

Local Early Childhood Advisory Council  
 Preschool Development Grant B-5 Outcomes



*Anne Arundel County*

Initial Goals	Goal Outcome:
<p><b>Goal 1:</b>            Address barriers and reduce the 24% gap between children in low-income families and those in middle and high income families demonstrating readiness on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment with a the Language &amp; Literacy and Social Foundations domains</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b>            Improve the 2020 census count of the early childhood populations in the traditionally undercounted area in Anne Arundel County (Brooklyn Park, Odenton, Ft. Meade, Annapolis etc) that coincide with the hard to reach census ROAM tracts to increase available funding for early childhood initiatives traditionally allocated based on census data.</p>	<p><b>Goal 1:</b>            The initial goals are based around the 2020 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. The goal cannot be measured until the results are released.</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b>            This is not measureable until the 2020 census is conducted.</p>

**Strategy**

**Initial Strategy:**

Three outreach events in hard to reach ROAM census areas offering ACES/trauma training, literacy bags giveaways and bi-lingual census information and demonstration. We will also create a “healing library” for military families.

**Strategy Outcome:**

- Three ACE trainings were conducted totaling 152 parents, childcare providers, & residents.
- 300 literacy bags were assembled and distributed to families
- Healing Kits were assembled in Fort Meade library branch and 10 healing kits were distributed

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*Calvert County*

<b>Initial Goal:</b>	<b>Goal Outcome:</b>
<p><b>Goal 1:</b>            To provide Responsibility Centered Discipline Training to promote social emotional learning to childcare providers and families in Calvert County.</p>	<p><b>Goal 1:</b>            Calvert County improved on both cognitive and social emotional development to enter Kindergarten.</p>

**Strategy**

**Initial Strategy:**

- a. Organize training opportunities, purchase materials and resources designed to effectively integrate the skills highlighted in Responsibility – Centered Discipline Training.
- b. Follow up observation and coaching will provide fidelity of implementation of newly acquire

**Strategy Outcome:**

- The number of trainings offered to staff and families was not identified
- “Childcare staff needed additional time to practice strategies before requesting one on one coaching from trainer. Only 33% request coaching. A minimum of six months is needed to effectively implement strategies.”
- 50% percentage of childcare staff participated in training and 29 families attended
- Implementation was not effectively documented due to the grant award ending Oct 2019-Dec209

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**Carroll County**

Initial Goals:	Goals Outcome:
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> To provide professional development to childcare providers in the area of social emotional development.</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b> Assist school readiness achieve gap as measured by the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment</p>	<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Second Step Training and kits were provided to Child Care providers who achieved an EXCEL level 3 or higher</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b> The initial goals are based around the 2020 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. The goal cannot be measured until the results are released</p>
<p><b>Strategy</b></p> <p><b>Initial Strategy:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To engage parents, childcare providers, educators, policy makers, pediatricians, and business leaders in the community</li> <li>b. On November 12, host a screening of the movie titled <i>NO SMALL Matter and learn about the purpose of CCECAC</i>, network with other community agencies, and listen to panel discussion which focus on the value of investing in early childhood development</li> </ol> <p><b>Strategies Outcome:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The grant allowed the renaming of the committee from Early Childhood Consortium to Carroll County ECAC in an affect to realign the local council to the state ECAC. We relaunched our purpose and refocused our time together as guided by the Leadership team. We have increased our members through recruitment.</li> <li>• Screening of No SMALL Matter were conducted (<i>number of participants or days of screening were not provided in report</i>)</li> <li>• Increased the membership of the CCECAC to represent all stakeholder within the community</li> </ul>	

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**Wicomico County**

<b>Initial Goal:</b>	<b>Goal Outcome</b>
<p><b>Goal 1:</b>            To create a strategic plan that achieves a comprehensive, shared vision for Wicomico early childhood education and programming.</p>	<p><b>Goal 1:</b>            A three-year strategic plan (2020-2022) plan was created and will be shared on Facebook.</p>

**Strategy**

**Initial Strategies**

A Strategic Planning Committee in partnership with Due East Partners will be hired, as consultants during the project, will oversee the planning process. The project consist of three phrase work

- a. The first phase will be to gather information, which will guide the direction of the strategic plan (including surveys, interviews, and reviewing local data.)
- b. The second phase, will involve Common Agenda for all WECC members and focus groups will be conducted to gain feedback on the agenda developed and with the creation of a draft of the strategic plan, by laws, and management dashboard.
- c. The third phase will end refine and finalize these documents with input from all WECC members and will conclude with planning the implementation of the final strategic plan.

**Strategies Outcome:**

- The three-year strategic plan was created establishing by laws and a management dashboard project tracker that is ready to be implemented.
- Focus group meeting attendance: afternoon session, thirteen participants and evening sessions eleven participants
- The WECAC has submitted the strategic plan to the Wicomico County Council and will upload it to the Facebook page for public view. Digital or paper copies are available upon request. The subcommittee will be developing a brochure, and a one-page document that could be placed in libraries, child care centers, doctors offices etc.

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**Charles County**

Initial Goal:	Goal Outcome:
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> To increase Charles County Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) scores (paying close attention to Western Charles County including India Head and Bryans Road, as these lacking access to resources)</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b> Increase Head Start students Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) scores</p>	<p><b>Goal 1:</b> The initial goals are based around the 2020 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. The goal cannot be measured until the results are released.</p> <p><b>Goal 2:</b> The initial goals are based around the 2020 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. The goal cannot be measured until the results are released.</p>

**Strategy**

**Initial Strategies:**

- a. Use family engagement events to model skills and strategies that can be done at home to increase school readiness
- b. Provide family engagement nights with a focus on school readiness and professional development opportunities for early childhood providers, including Head Start
  1. Social Foundation learning event (Conscience Discipline) is planned for October 5<sup>th</sup> for Early Childhood professionals including Judy Center staff, Prek teachers and Head Start staff
  2. Other events for parents: Math is Fun- September Literacy-October Math October Literacy-Dec
- c. Develop a website that families can visit and can access links to activities in the community geared toward Birth through Five as well as videos and strategies families can utilize at home to increase school readiness.
- d. Plan an event to reach the entire population- Community event to promote ECAC and Kindergarten readiness

**Strategies Outcome:**

- Conscience Discipline Training occurred in October as planned, Morning session was geared to Child Care providers (39 attendees), Afternoon session were geared toward parents (18 attendees) January Training was also offered – Enrollment for the second Conscience Discipline Training doubled ( actually amount was not given)
- Family Engagement- Parent Reading Workshop Offered in October (16 parents & 20 children attended) Math Workshop occurred in October (18 parents & 25 children attending) Families learned about reading, math, and social emotional development. Literacy Workshop held in December hosted by Pure Play Every Day, Math Workshop in November by The Promise Resource Center
- Collaborate with Charles County Family Day Care Association & TAM program at North Point High School

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**Frederick County**

Initial Goal:	Goal Outcome:
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> To raise awareness on delivery of trauma informed services and the emerging science of resilience to the county and infuse this into the work with early childhood educators, social service leaders and cross-sector allies, and it is strategic planning.</p>	<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Awareness was raised and three events were conducted with early childhood educators, social service leaders and cross-sector allies, and the strategic plan was developed for three years</p>

**Strategy**

**Initial Strategies:**

- a. Half day cross sector summit by Harvard Center for the Developing Child on the science of brain development, the impact of adverse childhood experiences and trauma, the critical elements of trauma-informed services delivery and the science of resilience.
- b. Conference for early childhood educators- The conference will provide the science of brain development, the impact of adverse childhood experiences and trauma, and a variety of skill building workshops, including a pilot of mindfulness workshops with early child care providers.
- c. ECAC will extend ECE care provider series on specific trauma informed yoga techniques that have been developed and implemented with grade level teams in five Title 1 Frederick County Public Schools. 9 The workshop series called Mindfulness, Breath, and Movement Skills for Classroom Use includes three 1.5-hour sessions each focused on a specific modality taught in a sequence.
- d. The Early Childcare Conference and the Cross-Sector Summit will then inform the ECAC's strategic planning process, which is the third step. The strategic planning process will integrate the latest data on the local impact of ACE, the science shared at the events, and the unique organizational focus, strengths and opportunities of the ECAC.

**Strategies Outcome:**

- *The first* was a summit entitled: We Design: Applying 21st Century Science to Improve Outcomes for Children. 115 attendees with a wide range of community perspectives attended the summit. *The second event* was a Learning Day Child Care Conference. 105 people attended, 82 were childcare providers. This full day conference began with a keynote address entitled: Mind Management: Neuroscience, Self-Care and Life Success by Frank Kros, Attendees participated in two afternoon sessions. Choices included Trauma and the Brain (Frank Kros), Right from the Start (Frank Kros), Using Visual Supports to Promote Independence and Success, and The Brain Architecture Game. *The final event* was a class primarily for childcare teachers entitled: Trauma-Informed Mindfulness, Breath and Movement for the Early Childhood Classroom. This was offered twice by a Trauma Informed Yoga Instructor and 41 participants attended.
- As an ECAC, we contracted with a trained facilitator in strategic planning to guide us in this process. We spent a half-day reviewing and analyzing applicable data. We then spent a full day working together on the strategic planning using SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis and Turn the Curve activities. We identified four main goals and strategies for the next three years and will be aligning our local 3 year strategic plan with the state's strategic plan.

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**Queen Anne's County**

Initial Goal:	Goal Outcome:
Goal 1: To increase the number of prior care providers utilizing the Ages and Stages Questionnaire.	Goal 1: QACECA increased the number of prior care providers from Queen Anne County trained to utilize ASQ-3 .
Strategy	
<p>Initial Strategy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Provide professional development for prior care provider</li> <li>b. Provide prior care providers with ASQ-3 materials to support administration of the ASQ-3</li> <li>c. Provide technical support to provide through a follow up session.</li> </ol> <p>Strategy Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To achieve the first goal, a MOU was created with Chesapeake College as a contractual partner to provide Continued Education Units and Core of Knowledge Credits to prior care participants QACECAS developed a contract with a certified ASQ-3 Trainer . On October 22, 2019, thirty-three prior care providers from Queen Anne's County attended the first two sessions.</li> <li>• Complete sets of the ASQ-3 and learning activities books in English and Spanish materials were provided to prior care providers in attendance.</li> <li>• On January 23, 2020, QACECAC hosted a follow up session for prior care providers, fifteen participants attended. During the following up, participants were able to work on a mock ASQ-3, discuss scoring items, share opinions, and discuss barrier and challenges they experienced when reporting findings with child givers/parents.</li> </ul>	

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*Allegany County*

Initial Goal:	Goal Outcome:
<p><b>Goal 1:</b> Narrow the achievement gap of the low income and special needs children from entering school ready to learn by focusing on social and emotional development of children birth to three through parent engagement.</p>	<p>Goal 1: The expo and social media provided opportunities to promote social emotional development and the website allows families a single place to gather information on developmental milestones, partner resources and community activities.</p>

Strategy

Initial Strategy:

- a. Proposed activities include the development of a website to serve as a clearinghouse for families' parent engagement through social media and an infant toddler expo.
- b. Data on birth to three population will be collected through surveys to strengthen the community needs assessment, which will drive future programming.

Strategy Outcome:

- Little Sprouts & Company social media page were launched on Facebook (@LittleSproutsCompany), Instagram (@LittleSproutsCompany), & Twitter (@CompanySprouts) as a way to communicate with young families. Due to the late notice of the grant award, the social media was not launched until October 5, 2019. By October 31, 2019, we had a total of 292 followers, (275 following Facebook, 15 followers on Instagram and 2 followers on Twitter). As of February 2020, we had a total of 469 followers, (426 following Facebook, 41 Instagram followers, and 2 Twitter Followers). We have been able to promote the importance of social emotional development, advertise our partners programs and promote community family engagement activities.
- The Little Sprouts & Company website ([www.littlesproutscsco.org](http://www.littlesproutscsco.org)) was developed to serve as a clearinghouse for developmentally appropriate practices, community resources and a calendar of events relevant to families of young children. To assist families with navigating the multitude of programs and resources available, this website serves as a "one-stop-shop" for information and contain links to the community agencies serving this population. Due to the late grant award notice, the contract for website development was not signed until October 14, 2019 with work beginning October 22, 2019. The development of the website was further delayed by the difficulty the temporary employee encountered obtaining information from partners. A soft launch of the website occurred on February 3, 2020 with 18 unique site visits by February 21, 2020.
- The Little Sprouts & Company Expo was held on November 9, 2019. 114 families attended with 145 infants and toddlers. Families were able to engage with 23 vendors to learn about available resources and services as well as developmentally appropriate activities.
- As part of the efforts of this grant, a community assessment was created to gain more insight into the needs of families with infants and toddlers. The data provided demographic information as well as confidence level on knowing when to contact doctors and dentists, knowing developmental milestones and satisfaction level with daily routines. The ECAC will use this data to create future targeted messaging and to work with partners to seek funds that will promote programs based on prevalent needs as defined by families.