



**Commission on Child Care  
Meeting Minutes  
April 26, 2023-Approved  
Meeting hosted virtually on Microsoft TEAMS**

**Members Present:** Jennifer Arnaiz, L'Ornya Bowie, Dr. Gearline Bryan, Tracey Clay, Elka Forbes, Brandon Howard, Jennifer Penrose, Tara Philips, Bill Polman, Nagwa Rizk, Lesley Romanoff, and Verna Washington

**Members Absent:** Allison Fialkov, Yvonne Iscandari and Laurie Moran

**Guests:** Doreen Engel (The Arc of Montgomery County)

**Staff Present:** Erin Stilwell (DHHS)

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**Meeting Called to Order:** Tara Phillips, CCC Chair, called the (virtual) full commission meeting to order at 6:35 pm

**Roll Call and Introduction of Guests**

**Review and Vote on March 22, 2023 Full Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Action:** Motion to accept the March 22, 2023, 2023 meeting minutes as written: L'Ornya Bowie  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Brandon Howard  
All in Favor

**Call for Nomination for Chair and Vice Chair:** The CCC opened the floor in a call for nomination for the chair and vice chair positions to serve during the 2023-24 commission year. No nominations were provided. Commissioners were encouraged to either self-nominate or nominate a fellow commissioner to serve in one of the leadership roles. Voting is set to take place at the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**June Annual Planning Retreat:** The CCC plans to host their Annual Planning Retreat "in person" on Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> beginning with a light dinner at 6:00 pm. More details to follow.

**State Legislative Updates (Jennifer Arnaiz)** The 2023 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly closed on April 10, 2023. The CCC was provided with a list of ECE bills that passed/not passed during this legislative session. Jennifer Arnaiz highlighted some of the bills including HB0136 and HB1219.

**Committee Report Outs:** Brandon Howard provided an update on the work of the Public Policy committee. The Programmatic Issues committee will present their report out at the May meeting.

**State Scholarship and WPA Update:** Yvonne Iscandari was not able to attend the meeting, but provided a written update that was shared with the CCC:

- OESS has hired a contract Outreach Specialist. The role of the outreach specialist is to make contacts with various businesses, schools, churches, libraries, etc. and share information

about the WPA program. In the last few weeks, the specialist has contacted over 23 different locations.

- WPA Program Updates
  - Number of children receiving WPA FY23: 647
  - Number of children receiving Supplements FY23: 1269
  - Number of nondocumented children receiving vouchers: 4

**Committee Break Out Sessions and Adjournment for Committees**

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

The next Commission on Child Care Meeting will be hosted virtually on May 24, 2023