



April, 2019

The early years
matter!



Message From Our Executive Director - Celebrating Young Children Today And Every Day

April was a busy month for Ready At Five. Actually, April was a busy month for everyone involved in early childhood because it was the Month of the Young Child. Celebrations took place across the state and many of Ready At Five's partners hosted events to highlight the importance of the first five years. Thank you to those that shared invitations, details and photos of the various ways you brought this to the attention of your community.

Over the last month, I have been to Prince George's County for a conference that hosted several hundred providers and to Town Hall meetings in Washington, Baltimore, Wicomico and Talbot counties. Ready At Five hosted our spring School Readiness Symposium that brought Dr. Marina Umaschi Bers from Tufts University, to share her research on coding for preschoolers. And at each of these events, I was (as always!) so impressed by the level of dedication of the attendees. Everyone wants the best for the children in their care and all recognize the importance of working together to create a system that provides all of Maryland's children with their best start.

Just because April is almost over, doesn't mean the commitment is any less. We know that the great work continues throughout the year. We would love to hear from more of you about events, conferences or workshops that bring together teachers, parents and other early care and education professionals.

May will bring an additional five Town Hall sessions, so there is still an opportunity to attend and make your voice heard.

Register at <https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/townhalls> for one of the remaining sessions. And thank you again for your focus on our youngest learners!

April is the Month of the Young Child!

We believe that every child in Maryland should have the foundational skills needed for success in school, career and life and we celebrate, not only in April - but every day of every month - the early childhood educators, caregivers, families, the business community, and policy makers who strive on a daily basis to make this a reality. We

were thrilled to visit our friends at

Catholic Charities Head Start of Baltimore City at Washburn Avenue

to celebrate April as the Month of the Young Child!

Our Executive Director Keri Hyde loved reading some stories and handing out gifts for the children and for the classrooms.

Thank you to the Early Childhood Community in Maryland for celebrating our young children!



School Readiness Symposium a Huge Success

Over 210 people attended Ready At Five's School Readiness Symposium on April 12, 2019 at the Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport Hotel. Dr. Marina Umaschi Bers, Professor and Chair, Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development at Tufts University delivered the keynote address

Please check our [website](#) for presentations from the enriching day.



The Art and Science of Teaching Conference

Make sure to register for The Art & Science of Teaching - a conference taking place on June 1, 2019 at the Johns Hopkins University Montgomery County Campus which will focus on the intentional strategies that make the early childhood educator effective in their practice!

Register online at
<https://reg126.imperisoft.com/montgomerycounty/Search/Registration.aspx>

The Art & SCIENCE of Teaching

June 1, 2019 | 8:15 am - 4:15 pm | MSDE Approved CWO-157484

Johns Hopkins University Montgomery County Campus

Morning Keynote & Panel

Film Screening: **No Small Matter**

Panel Discussion:

- *Alicia Cross, MDAEYC*
- *Steve Rohde, Maryland Family Network*
- *Keri Hyde, Ready At Five*
- *Dr. Michele Hollander, MoCo Infants & Toddlers Program*

Afternoon Sessions

The Most Important Work in the World is Mine, *Vilma Williams*

Quality Teacher-Child Interactions, *Esteban Morales & Heriberto Velasquez*

Using Music for Intentional Teaching, *Julie Billingsley*

Executive Functions: Building Foundations with Infants and Toddlers, *Steve Rohde*

Hosted by

Montgomery County Child Care Resource & Referral Center



COST: \$70 (*Scholarships Available*)

* 6 COK HOURS * EARN 1 PAU *

BREAKFAST & LUNCH INCLUDED

Register at <https://reg126.imperisoft.com/montgomerycounty/Search/Registration.aspx>

Open up a world of possibilities with the Save4College State Contribution Program

The State of Maryland and Maryland 529 are teaming up to help make it easier for your child's dream of attending college come true. Simply open an Account in the Maryland Senator Edward J. Kasemeyer College Investment Plan (also referred to as the Maryland College Investment Plan or MCIP)-managed by T. Rowe Price-a leading investment firm since 1937-and you could be eligible for a \$250 or \$500 contribution from the State of Maryland. Your savings can be used at nearly any U.S. college, technical or trade school-and even international universities that have a federal school code-for qualified eligible expenses such as tuition, fees, room and board, etc.

[Get Started Today](#)

The Maryland College Investment Plan Disclosure Statement provides investment objectives, risks, expenses and costs, fees, and other information you should read and consider carefully before investing. If you or your beneficiary live outside of Maryland, you should compare Maryland 529 to any college savings program offered by your home state or your beneficiary's home state, which may offer state tax or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in such state's 529 plan.



Children's Mental Health Matters!

Ready At Five is happy to join the Children's Mental Health Matters! campaign as a Community Champion to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health. We look forward to sharing more about the campaign during Awareness Week, May 5-11, 2019!

It's easy to know your child needs help dealing with a fever or a broken bone, but mental health problems can be harder to identify.

You may be surprised to learn that:

- * 1 in 5 children experience a diagnosable mental health disorder each year, yet only 20% are identified and receive treatment.
- * 1 in 9 youth aged 13-18 experience a substance use disorder, yet only 7% receive services.

The tricky part of parenting is knowing the kinds of behaviors and moods that are usual for the stage of development your child is in - and when your child needs help.

Visit www.childrensmentalhealthmatters.org to learn:

- * what to do if your child needs help,
- * where to go for help, or
- * how to access a wealth of free children's mental health resources.

About the Children's Mental Health Matters! Campaign:

The Children's Mental Health Matters Campaign is a collaboration of the Mental Health Maryland Department of Health- Behavioral Health Administration.

The Campaign goal, with Community and School Champions across the state, is to raise awareness of the importance of children's mental health, and to connect parents and community members with resources. Children's Mental Health Awareness Week in Maryland is celebrated May 5-11.

Visit www.childrensmentalhealthmatters.org to learn more or to get involved.



Featured Resources

Ready At Five Has What You're Looking For - School Readiness Publications!

Please [click here](#) for the order form or visit our [website](#) to find out about the [programs](#) and [resources](#) that we offer.

[▶ Donate Now](#)

Help us as we work to ensure that all children in Maryland have the foundational skills needed for future success in school, career and life.



Ready At Five is a self-sustaining program of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education (MBRT), and does not receive funding from the MBRT.

One-time or monthly donations of \$100 or more are sought and gratefully accepted to expand Ready At Five's impact. To contribute this; or any, amount [click here](#)

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