

# connecting ccelebrating

2022 was a year of new beginnings and continued resilience as Maryland's youngest learners and those that educate and support them returned to their first full year of in person learning since the Covid-19 Global Pandemic.

Ready At Five was there to offer learning materials, professional development, community partnerships and family engagement. We were excited to return to in-person events while still offering several virtual events for convenience and reachability. We celebrated the announcement that Berol Dewdney, a Pre-K teacher in Baltimore City was named Maryland's Teacher of the Year, reinforcing the fact that the early years matter!

## **Engagement and Partnerships**

Ready At Five thrives on the partnerships which support the early childhood professionals that nurture and educate Maryland's children. We have always believed that parents are their children's first teachers and that the best way for us to reach families is through child care providers and PreK teachers. Our Learning Materials continued to be downloaded or purchased on our new website, and shipped to various child care programs, libraries, schools and families throughout the state. We were proud to continue to partner with Arts for Learning on their Early Learning Video Portal - which provides access to a growing library of Early Learning videos that engage young children and child care providers in joyful arts experiences and instruction by Wolf Trap teaching artists. We were happy to partner with MDAEYC on the "Each and Every Child: Teaching Preschool with an Equity Lens" Educator and

Administrator Cohorts in March and April. The Month of the Young Child was celebrated in April by launching our updated website and offering contests and giveaways aligned with navigating the new site. Our Engagement Director distributed learning materials and books at the MD Chapter of the American Association of Pediatricians' annual meeting held on September 10, 2022 and our Executive Director enjoyed attending the B&O Railroad Museum's "Be My Neighbor Day" on October 1. We participated in the Focus Groups on the MD Birth to Age 21 Family Engagement Framework in November and launched our first cohorts of LETRS Trainings which commenced in October and finished in December. We were thrilled with the enormous interest and excellent feedback. Our continued participation in the Giant Food Community Bag Program enabled us to raise funds all year long.



# **Professional Learning and Development**

- March 24, 2022 Mind in the Making: Introduction to the
   7 Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs to Succeed
- March 24, 2022 Virtual Learning Party with Brigid Cook for Fruitland Primary School in Wicomico County
- June 16, 2022 Learning Party Training at the Judy Center at Sandy Hill Elemen tary in Dorchester County
- June 28, 2022 VIOLETS Training for Prince George's County Public Schools
- September 29, 2022 Kent County Virtual Learning Party
- November 8, 2022 VIOLETS Training at Easton Elementary in Talbot County
- December 12, 2022 School Readiness Symposium "Key Practices in Literacy Learning for Young Children" with Dr. Sonia Cabell at Turf Valley



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## **Executive Leadership Committee**

#### **ELC Cochairs**

Meredith Callanan, Director, Early Years Leadership Diversity Initiative Taylor Graff, Brown Advisory

### **ELC Members**

William Backstrom, Senior Vice President, Client and Community Relations Director, PNC Bank

Mia Bailey, Community Member

Jeffrey D. Brookes, President, Brookes Publishing Company

Brian Dulay, Executive Director, Maryland Business Roundtable for Education, Inc. Rebecca English, Esq., Head of Global Tax, CFO Group; Vice President, T. Rowe Price Group Inc.

David Hanlin, Community Member

Brenda Hussey-Gardner, Ph.D., MPH, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Maryland School of Medicine - University of Maryland Children's Hospital

Yolanda Jenkins, Program Director of School Readiness, Family League of Baltimore

Nate Newmuis, Family Advocate, Early Head Start, Coppin State University
Bryan L. Perry, Vice President and General Counsel, Northern Illinois University
Kimberly Stokes, Vice President & Corporate Engagement Strategist, Calvert
Research & Management

Ashanti Woods, MD, Mercy Medical Center

## Ready At Five Team

Keri Hyde, Executive Director Monique Baskerville, Events Director Natalie Dean, Engagement Director

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