

ECAC Meeting
Thursday, June 11, 2015
9:00 – 11:00
Notes

Members Present:

Jennifer Arnaiz
Barbara Andrews
Amy Cropp
Patsy Evans
Michelle Green
April Kaplan
Meredith Myers
Bernadine Occhiuzzo
Linda Owen
Tobi Printz-Platnick
Hilda Richards
Claudia Simmons
Vivian Yao

Staff Present:

Verna Washington
Sarah Wilch-Spamer

Guests:

Uma Ahluwalia

April Meeting Minutes:

- Motion from April Kaplan to accept the minutes from the April 2, 2015 meeting
- Second motion: Tobi Printz-Platnick
- Vote: 13 in favor
- Resolved: Motion Carried; Accept the minutes from the 04/02/15 meeting

Convene:

- Membership was provided with proposed meetings for next year:
 - 9/9/2015 (9:00 – 12:00)
 - 11/11/15 (9:00 – 12:00)—meeting changed to 11/12/15
 - 2/10/16 (9:00 – 12:00)
 - 4/13/16 (8:30 – 12:30)
 - 6/8/16 (9:00 – 12:00)

New Readiness Statistics Release:

- Dr. Grafwallner shared information on the KRA data at the Symposium on May 20, 2015
- Maryland appears to have dropped but it is a new assessment so the 2001 and 2014 stats do not align to the current data:
 - MSDE is working with school systems to address the technical problems with the assessment
 - Stakeholders, lawmakers, Superintendents are working together to understand the statistics
 - A possible “alignment” document will be created to help explain the data
 - Data by school can be requested for MCPS to help focus energies on the schools/communities in need
 - The gaps among subgroups appear to be valid and reliable
 - The full technical report is currently posted on the ECAC website through the MCPS website
- Screening Tools for Early Intervention:
 - Child care providers and center based providers will need to screen children within the first 45 days of enrollment
 - Conduct a developmental overview
 - Providers can access funding from MSDE to purchase the tools:
 - *Ages and Stages* (most recommended)
 - *Brigance*
 - *Bright Beginnings* (UMD)
 - *DIAL* and *ESIR* (stress having a clinical background and focus on diagnosis)
 - Providers have questions about communicating with parents and what to do with the data:
 - Providers will need to document through the EARS system from MSDE including if a referral was made and whether the referral was declined
 - This is becoming a licensing requirement
 - Parents may not opt out of the screening for their child

Committee Meetings (Did not share in the whole group due to scheduling):

- Subcommittees met in small groups thinking about:
 - What are your “Ah Ha” moments?
 - What issues should we be sure are included in the annual report?
 - Consider recommendations for the Annual Report

Uma Ahluwalia, Director DHHS:

- **Child Care Bill:**
 - A policy officer role has been established and will report directly to Director Ahluwalia:
 - Position begins January 1, 2016
 - Confirms the ECAC through County Council Statute and creates a Coordinating Council under DHHS
 - A tight budgetary season is ahead during the next two to three years,
 - The Children's Trust will convene this summer with a budget of \$500,000
 - Some funding through a tax on sugary beverages
 - There may be a variety of targeted agendas
 - Provide recommendations/feedback regarding possible changes to ECAC membership and focus as soon as possible
 - Barbara will send an email reminder
 - Send concepts/thoughts/recommendations to Barbara Andrews by July 17, 2015

Announcements:

- State ECAC will be meeting on June 18, 2015:
 - Claudia Simmons is on the State ECAC and will be attending along with Patsy Evans, and DeDe Marshall

Adjournment:

11:05 AM