

*A Call to Action: A Vision
for Equity and Excellence
for Families and Children*

1. Participants will discuss subtle ways in which many families experience inequalities in their communities.

2. Participant will recognize how economic inequality is a problem that affects all racial and ethnic groups and how to support parents and families to advance their own interests through education, training, and other experiences that support their parenting, careers, and life goals. (Family Engagement Goal 4).

3. Participants will create action steps to promote family engagement initiative opportunities for parents to identify their strengths as leaders/advocates and to use them in the program and community (Family Engagement Goal 7).

THE MARYLAND EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT GOALS

- Family Well-Being
- Promote Positive Parent-Child Relationships
- Support Parents as Life-Long Educators
- Support Educational Aspirations of the Family
- Support Engagement in Transition
- Connect Family to Peers and Community
- Create Advocates and Leader

STRATEGIES

PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS

- Leadership
- Professional Development

PROGRAM IMPACT AREAS

- Environment
- Family Partnerships
- Teaching and Learning
- Community Partnerships

SCHOOL
READINESS
OUTCOMES

The Maryland Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework puts forth a set of common goals for family engagement to be used across the Maryland early childhood system and within individual early care and education programs. These goals are realized by implementing family engagement strategies that focus on foundational areas like leadership and professional development as well as strategies that focus on the "points of impact" in early care and education settings. The successful implementation of the strategies promotes positive school readiness outcomes.

Where were you when ... ?



ACTIVITY

The History of American Education



ACTIVITY

Fair 'n Square



**YOU DON'T
KNOW
WHAT YOU DON'T
-KNOW-
UNTIL YOU KNOW IT**



ACTIVITY

Equity Literacy

The idea is to place *equity*, rather than *culture*, at the center of the conversation.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT

Children and their families are more likely to thrive when they live in communities with strong social and cultural institutions; positive role models; and the resources to provide safety, good schools and quality support services.

Why Advocate?

"Unless someone like you cares
a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to get better.
It's not."

Dr. Seuss,



The Lorax



Where do we go from here?

Paul Gorski for EdChange and the Equity Literacy Institute.

“Practice the ethic of working WITH rather than working ON marginalized communities. Commit to equity and social justice, not just in the content of equity work, but also in processes for doing that work.”

Those closer to the pain are closer to the solution!

*Understand the current challenges and identify solutions
that strongly influence life outcomes.*

- *Education*
- *Employment and Entrepreneurship*
- *Community Resources*
- *Health and Medical Care*
- *Healthier Lifestyles*

Getting started on an action plan

- Collaborate with families to identify an outcome or goal(s) to strengthen family engagement and improve outcomes for children and families.
- Work with families to identify the strategies to focus on to meet the goal.
- Assist with defining the specific, concrete action steps to make progress in each strategy.
- Help families set a time frame for accomplishing tasks.
- Celebrate families when a measure of success has been met.



The best way to predict
the future is to create it.

Peter Ducker

 quote fancy

Thank you!

XYZ the end result LLC

Childhood Training

The EXceptional Years Zone

Where preparing life-long learners is the end result!

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