



March Baltimore City ECAC Meeting

March 15, 2023

1:30 pm via Zoom

Meeting Objectives:

By the end of the meeting, members will:

- Vote on 12/7/22 ECAC meeting minutes
- Obtain updates from workgroups
- Get an update on Blueprint Ad Hoc workgroup planning
- Get an update on funding for ECAC
- Hear from fellow ECAC members

Attendees:

Allison Van Horn

Angelique Jessup

Ashley Bush

Briana Bostic

Cathy Costa

Chantal Sinady

Crystal Francis

Ebony Holliday

Garmia Bhatt Handley

Gloria Valentine

Heather Yost

Imani Angela Rose

JoAnn Jamison

Joshua Michael

Khalilah Slater-Harrington

Lieny Jeon

Linda Callahan

Lindsey Snyder

Margo Candelaria

Martha Hollemon

Mari Beth Moulton

Melissa Rock

Nkenge Yasin

Nikira Epps

Rachel Demma

Ruby Daniels

Shannon Boroughs-Campbell

Tracy Harris

Yolanda Jenkins

Xiangyu Olivia Zhao

Welcome & Icebreaker: *Imani Angela Rose & Crystal Francis*

Vote on 12/7/2022 meeting minutes: Imani motioned to approve. Margo seconded the motion.

Members approved unanimously!



Workgroup Reporting

- **All Hands In; Crystal Francis & Imani Angela Rose**
 - Met with Open Heart and Smart Thinking workgroup leads
 - Working with Martha Holleman on the Blueprint Ad Hoc group (additional information later in the agenda)
 - Meeting with Maryland Family Network facilitator working on pre-K mixed delivery work—working with that person, and MFN’s work on that, too
- **Strong Backbone; Khalilah Slater Harrington & Ashley Bush**
 - Working with Enoch Pratt on Imagination Celebration—
 - ECAC table at opening event on 3/25—looking for 2-3 volunteers to be at the table—2 shifts: 10-12 & 12-2.
 - Month long event—all of April; Ashley sending out e-mail to sign up to table at any of the events
 - Strategic Partnerships with CAP centers—Community Action Centers—will report back soon
 - Conversations with Mayor’s Office for Children and Family Success (MOCFS) with All Hands In
 - Ashley and Yolanda attended Baltimore City Child Care Resource Center’s conference—shared info about ECAC, website, Reed to Reef, Imagination Celebration, and safe sleep information—an example of how ECAC is going to be showing up at community events. **For any organization who has materials that would like to be shared, reach out to Yolanda Jenkins and/or Ashley Bush!**
- **Smart Thinking; Lieny Jeon & Margo Candelaria**
 - Priority: create more comprehensive data set for the City
 - Parent permission language for private childcare providers
 - How to develop small pilot study to incorporate child care in Cherry Hill
 - Meeting with MSDE licensing office to brainstorm incorporating private child care data
 - Learned from Hillary that she does parent outreach during K enrollment to ensure accuracy in parent reported childcare (data discrepancies there)
 - Picking a new meeting time



- **Open Heart; Linda Callahan & Nikira Epps**
 - Working on milestones document
 - Milestones have been chosen, as have domains
 - Looking for activities for parents to connect to milestones
 - Meeting with designer soon; developed priorities to share with designer
 - Then will beta test it with focus groups
 - Colorful, giving people options, include a QR code to other resources—eventually will be attached to a webpage; simple, easy to read—so want feedback from community members
 - 7 age group buckets—birth – age 5
 - Domains: communication, social, adaptive, physical, cognitive
 - 4-6 months, social domain: using vocal sounds and facial expressions to communicate feelings
 - In person meetings—good way to collaborate

ECAC 2023: Imani Angela Rose & Crystal Francis

- **Blueprint Ad Hoc Workgroup**
 - Talking about Kirwan Commission—Early Childhood was Pillar One—mixed delivery system for pre-k
 - As BCPS representative, want to make sure all stakeholders are at the table making decisions.
 - Framed out the types of organizations and representatives in the plan that BCPS had to submit
 - Core group that is meeting regularly, but then reporting out to full ECAC
 - BCPS submitted their Blueprint template today
 - Ruby Daniels is Chair of Pillar 1 Advisory Committee to AIB—interested in innovative and creative ways family child care providers can participate—a lot of barriers for their involvement; interested in City’s plan for 70/30 split
 - Crystal doesn’t know what the plan is for the 70/30 split (70% is public pre-k; 30% is private)→ currently private pre-k providers make up 6-8%
 - These are the types of issue this group will need to figure out together



- Want participants of group to include: City Schools, Judy Center, Head Start, child care providers (centers and family based), parents, Infants and Toddlers, MOCFS—those are required members—list of 20+ seats, but there will be space and time for people not on the list to share ideas
- Haven't determined when/how often this ad hoc group will meet yet
- Martha Holleman has been leading the charge on this effort—ensuring we're making decisions as a group. She's helped get this effort moving.
- <https://nieer.org/research-report/components-to-consider-when-planning-city-preschool-programs-require>
- Maryland Family Network has a consultant that is supporting certain jurisdictions, including Baltimore City
- Baltimore City Schools is supportive of moving forward the pre-k expansion collaboratively (the process isn't moving forward as collaboratively in other counties where the ECAC isn't as robust)
- **Funding for ECAC**
 - ECACs didn't get MSDE funding
 - ECAC budget was sent out a couple months ago
 - Annual Retreats
 - Website, which will require funding to maintain
 - MOCFS might provide some funding for ECAC
 - Ashley and Khalilah are both doing a lot of advocacy for funding with MOCFS
 - Need additional funding, too.

Open Floor: all members can share information about their home organization such as:

- *Member organizational needs, updates, and announcement, Partner collaborations, Reports use updates*
- Yolanda Jenkins: During last State ECAC meeting, presumptive eligibility for child care scholarship goes into effect soon—pilot in Baltimore City before it is implemented statewide
- Crystal Francis & Imani-Angela Rose's term as Chairs of the ECAC ends at the end of the calendar year—need to start thinking about who the next co-chairs could be



- Ashley Bush: BCRP will be having a bring on Spring event for the family. It is free and I encourage everyone to attend. Especially if you have any young baseball players in your family! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bring-on-spring-festival-and-major-league-baseball-competition-tickets-579577972317>
- Tracy Harris—Baltimore City Health Department will be doing an information session on safe sleep for child care providers. She will share the flyer soon.