



*Pulling Together for the Children of Frederick County*

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## Frederick County Interagency Early Childhood Committee

*A Subcommittee of the Local Management Board*

### **Mission Statement:**

To promote the healthy development and well-being of young children and their families through community collaboration

### **Meeting Minutes**

March 4, 2021

### **Attendees:**

Kathy Allen  
Jennifer Barker-Frey  
Nancy Boyd  
Malcolm Furgol  
Barbara May  
Pat Rosensteel  
Shelly Toms  
Diana Fulchiron  
Patty Morison  
Pilar Olivo

Sarah Ford  
Kim Seoni  
Leslie Frei  
Katharine Long  
Christy Donnelly  
Claudia Hernandez  
Delaine Welch  
Colleen Guardia  
Ula Slider  
Diane DeMarco

Holly Sontz  
Janet Speak  
Jeanie Watts  
Jessica Lertora  
Jim Miller  
Lisa Martinis  
Terri Bickel  
Terri Ridenour

### **Meeting Commenced at 1:04 pm**

**Introductions** – Barbara May & Kathy Allen led the group through introductions of new participants and the organizations that are represented in the meeting.

**IECC Chair Request** – Shelly Toms. Kathy Allen will be stepping down as Chair soon and we are inviting members to volunteer for the appointment. For more information, please contact Kathy or Barb.

**Minutes** – Diana Fulchiron motioned for the vote and seconded by Pilar Olivo. Unanimous.

**Children's Festival** – Patty Morison. Will be hosted throughout the month of April. Planning on posted a calendar on the IECC and MHA website. Currently working on a flyer, and planning on drive-by giveaways at 4 or 5 locations, probably at the schools utilizing that bus lanes on the actual day of the festival. Planning to give out about 200 giveaways at each location. The giveaways will be on Saturday April, 24, 2021 from 10:00am to 11:30am. Other activities include story time readings, so far the Mayor of Frederick has volunteered, story walks around the county, posting families activities with children

throughout, also practices of mediation and mindfulness. Currently looking for Volunteers for the giveaways, please contact Patty Morison for more information.

**ACEs Workgroup & We Design Updates:** Pilar Olivo. Currently waiting for FrameWorks to deliver a quote for the next training. There have been discussions about the adoption of supporting ACEs screenings in pediatric primary care in the school based health center, but there is concern with the amount of staff turnover, so it will be probably next fall. Also waiting for updates for the Universal Newborn Home Visiting Program and there may be some funding in the community health resources commission that may be available at the end of this state fiscal year. Waiting to find out for an update. For more information, please contact Pilar.

Note: The funding for the CAC for the forensic exam program at the hospital will have funding be reduced upwards of 43% for the victims of crime act funding. It is still in process, but the programs that have been funded by the CAC are will be very vulnerable as a result. As we learn more we will continue to share that information.

**Presentation – Leslie Frei, Frederick County Public Schools, ECE updates**

- <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1XZT3bKqOSmdeVFjI9CdKewCWqNOpEAJ5X1BaumFeGrs/edit?usp=sharing>

**Marketing Plan Presentation – Diane Demarco**

- Link: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/174-7J\\_I1288hxoQTXiQl5soFPON\\_JNuP/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/174-7J_I1288hxoQTXiQl5soFPON_JNuP/view?usp=sharing)

**Child Care Prospectus Presentation – Pilar Olivo**

- Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i8vxSZsUmUY3mGZ9e5uCTnHdbGS-NO4U/view?usp=sharing>

**Family Engagement Focus Group Question Presentation – Colleen Guardia & Jessica Lertora**

- Questions for Focus Group Link:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gQ\\_OqHqBqM\\_U1BvKgr0xy7EchliD8PeJ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gQ_OqHqBqM_U1BvKgr0xy7EchliD8PeJ/view?usp=sharing)

**Community Updates/ Networking:**

- Kathy Allen:
  - Thank you to all our members for your commitment to the IECC and for all the hard work everyone has put in during this past year!
  - Diaper Day April 17<sup>th</sup> Judy Center
- Malcolm:
  - The first meeting of our efforts to coordinate nonprofits in getting the word out about COVID-19 vaccine information, appointments and access is tonight at 7PM with Dr. Barbara Brookmyer, Frederick County Health Department. Here is the link to register (even if you can't attend feel free to RSVP to be added to the contact list for this effort):
    - [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_mVaYd1m4RJGKvFeNnFHBoQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mVaYd1m4RJGKvFeNnFHBoQ)
  - The Unity Campaign kicks off on March 10, but you can already get started in getting the word out and/or donating. We have 31 nonprofits benefiting from the campaign and we have already raised over \$300k from over 300 donors. We have a goal of reaching 1000 donors this year, so any help you can provide is greatly appreciated.
    - <http://unityfrederick.com/>

- Free online tax prep options. See below for links to free services to efile returns. Our VITA appointments are full for the season (as are all VITA sites across the state) so this is the best way to help families submit their taxes for free and save their hard-earned money. Both of these options have support available for folks to submit questions. There are some other valid free online options out there, so if you have any questions feel free to let me know. Thanks for helping get the word out!
  - If you earned less than \$57,000 in 2020...
  - You qualify for Online Taxes if:
    - Under \$72,000 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), or
    - Eligible for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), or
    - Active Duty Military and under \$72,000 AGI
    - Free state return if you qualify for a free federal return
- [Do taxes online here](#)
- If you earned more than \$72,000....
  - ... we're not leaving you behind! Even though you don't qualify for the drop-off service or free Online Taxes, **you can still file your taxes completely free of charge using United Way's free online filing service. Simply visit [MyFreeTaxes.com](#) to prepare and file your federal and state taxes at no cost to you. No filing fees!**
  - Over the past eight years, [MyFreeTaxes.com](#) has helped over 750,000 taxpayers across the country claim every deduction and credit they deserve. Your e-filing will be even more secure with [recently enhanced security features](#) designed to further safeguard taxpayer information, and an updated user interface makes using the site easier than ever.
- Diana Fulchiron:
  - Women's Giving Circle Grant Application is open and until March 15<sup>th</sup>. They have some additional funds this year so please apply if you are eligible to do so. Also, the general scholarship application is open so we are encouraging people to apply, we have things that apply to trained technical support, if you have clients that need support, that application will be open through March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Frederick News Post IECC Article:
  - [https://www.fredericknewspost.com/public/sponsored\\_content/iecc/how-to-help-young-children-with-the-stress-of-returning-to-school/article\\_62fd0f51-fda6-5069-bb98-4479d1e0313e.html](https://www.fredericknewspost.com/public/sponsored_content/iecc/how-to-help-young-children-with-the-stress-of-returning-to-school/article_62fd0f51-fda6-5069-bb98-4479d1e0313e.html)

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:49pm.**

**Next meeting is April 1<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 1:00pm**

**April Presentation – Ula Slider, Maryland Coalition of Families**