loss due to COVID-19**
  - **Yes, 67%**
  - **Not yet, but I expect to, 14%**
  - **No, 19%**
- **On average, providers experience in monthly losses**
  - **$35,000 center based programs**
  - **$4,800 family child care**
- **Largest expense**
  - **Rent/Mortgage, 54%**
  - **Employee Wages, 24%**
  - **Supplies, 12%**
  - **Utilities, 4%**

- **Continue to pay employees**
  - **Yes, 24%**
  - **No, 47%**
  - **Other, 29%**
- **If closed, are employees applying for unemployment**
  - **Yes, 28%**
  - **No, 72%**
- **Have you or will you apply for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan**
  - **Yes, 24%**
  - **No, 68%**

- **Apply for SBA Paycheck Protection Program**
  - **No, 100%**
- **If a FCC Providers, did you apply for unemployment insurance as a result of the CARES Act**
  - **Yes 20%**
  - **No, 80%**

- **What will happen to your business if families keep children home for extended periods or if you are closed for an extended period of time**
  - **Close program currently, 51%**
  - **Layoff employees, 26%**
  - **Reduce program hours, 18%**
  - **Reduce employee hours, 18%**
  - **Increase tuition/fees, 17%**

- **What kinds of support might your business/program need:**
  - **Grants to pay for fixed costs, 72%**
  - **Grants for reopening costs, 29%**
  - **Regulatory relief, 41%**
  - **Help with applying for governmental assistance, 41%**
  - **Grants to pay staff during closure, 37%**
  - **Low interest loans, 19%**

State Early Childhood Advisory Council Announcements

Wendy Dantzler, Early Childhood Coordinator, Division of Early Childhood, MSDE

- **During the Covid-19 mandate, we will be holding monthly State ECAC virtual meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each Month from 10:00AM-12:00PM.**

- ***State ECAC Approved Members*- Please note these new virtual monthly meetings are not mandatory and will not go against your 2020 attendance requirements. In addition, attendance will also be waived for the required three (3) remaining 2020 State ECAC meetings during the Covid-19 mandate.**

- **We want to hear your feedback about the State ECAC virtual meeting so we can keep improving our logistics and content. We are asking everyone to take a quick survey and let us know your thoughts (your answers will be anonymous). The survey link will be emailed and posted on the State ECAC webpage after the meeting.**

- **Again, the recording of the full webinar will be emailed to all participants. Additional information around the Recovery ECAC subcommittee will be sent as well.**