

State Early Childhood Advisory Council

November 13, 2019
PDG B-5 Grant Update





Preschool Development Grant B-5 Project

Purpose: Conduct a year-long, comprehensive state planning process that seeks to operationalize MD's strategic vision for children ages B-5 and their families. Focus on improving program effectiveness, funding efficiencies, and supporting innovative and research-based approaches.





Maryland's Prenatal to Grade 3 Vision

Maryland's vision for its Prenatal-Grade 3 Early Childhood State System is a well-coordinated and integrated system of programs, supports, and services where every child in the state has the opportunity to access a high-quality early childhood experience, arriving at school with a healthy body, healthy mind, and the foundational knowledge and skills needed to succeed; and that every family has access to the resources needed to be effective as their child's first and most important teacher and advocate. A child's access to quality early childhood experiences and the positive outcomes that result will not be contingent on income, race, zip code, disability status, nor English language proficiency.

Needs Assessment Data Sources

Document Review

- 107 documents conducted in the last 15 years

Town Hall Meetings

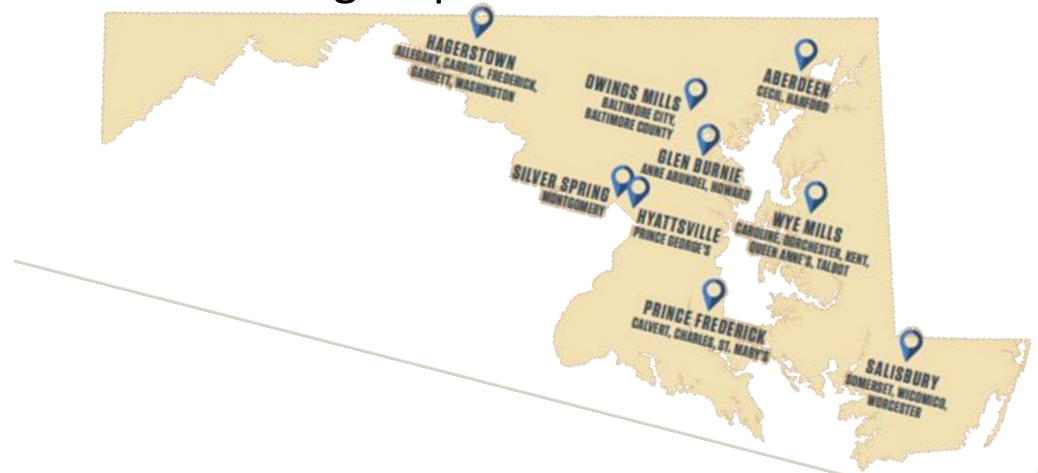
- 18 meetings across 9 sites in Maryland with 686 attendees

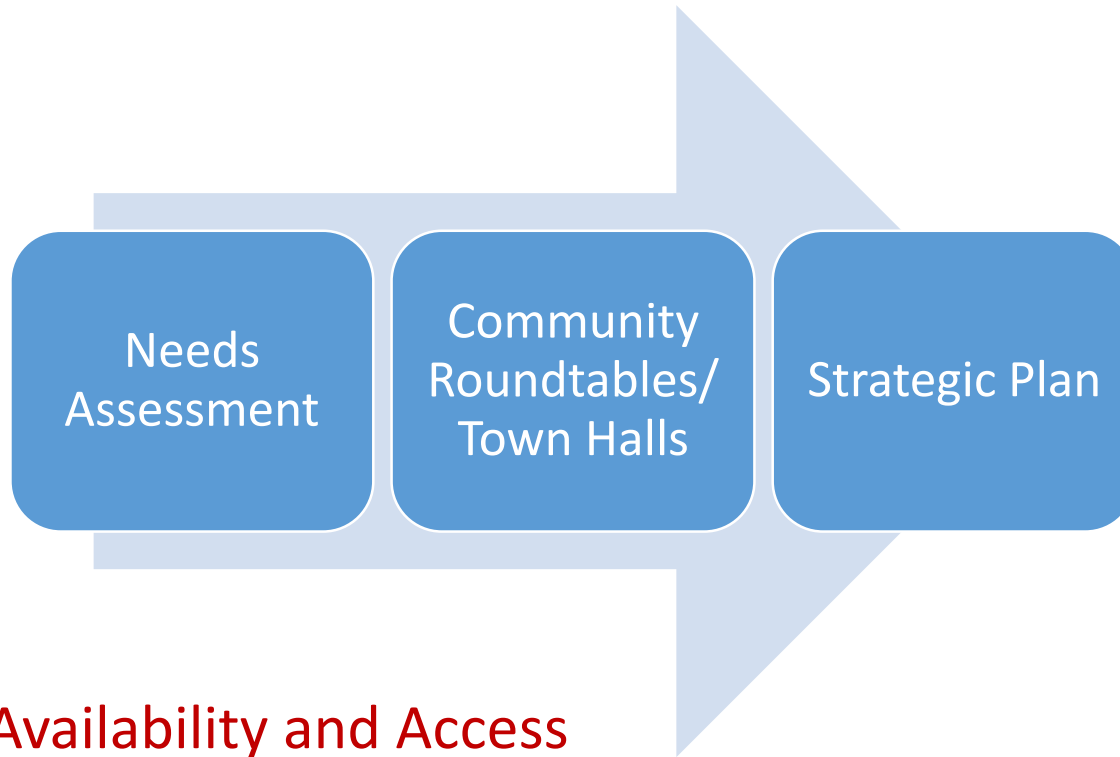
Stakeholder Survey

- 1,281 valid responses to the survey available in seven languages: **English, Spanish, French, Urdu, Chinese, Amharic, and Arabic**

Focus Group discussions

- 179 stakeholders participated in 17 focus groups





- (1) Availability and Access
- (2) Quality
- (3) Transitions
- (4) Systems Infrastructure and Coordination
- (5) Parent Knowledge/Family Engagement
- (6) Data Systems
- (7) Costs and Funding

Key Findings

Many Marylanders experience limited access to ECE services, especially vulnerable families including:

- families of children with special needs,
- families of English Learners (ELs),
- immigrant families,
- low-income families and families living in rural areas.



Key Findings

Families struggle to navigate the ECE system and parents often do not know about programs and services available to them.



Key Findings

Despite efforts to improve the coordination of Maryland's ECE programs, the system is still fragmented.



Key Findings

ECE professionals experience access barriers to *teacher preparation* and *professional development programs* which leads to a shortage of qualified staff across the state.



Key Findings

Data driven decision making is made more difficult by gaps in coordinated data systems.



What's New in PDG B-5?

- WIDA Early Years 2nd Institute Cohort; Statewide Kick-Offs
- LENA Grow pilot underway in 3 Family Support Centers
- Attendance Works project start
- LECAC Grants
- Library Grants
- Equity Training



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What's Next for PDG B-5?

Strategic Planning

- Draft Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan currently posted for public comment.
- Expanding the Strategic Plan to include Strategic Actions and measurable Indicators to track progress and monitor success.
- Ongoing process throughout PDG Renewal Grant.

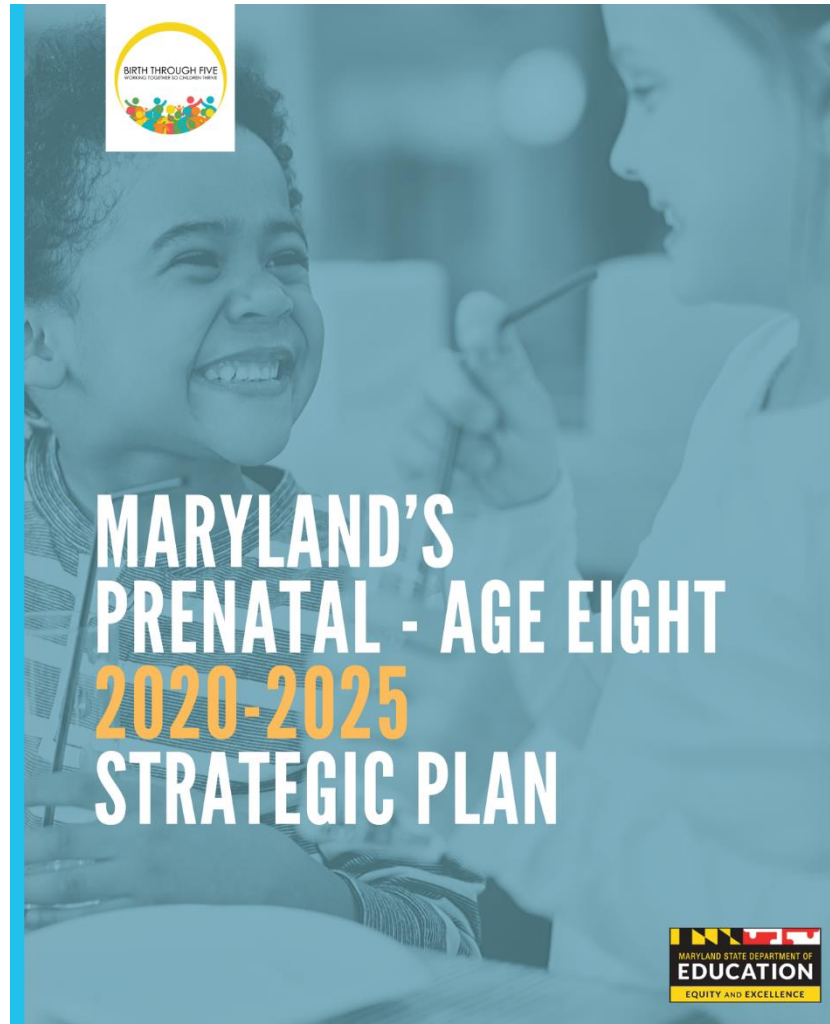
No-Cost Extension Requests

Renewal Application

- Eligible for 30 million over 3 years.
- Award announcement expected by December 31, 2019.



Strategic Plan Comments



Questions & Comments

