



**Montgomery County Commission on Child Care  
Full Commission Meeting Agenda  
Wednesday, November 18, 2020  
6 pm-8 pm**

**Meeting Will Be Held Via Microsoft TEAMS Videoconference/Teleconference**

**Microsoft TEAMS Link: click [here](#)**

**Teleconference Dial-In Information: [+1 443-692-5768](tel:+14436925768), Conference ID: 414 067 766#**

*The mission of the Commission on Child Care is to advise the County Executive and County Council on the development, implementation, and effectiveness of government policies, programs, and services that enhance community support for quality, affordable and accessible child care.*

**6 p.m. Call to Order and Opening (Lindsey Allard Agnamba)**

- **Chair Calls the Meeting to Order**
  - Lindsey: facilitator
  - Sybil: timekeeper
  - Tracey: guardian
- **Roll Call (to determine quorum)**
- **Introduction of Sherry Tsigounis, MSDE Deputy Branch Chief, Montgomery County, Office of Child Care**
- **Introduction of Guests (if present)**

*\*\*Any guests participating via videoconference or teleconference please unmute and identify yourself (name) at this time*

- **Chair's Opening Remarks**
  - Thank you for being here, and for the work that you have continued to do to support the child care community as well as the Commission on Child Care's mission to move our advising efforts forward.

*\*\*Reminder about CCC meeting hosted via Microsoft TEAMS*

**6:15 Review and Vote on October 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes (sent electronically)**

**6:20 Commission Business:**

- **Review and Vote on Recommendations for 2019-20 Annual Report (see draft below)**
  - 2 minutes – Will to lift up any highlights from the draft that he thinks are critical
  - 3 minutes – discussion (suggestions, additions)
  - 2 minutes – vote
- **Review and Vote on Final Draft of 2019-20 Annual Report**

**6:30 Presentation: Amy Turner-Thole, Education Advocate and MMF Consultant & Franca Brilliant, MMF Consultant, Montgomery Moving Forward: ECE Entity Project**

- **Questions from CCC:**
- What are the components that MMF is focusing on using the term ECE sector? (child care, home visiting, early intervention, etc.)?
- In Montgomery County, we have many organizations that lead in decision making for ECE, how might one serve in the best interest of all? How are you bring ALL to one table, and what do you imagine decision making would look like?

- It is evident during the most recent times that all sectors are affected by ECE workforce, what are some key points that you would present to the private sector community to invest their time and funds? Can you give an example of success?
- Due to the Covid- 19 crisis, how have you redesigned your action steps since this has deeply impacted or changed the face of the industry with many closing and unable to recover from this pandemic?
- By MMF coming into existence and creating this movement or structure how does might this align with the CCC's ongoing efforts and our mission to advise the County Executive/Council?

#### **7:30 Discussion/Questions on Updates (if submitted)**

- Yvonne Iscandari
- Barbara Andrews
- Monica Ortiz
- Bill Polman

#### **7:40 Questions/Comments from Guests Attending Meeting**

#### **7:50 Next Steps/Action Items (Erin to record)**

- Work plan development (to include our best sense of activities, roles, and outcomes) – who is available to work on this prior to the next meeting? 2-3 people would be ideal.

#### **8:00 pm Full Commission Adjournment**

**Pre-Work: Please review the following Recommendations for Annual Report (this content can also be found in the “Recommendations” section of the 2019-20 Annual Report:**

The mission of the Commission on Child Care is to advise the County Executive and County Council on the development, implementation, and effectiveness of government policies, programs, and services that enhance community support for quality, affordable and accessible child care.

In the middle of FY20, like all Americans, the Commission had to shift its focus and priorities first to the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic repercussions but also to the dramatic unfolding of events that followed the death of George Floyd and nationwide protests. The result of shutting down the economy has catalyzed already existing inequalities and brought to the surface underlying issues centered around the delivery of childcare. As a result, increasing affordability and access to childcare has now become a cornerstone of rebuilding the US economy. In addition, recent calls for racial justice by an increasing amount of citizens have forced those in power both in the public and private sector to question long held assumptions about racial progress. Those in charge of institutions tasked with creating and implementing policy are forced to re examine its impact on mitigating negative racial and gender bias. The three main recommendations of the Commission generate from contact and communication with very its diverse group of stakeholders:

1. Increase Workforce: Continued and increased funding for Professional Development. The CCC can share personal stories of child care professionals who have been elevated in their careers by utilizing professional development funds and opportunities. Access to these funds can open opportunities for childcare workers to further pursue a career in education or business ownership that brings them closer to the middle class. Introducing early care and education as a profession to high school students as a viable career pathway could increase the labor pool.
2. Increase Affordability: Improve customer service/customer assistance to parents who apply for MSDE child care scholarship and local WPA while improving support to providers who accept state scholarship and WPA. Continue funding for school age programs in some of the most vulnerable communities because they are from some of the more economically stressed homes/communities.

Without assistance they may not be eligible to attend these same programs once the health emergency is over and funding has ended.

3. Increase Public Awareness: Find effective ways to spread the word to the parent and provider community about programs, funding, grants, etc. that exist in MC (specifically new programs/funding that were created in response to COVID). Also, by communicating to child care providers that are NOT currently in MCPS/CUPF space it may be beneficial to create a digital “dashboard” where parents, providers and community members can easily access updated information that pertains to early care.

For future consideration is the long term effect of teleworking on the workforce of MC. How will this effect childcare patterns?

Please review the following from MMF:



## **Public-Private ECE Coordinating Entity (“Entity”) Staff Draft of November 10, 2020**

**Note:** This document will continue to evolve over the next few weeks as Montgomery Moving Forward (MMF) continues its engagement process with external and internal stakeholders and obtains the final input of the MMF Leadership Group.

The Entity must:

- Focus solely on early care and education (ECE)
- Have a governance structure comprised of representatives from both the public and private sectors who serve in a fiduciary capacity and have voting and decision-making authority
- Receive both public and private funds and regularly report to the community on its strategic plan, implementation and use of funds to support those efforts
- Recognize that the private sector includes a diverse group of community stakeholders such as philanthropy, ECE providers and employers/business leaders outside of the ECE sector
- Act as a neutral convenor and system-wide connector to mobilize the ECE priorities that benefit the entire community, considering factors of racial equity, human development, and economic improvement.

- Work at a systems-level with a bird's eye view of all of the ECE programs and services in the County, but refrain from providing early care and education services itself
- Map and make recommendations about all ECE dollars, whether in its control or not, with an eye to a comprehensive and cohesive strategic response to community identified ECE needs
- Work with existing policy and advisory committees and groups in the County to incorporate, align and amplify a consistent and singular voice of ECE issues