Early Childhood Advisory Council Notes
Meeting 8: Wednesday, June 11, 2014
9:00 am to 12:00 noon
Johns Hopkins University
A & R Building

Members Present:
Barbara Andrews
Roberto Flores for Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta
Jennifer Arnaiz
Janine Bacquie
Seena Bulmash
Robin Chernoff
Patsy Evans
Natasha Fields
Mary Gies
Kim Grant
Jeanne Berg for Michelle Green
Linda Owen
Debra Poese
John Surr
Meredith Myers
Tobi Printz-Platnick
Verna Washington
Portia Willis
Sarah Wilch-Spamer

Guests:
Vickie DiSanto
Barbara Warman

Guest Speaker:
Staci Goffin

MEETING RESULTS

1. Movement toward consensus among ECAC members on essential elements of a comprehensive and integrated early childhood system in Montgomery Co.
2. Prioritizing system development elements of ECAC's Action Plan.

Small and Whole Group

- **What are characteristics of an ECAC comprehensive and integrated early childhood system?**
- **How would you know it's in place? How would practitioners know? How would families know?**
- **What is the one thing that you would like see changed for children and families?**
    - **Identify two priorities that you would like changed?**

1. What's the "relationship problem"? i.e., what's not working about the relationship?
2. Why is making this a healthy relationship a priority for creating a comprehensive EC system?
3. Why do you believe the ECAC can have impact on this relationship by June 2015?
4. Is anyone else working on this relationship? If so, who?
5. Who is part of this "relationship"?

Conclusion of strategic planning

ECAC Business Meeting

Opening

- ECAC link is now live on the DECPS website
    - The link will be sent to the ECAC membership

Notebooks and Books

- ECAC Members received a tabbed notebook
- Membership received Stacie Goffin's book

September Meeting Structure: Vote

- Second Thursday morning of the month/4 meetings per year plus one scheduled retreat each Spring (total 5)
- Membership voted on hosting Stacie Goffin for the September 11, 2014 meeting (Includes follow-up for 2 hours/meeting for 1 hour or no follow-up and just a 2 hour meeting):
    - Motion to have Stacie Goffin facilitate the September 11, 2014 meeting
        - Vote: 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained
        - Resolved: Motion carried
- **Meeting Calendar and Structure for FY15 Vote:**
  Thursday, November 13, 2014 9:00 – 11:00 am
  Thursday, February 12, 2015 9:00 – 11:00 am
  Thursday, April 9, 2015 Retreat 8:30 am – 12:30 pm
  Thursday, June 11, 2015 9:00 – 11:00 am
    - Motion accept the proposed meeting schedule for next year
        - Vote: 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained
        - Resolved: Motion carried

- Outlook invites will be sent so that the membership may include upcoming meetings on their calendars

Committee Reports

- **Family Engagement**
    - 2 to 4 focus groups
    - Jennifer and Paulina have volunteered to facilitate parent focus group meetings in Spanish
    - Begin the week of June 17th
    - Parents will discuss knowledge of school readiness and challenges and barriers to community services
    - Dinner will be provided
    - Backpacks and school supplies will be given to participants
    - Gaithersburg meeting at the Gaithersburg Judy Center
    - Donations for backpacks are being accepted
    - Childcare will be provided
    - A standard set of questions will be developed and notes will be taken at each meeting
        - What type of support or help are you getting from the pediatrician
        - List of questions will be shared with the ECAC

- **Literacy Committee**
    - Contacted Reach out and Read
    - The new chair for the literacy committee is Portia Willis
    - Been in touch with the AAP for free developmental screening training for pediatricians
    - BHIP – Medical practitioners call in for mental health info/referrals
    - List of programs that accept MA (50 to 60 names in Gaithersburg)
    - Talked with a person who does developmental assessment (only about ½) – Low numbers
    - Tried to determine which providers are most active
    - Go into the practices giving them a holistic approach for identifying children they are serving
    - Reached out the Family Literacy Council, MICEAL
- **Public Outreach**
    - Jennifer Arnaiz is the chair
    - Increase the call volume to ChildLink by 10%
    - At the last meeting the logo was addressed
        - Utilizing the logo in the most effective way
        - Consistent message throughout the county
        - Can this message of help me grow be expanded?
        - How can we help you help your child grow, thrive and learn
        - Jennifer shared lessons learned from the WPA media campaign on busses
        - Went through the details and of what it would take to launch a media campaign using the busses
        - 300 inserts on the inside of busses and on the outside was $11,000 for a 4 week period
        - Print campaign using what has already been utilized the brochures have been printed and what the message is and update this information
        - Print materials should be sent to providers pediatricians, libraries, school heath nurses, large apartment complexes
        - Enlisting the help of the ECAC to get information out
        - Focus group question: "What is missing in public outreach?"
            - Linda will forward the question to Natasha
        - Access Smart phone technology
        - Produce and distribute" pocket bios" for each recommendation of the ECAC with an introduction of what we are about
        - Establish a listserve among ECAC members

Update on Key Projects

- Further development of ECAC
- Early childhood throughout the county and updated demographic report on families and young children
- Media Campaign
- Neighborhood Project
    - Focus Groups with parents, teachers and child care providers
    - 2 parent cafes with HHS staff
        - Need for knowledge and the need for support
    - Working on connections to Gaithersburg Elementary School
    - Working on the introduction to the breakthrough center with child care providers in the Gaithersburg area for professional development

- A schedule of activities will be provided to the ECAC if they choose to participate

Housekeeping

- Committees, please copy Janine, Barbara, and Sarah on minutes for committee meetings
- Send the sign-in sheet to Sarah

Adjournment