State Early Childhood Advisory Council

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

October 28, 2022 10am-3pm



Presented By | MSDE Division of Early Childhood Staff



Welcome and Housekeeping Notes

- All participants will be muted upon joining the webinar.
- Please enter your name, organization or school system in the chat box.
- Participants will be able to ask questions by typing their question(s) in the Q&A box and placing their general comments in the chat box.
- Presenters will stop after their presentations to review and answer questions in the Q&A box.
- All meeting materials will be sent out after the meeting along with the recording of the full webinar.



Meeting Norms

- We will respect everyone's time by starting on time and ending on time.
- Only one conversation at a time. Please refrain from side conversations during the workgroups.
- We will agree to capture off topic items and agree to discuss them later.
- We will agree to focus on positivity and being solution-oriented.
- Ask questions for clarification to help avoid any assumptions.
- We will come empowered to effectively improve outcomes for children and families.



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Agenda

Time	Торіс	Person(s) Responsible
10:00-10:15	Welcome, Announcements, and Introductions	Dr. Deann Collins and Jena Smith
10:15-10:50	Maryland Rebuilds	Dr. Kisha Lee, Andre Murray, and Nicholas Miller
10:50-11:30	Maryland Public Television (MPT)	Krista Respass
11:30-12:00	Judy Center Early Learning Hubs	Kaymi Plank
12:00-1:00	Lunch (on your own) Afternoon Workgroups Start at 1pm	
1:00-1:15	Review Expectations for Workgroups	Jena Smith
1:15-2:30	Workgroup Sessions	Workgroup Speaker



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Agenda

Time	Торіс	Person(s) Responsible
2:30-2:55	Workgroup Recap Discussion	Workgroup Speaker
2:55-3:00	Next Steps and Closing	Jena Smith

Maryland Rebuilds

An overview and what it means for the child care community

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Overview of Maryland Rebuilds

Maryland Rebuilds is a Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) grant initiative **designed to support the state's child care system** in utilizing federal funds to stabilize, strengthen, and sustain the child care system and **mitigate the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic** through Six targeted High-Leverage Strategies.

Maryland Rebuilds addresses systemic issues in the child care system so that all children have an equitable start in learning, including our most vulnerable children: children with disabilities, multilingual children, children experiencing homelessness, and children from low-income families.



GRANT INFORMATION GUIDE

Maryland Rebuilds: Grant Opportunity Transforming Maryland's Early Childhood Education System for the Future

> Maryland State Department of Education 200 West Baltimore Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201



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Six High-Leverage Strategies and Key Expectations

- 1. Expanding Access to Quality Child Care
- 2. Early Learning Models of Excellence
- 3. Expanding Mental Health Supports and Services
- 4. Growing a Highly-Effective Child Care Workforce
- 5. Boosting Family Child Care
- 6. Advancing a Coordinated Prekindergarten Enrollment System



Expanding Access to Quality Child Care

- Create an early childhood regional technical assistance center(s) for families.
- Develop a regional **outreach and support program** to increase child care provider participation in and advancement within the Maryland EXCELS system.

Related Priority: Communication & Public Awareness & Birth-8

Current Efforts Underway

Through Family Resource Specialists parents and guardians are assisted in applying for child care scholarships and help navigate the process including gathering all of the correct documentation that is needed, explain eligibility requirements, and help with questions.



Early Learning Models of Excellence

MSDE will select **16 sites** to provide opportunities for observation, professional learning, and development of resources to enhance the quality of other programs in the following ways:

- Participate in the Maryland Models of Excellence network
- Train and support other providers/programs to identify potential partners
- Demonstrate effective implementation of the Maryland early learning standards
- Share data demonstrating improved learning outcomes
- Be open to serving the provider/program/public prekindergarten community in a collaborative way

Related Priority: Workforce Development

- Funding for Child Care Quality Incentive Grant Program was increased.
- Providers who participate in the Maryland EXCELS are getting an increased bonus.
- Support for state and national accreditation has expanded.

Expanding Mental Health Supports and Services

Through one of the following three focus areas, applicants will:

- **Coordinate with state and/or local partners** (Judy Centers, ECACs, LITPs) to develop a plan to connect families to mental health support services.
- Develop a statewide social-emotional development curriculum that aligns with the Pyramid Model Framework and the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (SEFEL), and the Early Learning Social Emotional Standards.
- Coordinate with state and/or local partners to develop a cohort of child care providers, early childhood
 education teachers, and support staff for the prevention and response to challenging behaviors in young
 children using evidence-based practices and trauma-informed care.

Related Priority: Communication & Public Awareness and Workforce Development

- Expanded Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) Support Services program
- MSDE has also expanded support for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Certification.



Growing a Highly-Effective Child Care Workforce

Applicants will **design and launch** child care apprenticeship programs and other innovative initiatives to grow the pipeline of family home child care providers, and other support staff.

Related Priority: Workforce Development & Birth -8

- Retention and hiring bonuses are offered to participants in the Maryland Child Care Credentialing Program.
- Six staff credential levels and four administrator levels offer recognition of achievement based on professional development/education, years of experience, and professional activities established in House Bill 1100



Boosting Family Child Care

- **Develop and implement an incubator** that supports individuals who want to start up their own family child care business.
- Design and launch a **Shared Services Alliance** that benefits from the economies of scale of the State's more than 7,000 providers.
- Launch programs that support early childhood educators in obtaining a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credentials, Associate's and/or Bachelor's degrees.

Related Priority: Communication & Public Awareness, Workforce Development, and Birth -8

Current Efforts Underway

 Three Planning Grants of \$150,000 for Growing Opportunities for Family Child Care (GOFCC) were awarded to support the growth and sustainability of the family child care field.

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Advancing a Coordinated Prekindergarten Enrollment System

Applicants will design a **coordinated prekindergarten** enrollment system, **strengthen the participation** of private providers through parent choice, and **support alignment** of the birth to age 8 early childhood system. All 7 focus areas listed in the Grant Information Guide must be addressed.

Related Priority: Communication & Public Awareness, Workforce Development, and Birth -8

- Maryland Child Care Resource Network (MCCRS) Coordinating Entity and regional Child Care Resource Centers are expanding, providing leadership, training and other services to improve the quality, availability, and affordability of child care in communities across the state.
- The expanded Early Childhood Data System data system provides critical data collection and use for licensing, workforce supports, Child Care Scholarships, and Maryland EXCELS



Key Details

Deadline

PDF Applications were due no later than 11:59 p.m. on November 10, 2022, to the MD Rebuilds email. (*Application deadline was extended from October 10, 2022.*)

Grant Period

Award Announcement - TBD

December 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024

Total Funding Available

\$43 million

Estimated number of Grants

40-55

15

Information Sessions

September 2 - October 5, 2022 (Attendance to sessions or attestation of viewing session recordings was required for application)



Maryland Rebuilds

Funding Guidelines

Funds May Be Used For	Funds May Not Be Used For	
Salaries and wages	Capital improvements	
Instructional Materials	Cost(s) incurred prior to the	
Marketing Tools	approval of the grant	
Translation Services		
 Consulting and Technical Assistance 		
Supplies and materials		

Awardees will first spend funds during the grant implementation period and periodically invoice MSDE according to the approved project timeline. MSDE requires that all supporting documentation for submitted invoices be available upon request.

For entities expending federal funds of \$750,00 or more in a single fiscal year a copy of the most recent Single Audit Report is required with the grant application.

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Updates

- Internal MSDE review teams have been established; applications will first be prescreened.
- The Rebuilds team has received over 150 emails, held 15 individual sessions, 4 General Information Sessions (1 in Spanish and English) and 12 strategy specific sessions.
- Two upcoming strategy Q&A sessions on October 5th, focused on strategies 1-3 in session one & strategies 4-6 in session two.
- Grant information guide is translated into 10 languages.
- While potential applicants are noted in our presentation, we welcome applicants from all organization types.
- The rebuilds team provides technical assistance but not specific proposal guidance.
- Average attendance: General Information Sessions (200), Strategy Specific Sessions (100)



Notable Questions That Were Asked

- Do I qualify?
- Who are partners, and what does a partnership look like?
- Can this grant be used to build a child care center or purchase a trailer?
- What are child care deserts?
- Will funding be extended beyond June 30, 2024?
- How many awards will be issued, and can we apply outside of the anticipated award amount?
- Can we apply even though we have other grant funding from MSDE?
- How much indirect cost is allowed?
- Will grant funds be distributed evenly?

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Maryland Rebuilds Team Contact Information

Kisha Lee, PhD ECE Systems Director 410-767-0342

Andre Murray Program Manager 410-767-0583

Nicholas Miller Program Specialist 410-767-7814

Email <u>marylandrebuilds.msde@maryland.gov</u>

Website

https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/MDRebuilds



Questions?

AWARENESS BUILDING CAMPAIGN FOR MSDE'S PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

PRESENTED BY:

KRISTA RESPASS, MANAGING DIRECTOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SERVICES, MARYLAND PUBLIC TELEVISION

KRESPASS@MPT.ORG



PDG Goals and Activities Supported with On-Air Messaging

- Strengthen family engagement
- Promote and support inclusive settings
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



- Promote programs and resources to support workforce development
- Health and safety guidelines and practices



On-Air Messaging Campaign 2021-2022

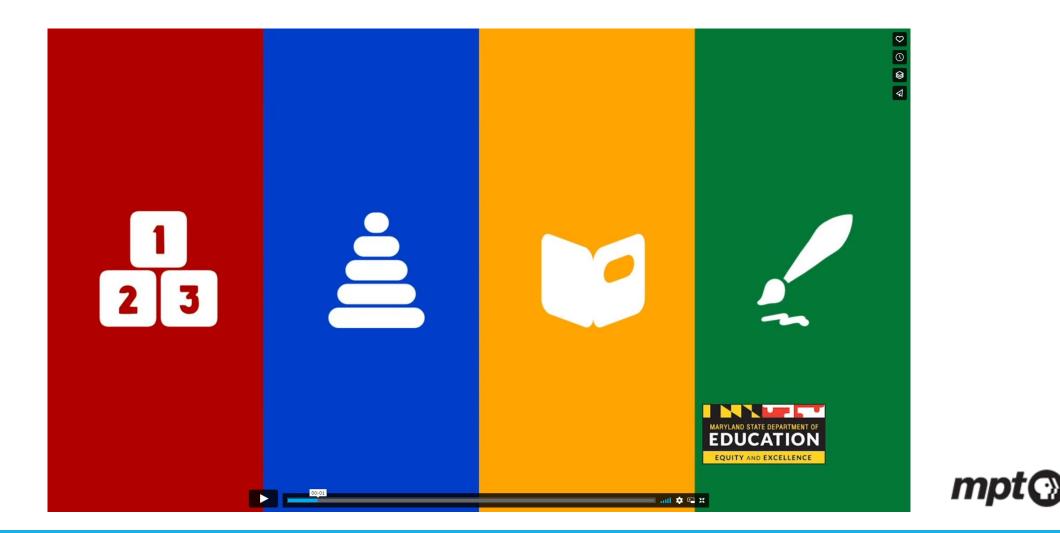


- Mask guidance
- Uplifting parents/healthy relationships
- Thank you child care providers
- Starting a family child care business

- Healthy Beginnings/Language development
- Maryland Messenger
- Child care scholarship program
- Honoring culture
- Maryland Families Engage



Your Early Learning Moment



On-Air Reach

531 spots
ran from
June 2021 –
May 2022
6 million
impressions

Parenting





2022-2023 Messaging Campaign



- Workforce Development
 Fund
- Maryland Child Care Credential
- Child Care Scholarships
- Judy Centers/Patty Centers
- Options for Early Learning Environments

- Child Development Associate Fund
- Training Voucher and Reimbursement Program
- •WIDA Early Years
- Zero to Three Critical Competencies
- KRA Messaging



Promotional Resources

- Approved Social Media Messaging
- Video links
- Supplemental Information

Торіс	Child Care Scholarships
Message Purpose (Background)	Children are born ready to learn, and high-quality child care can give all children a great start. Choosing the right child care program for your family is important, but finances don't have to be the deciding factor. The Child Care Scholarship Program is available to eligible families to help afford the cost of child care or other early learning programs.
Script	High-quality early learning can set the stage for lifelong success. The Child Care Scholarship program helps eligible families afford child care or other early learning opportunities so that all young Marylanders receive the best start. (35)
Website Links	 <u>Child Care Scholarship Rates</u>: Find current child care scholarship rates by region. <u>Child Care Scholarship Forms</u>: Apply for a child care scholarship or find more information about the program. <u>Maryland EXCELS</u>: Learn more about what makes a child care program high-quality, and locate child care programs participating in Maryland EXCELS, Maryland's quality rating and improvement system for programs that meet nationally recognized quality standards.
Facebook	Did you know? The Child Care Scholarship program can help your family afford the cost of high- quality child care. Eligible families can receive financial assistance within 30 days of applying for the scholarship program, and more families qualify than ever before. For more information about the Child Care Scholarship program, visit <u>www.marylandchild.org</u> .
Twitter (280)	Did you know? The Child Care Scholarship program helps families afford the cost of high quality child care. Eligible families can receive financial assistance within 30 days of applying, and more families qualify than ever before. For information visit <u>www.marylandchild.org</u> .
Instagram	Did you know? The Child Care Scholarship program can help you afford the cost of high-quality child care. Eligible families can receive financial assistance within just 30 days of applying, and more families qualify now than ever before. For more information about the Child Care Scholarship program, visit <u>www.marylandchild.org</u> .



Call to Action

Dedicated landing page on marylandchild.org Additional resources and contact information
 mpt()
 Schedule
 Watch Now
 What to Watch
 Kids & Education
 Community
 About
 Support MPT
 DONATE

Head Start is a no-cost early education program for children ages 3-5 years. Find a program in your area here.



Your Digital Backpack - MD Head Start Association from Thinkport.org on Vimeo.

Maryland PreK registration

Be sure to register your child for one on Maryland's high-quality Pre-K programs. Find your local contact information <u>here.</u>

Your Digital Backpack Learning Tip of the Week

Easy Math Activities

Check out these short videos of MPT education staff demonstrating easy <u>At-Home Learning activities</u> you can try with your kids!



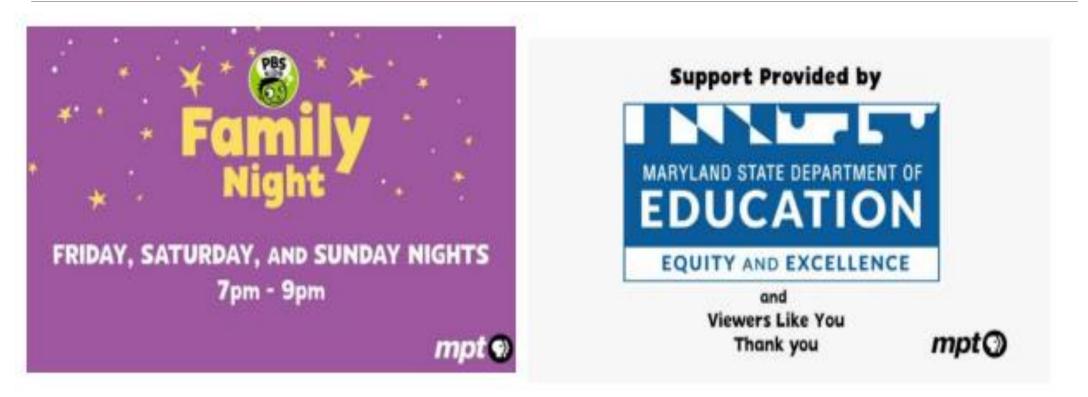
THINKPORT MPT

Estimating Capacity

Playing with water is always fun! Use containers in different shapes and sizes and let kids estimate which has more or less water. Practicing pouring back and forth to test their predictions.



PBS KIDS Family Night Sponsorship





Ready To Learn Initiative Statewide Outreach to Support PDG Activities





What is the Ready To Learn Initiative?

Educational Media

Innovative media for preschool and early elementary school children and their families. **Early Learning + School Readiness**

Community Engagement

Promotes early learning and school readiness for all children, especially children from low-income families.

Community engagement to enhance parent and educator capacity.





Learning Neighborhood Partnerships

Grant funds support professional development, family engagement and provide educational media resources focused on:

- social emotional learning,
- functional literacy,
- computational thinking
- building career connections.





Thank You!

More information about participating in the Ready To Learn Learning Neighborhoods will be available soon.

Contact: Krista Respass,

krespass@mpt.org







Questions?

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE



Judy Center Early Learning Hubs

Presented By

Kaymi Plank Judy Center Program Manager

Presentation Outline



- 1. Blueprint Growth
- 2. Satellite Sites
- 3. Populations Served by Judy Centers
- 4. Judy Centers and the School Community
- 5. Looking Ahead to 2023



Blueprint for Maryland's Future

Judy Center Early Learning Hubs are an integral part of The Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

Blueprint Legislation

- As part of the Blueprint, starting in 2022, Judy Centers will grow by 9 per year for the next five years and 18 by year in the subsequent five years.
- This year, **9 Judy Centers** opened using **Blueprint funding**, and **6 additional sites** are opening using **American Rescue Plan Funds**.

https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/Blueprint/Pages/StateBill.aspx; https://marylandpublicschools.org/Blueprint/Pages/ECE.aspx;

Judy Centers are Growing!

FY 23 New Judy Center Early Learning Hub Sites				
County	School	County	School	
	Abbottstown	Harford	Deerfield Elementary School	
Baltimore City	Holabird		Bradbury Heights	
	Sandalwood	Prince George's	Rosa Parks Elementary School	
Baltimore County	Featherbed	Queen Anne's	Grasonville Elementary	
	Gilpin Manor/Charlestown	St. Mary's	Lexington Park Elementary	
Cecil	Cecilton/Holly Hall	Washington	Emma K. Doub	
Charles	Indian Head Elementary	Worcester	Pocomoke	
Frederick	Monocacy			

Blueprint Legislation

Judy Centers are Growing by Jurisdiction!

There are 76 Judy Center grants across the state for this school year! These grants represent 85 sites.

Jurisdiction	Judy Centers	Jurisdiction	Judy Centers
Allegany	2	Harford	3
Anne Arundel	2	Howard	1
Baltimore City	14	Kent	1
Baltimore County	4	Montgomery	2
Calvert	2	Prince George's	5
Caroline	2	Queen Anne's	3
Carroll	3	Somerset	2
Cecil	5	St. Mary's	3
Charles	3	Talbot	2
Dorchester	2	Washington	3
Frederick	5	Wicomico	2
Garrett	3	Worcester	2

https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/Blueprint/Pages/StateBill.aspx; https://marylandpublicschools.org/Blueprint/Pages/ECE.aspx;

Blueprint

Waverly Elementary in Frederick County

In August of 2022, Waverly Elementary reopened as a community school in a new building. The new community wing allows families to connect to many community resources, including The Judy Center Early Learning Hub!





Satellite Sites for 2023-24

Satellite Sites

Satellite Sites

- Following **specific criteria**, current Judy Center sites can submit a proposal to **add a satellite site beginning in 2023**.
- Satellite sites are an opportunity to begin to serve those families in need outside of the primary Judy Center's catchment area.
- If the data shows there is a continued need for the satellite, LEAs are encouraged to make a plan to convert the satellite into a fully staffed, self-sustaining Judy Center Early Learning Hub by applying for a Judy Center Expansion Grant



Populations Served by Judy Center Early Learning Hubs

Populations Served at Judy Centers

Populations Served at Judy Centers

• Using a **multigenerational approach** for families and children, Judy Centers serve families in **Title I** and **high-needs** elementary schools in every Maryland jurisdiction.

*High need as indicated by a score of 0.6 or above on the Center for Disease Control's Social Vulnerability Index.

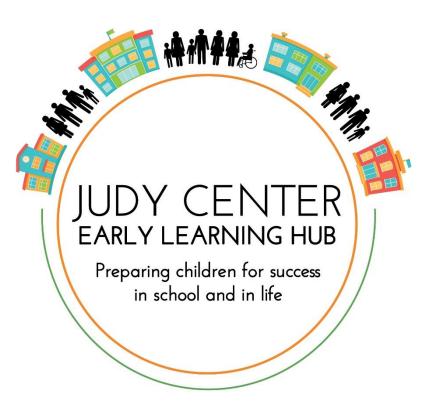
- Families with children **prenatal through age** 5 that live in the **school district (catchment area)** where the Judy Center is located.
- Children with IEPs and IFSPs are supported and participate in activities with their typically developing peers. Each Judy Center site may serve children with an IEP or IFSP outside of their catchment area depending on their site capacity and on a first come, first serve basis. The Judy Center should have a plan for all children on a waiting list or process for when they reach capacity.



Judy Centers and the School Community

Judy Center Early Learning Hubs-An Essential Part of the School Community

- Judy Center Early Learning Hub staff are a part of the school that they serve. When providing professional learning for early childhood staff, Judy Center staff should be included.
- Administrators and Judy Center Staff should have regular meetings to develop a shared understanding of the supports and services the Judy Center offers and the role the Judy Center plays in the school community.
- School administrators should participate in Judy Center programming/ learning opportunities whenever possible.
- Administrators ensure that Judy Center staff collaborates with Title 1 staff and community schools coordinators.



Administrators in Action!





Carroll County Principal Justin Watts and Assistant Principal Jen Shipley participate in an outreach event in the community with **Robert Moton Elementary** Judy Center Staff and school-wide staff. This outreach builds relationships in the community and identifies Judy Center families with young children birth through age 5.

Administrators in Action!



Mrs. Stephanie Brohawn, Principal at **Federalsburg Elementary** School, interacts with some of Caroline County's youngest learners. Early Head Start is under CCPS, so these little ones are already part of **Caroline County** Public Schools. Future Falcons right here! Allegany County's South Penn Elementary Principal, Scott Sisler participates in a Judy Center sponsored Earth Day event. Despite Mr. Sisler's incredibly busy schedule, he dedicated the entire day digging holes and building relationships with his youngest students! Pre-k and kindergarten students were assisted by Mr. Sisler and several Cumberland Police Officers in planting trees around the school building.



Judy Centers and the School Community

Judy Center Early Learning Hubs-An Essential Part of the School Community

- Judy Center staff should be a part of the school's improvement team (SIT). The Judy Center has performance measure goals related to child development/ school readiness and the KRA.
- When possible, Judy Center staff sit on the school's Student Support Team (SST).
- When invited, Judy Center staff attends Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)/ Individualized Education Program IEP meetings.
- **Regularly scheduled** individual or joint meetings are **held with teachers and program staff across all programs,** including prekindergarten, kindergarten, Head Start, childcare centers, and family care providers throughout the year.
- Judy Center staff share information, communicate and collaborate throughout the year with all program staff.



Judy Centers and the School Community

Judy Center Early Learning Hubs-An Essential Part of the School Community



- Articulation occurs across programs
 - Articulation includes Head Start, local childcare (early care and education), and public schools.
- The Judy Center supports in transitioning families/ children into the school.
 - Transition is a yearlong process based on community needs.
 - There are **transition strategies and activities** for children and families **across all programs**, including prekindergarten, kindergarten, Head Start, and early care and education, licensed home care providers, and children entering formal programs for the first time.



Looking Ahead to 2023

FOR

Looking Ahead to 2023

BLUEPRINT

MARYLAND'S FUTURE

Hub sites will be added next year.

In the spring of 2023, new grant applications will be
 released. You can visit the <u>Judy Center Grants page</u> for more information.

Nine additional Judy Center Early Learning

 All new sites must be in a Title I elementary school or an elementary school with a <u>CDC Social Vulnerability</u> <u>Index (SVI) of .6 or higher.</u> Looking Ahead to 2023

BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND'S FUTURE

Judy Center Space

- When applying for a Judy Center, consider the **location** in your school. There should be **dedicated space to house a Judy Center Coordinator and Family Service Coordinator**. There should be a **classroom/meeting space** that is comfortable for crawling infants through active preschoolers and adults.
- The Judy Center location will be operational year-round





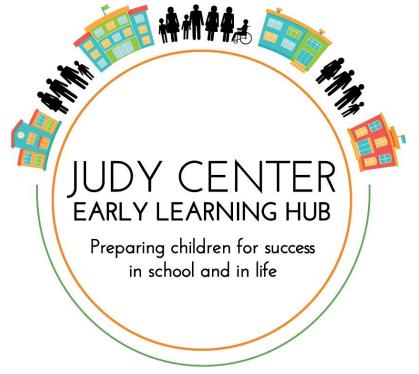
Questions?

Thank You!

If you have any further questions, please contact me using the information below

Kaymi Plank

Judy Center Early Learning Hub Program Manager Maryland State Department of Education Division of Early Childhood O: (410) 767-0675 <u>kaymi.plank@maryland.gov</u> 200 W. Baltimore Street Baltimore MD. 21201





Thank you

Lunch (on your own)

Afternoon Workgroups starts at 1pm.



Timeline of the State Early Childhood Advisory Council Priorities

2019 The State Early Childhood Advisory Council priorities were developed

- > Two priority areas were the focus:
 - Priority 1: Communication and Public Awareness
 - Priority 2: Workforce Development
- > A third priority was introduced by the former Assistant Superintendent but never began

2020-2021 (COVID-19)

- The State Early Childhood meetings went virtual
- The State's priorities pivoted to address COVID-19 related issues to support early care and education some of those topics included;
 - Early Childhood Systems Recovery Guide
 - Creating a meaningful and equitable measurement of parent engagement in early learning
 - Maryland Together: Maryland Recovery Plan for Childcare and the COVID-19 Response and the Path Forward



Timeline of the State Early Childhood Advisory Council Priorities

2021-2022

- The State's priority addressed mental health, expanding access to child care assistance, and expanding access to high quality child care
- > The American Rescue Act Grant (ARPA) was released
- > Early childhood opportunities were gleaned through the Blueprint for Maryland's Future

2022

State Early Childhood Advisory Council Revisits Priorities



Review Expectations for Workgroups

- We will break into three groups to review the current State Early Childhood Advisory Council Priorities created in 2019.
- Each attendee has been preassigned to a group and has a team lead for the group.
- Workgroup 1: Priority 1: Communication/Public Awareness Lead: Malkia (Kia) McLeod
- Workgroup 2: Priority 2: Workforce Development
- Workgroup 3: Priority 3: New Priority Suggestion

Lead: Donald (Don) Corbin

- Lead: Vanessa Jones
- Prior to starting the activity, the team lead will review the meeting norms and request one person to be the spokesperson for the group.
- Please read and review your team's priority and objectives and ask the questions listed below:

Workgroups 1 & 2 Focus Questions

- 1. Do the current priorities address the need of the State? Please explain your response.
- 2. Based on today's presentations, what objectives are still prevalent for the State?
- 3. Are there any objectives within the priority that should be extended or removed? Please explain your response.
- 4. Do you think there are new objectives that should be added to this priority?



Review Expectations for Workgroups (cont)

Workgroup 3 Focus Questions

- 1. What is missing from the current priorities?
- 1a. Why is the priority important?
- 2. What objectives would measure this priority?

3. What early care and education department/branch/agency would serve as the lead to achieve the objective?

As we revisit and create new and existing priorities, let's make sure they are supportive of Maryland Rebuilds, supports Maryland's multilingual learners and families and has a clear awareness of equity for all.

Everyone's voice is valuable! We need everyone's diverse perspectives and contributions!



Review Workgroup Discussions

Workgroup 1: Priority 1: Communication/Public Awareness Lead: Malkia (Kia) McLeod

Workgroup 2: Priority 2: Workforce Development

Lead: Donald (Don) Corbin

Workgroup 3: Priority 3: New Priority Suggestion

Lead: Vanessa Jones



State Early Childhood Advisory Council Announcements

- Please lookout for survey regarding today's meeting. This feedback will help inform the agenda for future meetings.
- All meeting materials will be sent out after the meeting.

Future State ECAC Meetings:

- February 1, 2023
 May 2, 2023
 August 23, 2023
- ➤ November 15, 2023



THANK YOU!

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

10,28,2022