



Pulling Together for the Children of Frederick County

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

April 7, 2022

Attendees:

1. Barbara May, Family Partnership – Co-Chair
2. Jessica Lertora, Frederick County Safe Babies Court Team Program– Co-Chair
3. Jen Russo, Judy Center at BRES
4. Colleen Guardia, YMCA Head Start
5. Pilar Olivo, FC Office for Children & Families
6. Claudia Hernandez, FCPS Judy Center
7. Jim Miller, FC DSS
8. Patty Morison, Child Care Choices, MHA
9. Lisa Martinis, Arc of FC
10. Shelly Toms, FC Office for Children & Families
11. Jennifer Barker-Frey, FC Office for Children & Families
12. Holly Sontz – Judy Center
13. Pat Rosensteel, COIPP
14. Erin Gambrill, FCPL
15. Katharine Long, MSDE Office of Child Care
16. Kathy Allen, Early Childhood Education & Judy Centers, FCPS
17. Christy Donnelly, Early Childhood Education, FCPS
18. Delaine Welch, Early Childhood Education
19. Ula Slider, Maryland Coalition of Families
20. Leslie Frei, Early Childhood at FCPS
21. Kelly Robins, FCPS Early Childhood

Meeting Commenced at 1:02 pm

Introductions: Barbara May and Jessica Lertora led the group through introductions of new participants and the organizations that are represented in the meeting.

Minutes: Leslie Frei motioned for a vote and was seconded by Kathy Allen, with an update to add Kathy Allen in to the attendance. Unanimous.

FY23 Presentation Sign ups 1:15-1:30 – Barbara May put together a sign-up sheet for agency presentations – it is in the Google drive. If you don't have access to the drive, then please request access to the drive.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oPEccSWqs1osGnqLDAi0KLdY50Pujr0I0iN8BwfwIV8/edit>

FY23 IECC Co-chair – Barbara May is requesting a co-chair to take her place and co-chair beside Jessica. They have had 1 volunteer so far. If interested – please reach out to Barb or Jessica to discuss. Voting will occur at the May meeting.

CCC announcements: Patty Morison –

- Children’s Festival – Is on April 30th from 10-3pm; Baker Park; 30 booths registered – anticipating this number to go up. Usually have about 65-70 booths; Early bird extended to Mon. 4/11; Library coming; 2 vaccine clinics coming; considering that the festival will be moved inside if it rains.
- General volunteer sign-up to help out with the event – trash pick-up, help carry vendor materials, direct people to their spaces, etc. – link for volunteer <https://forms.gle/X5KzxixRGDy1hqsZA>

• **Children’s Festival** – Volunteer Sign-up Sheet – to assist with the IECC Education table. Please sign up if you can assist with this table to. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1seIs9JDeWHxmj7Gc_NSy9-LIRw20spuY67DjY0jXxt0/edit?usp=sharing

ACEs Committee update: Pilar Olivo – the origami game will be in English and Spanish to be utilized at the Children’s Festival. First opportunity to share the Strong Families logo. Received the flyer from the Alberta Wellness Center. The workgroup is working on their logic model, then action plans, then move into work. The County Executive has allocated \$300,000 to be utilized within the workgroups to fund special projects. Currently finishing up logo, website, and video work. We can share the origami game with IECC and ACEs groups once finalized and will post it on IECC website as well.

Child Care Choices Presentation - Patty Morison. Mental Health Association, Child Care Choices

- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TQnbi90gnbNZJL3A_B4OVmRsknilvc-u/view?usp=sharing
- Walk-in Behavior Health Services hours: 8:30-10pm Mon-Fri and 8am-6pm Sat. and Sun

Grant Project Groups:

- **Family Engagement/Native Content/FNP:** Leslie Frei, Pat Rosensteel, Erin Gambrill, Claudia Hernandez, Jen Russo, Ula Slider, Kelly Robbins, Christy Donnelly, Barbara May, and Colleen Guardia
 - Leslie Frei brought the group up to speed on the contest and native content. They also discussed the work that is occurring on the Strong Families logo, infographic, videos and IECC website.
- **Child Care Initiative:** Shelly Toms, Kathy Allen, and Pilar Olivo
 - The group discussed changes happening in child care, the blue print, the opportunity for child care providers to participate with providing pre-k, heightened requirements to increase Child Development Associates (for 3-4 year olds) opportunities for high school students and to utilize the child care centers within the high schools.
- **Relationship Building with Businesses:** Jessica Lertora, Lisa Martinis, and Erin Gambrill
 - Building connections and what are the shared goals between the IECC and businesses to create the relationships. Find businesses to partner with to share our info with and then find out how we could support them. FCPL shared how they are partnering with businesses – check out the link - <https://app.etapestry.com/cart/FrederickCountyPublicLibrary/default/index.php>

Networking:

- Leslie Frei: FCPS are submitting the pre-k expansion grant. Hopefully they will have 59 classrooms for next year with pre-k. Applicants need to be 300% above federal poverty level to get free pre-k. They utilized ALICE data to find where to put the pre-k classrooms. Presenting Month of Young Child at BOE. Will present about Children’s Festival and some of the other exciting things happening around Frederick County.

- Erin Gambrill: FCPL's will be opening a new library branch at the Oak St. County property. They will start on the design after the Middletown library.
- Colleen Guardia: The Head Start administrative offices are located in the YMCA arts building, 15 East Church St. (the old FCPS central office building). The classrooms remain throughout the County. The phone number/extension(s) are the same, 301-378-9140.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:27 PM

Next meeting is May 5, 2022 at 1:00pm