

## Montgomery County Early Childhood Advisory Council Quick Fact Sheet

**Purpose:** Developed out of a requirement of the state RTT: Early Learning Challenge Fund. In each jurisdiction, the council is initiated by the county executive, and is established and executed in conjunction with the superintendent of schools. The council will be working collaboratively to plan, implement and assess activities focused on ensuring that all young children (birth through age 5) of Montgomery County arrive at school fully ready to learn.

**Grant Funding MSDE:** It is our expectation that the efforts that take place through this funding will assist us in our respective organizations, as well as strengthening the overall early childhood community in Montgomery County. The areas of greatest impact will include increased technical assistance and support for child care providers; enhanced parent and community outreach strategies and materials, as well as improved access, use and quality of data for planning and decision-making across the early childhood system.

**Advisory Council Participants:** See attached list

### MCPS Participants:

- Claudia Simmons: Supervisor, Pre-K and Head Start (ECAC co- chair)
- Keith Jones: Principal, Summit Hall ES
- Lauren Moskowitz: Pre-K Teacher, Harmony Hills ES
- Amy Cropp: Supervisor, Child Find Disabilities Unit, Division of Preschool Special Education

### MSDE: ECAC GRANT SPECIFICS:

Amount: Approximately \$142, 000.00

**Lead Agency for the grant:** Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Modest budget to support the ongoing **MCECAC meetings**, including facilities, space, supplies, and a facilitator through 2015.

An enhancement of our **public outreach efforts** and *ChildLink* media campaign, including conducting community focus groups with translators, development of county wide materials for distribution to families.

**Collaborate with the Reach Out and Read Program** which enlists the assistance of local pediatricians to help support family literacy. This program is endorsed and recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Technological support and GIS Mapping program** used by the MCECAC staff for its work, and to increase access to existing data and programs that allow the committee to analyze data and make it more accessible.

**Community Engagement** including implementation of The *LEARN (Learning, Environment, Assessment, Readiness, Now!)* Project for child care providers, training materials and a part-time project manager to coordinate training efforts with community providers.