2018 was a year of growth and change fueled by positive momentum. Ready At Five experienced renewed energy and greater stability with Keri Hyde joining us as our Executive Director in July. We also welcomed three dynamic new members to our Executive Leadership Committee (ELC): Rebecca English, Head of Global Tax, CFO Group and Vice President, T. Rowe Price Group Inc., Yolanda Jenkins, Deputy Director of Art With A Heart, and Bryan Perry, Chief of Staff and General Counsel at Baltimore City Community College. With the full support of the ELC, we embarked on a journey to revitalize our strategic plan which will help guide us as we continue to strengthen early care and education in Maryland.

“I feel that Ready At Five is a highly effective early childhood organization that provides support to teachers, parents and students. They also provide state of the art professional development, and high-quality curriculum materials and resources.”

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR

Improving Early Care and Education in Maryland

Leading Families through Engagement

Ready At Five supported parents and family members as their child’s first teachers by increasing awareness and building strong family connections through ReadyRosie, Parent Leadership Learning Parties (PLLPs), general Learning Parties, and our rich family resources.

In 2018, Ready At Five continued the statewide implementation of the Learning Party model by offering training to over 100 participants and creating a pool of six regional trainers who could be deployed to conduct additional facilitator trainings. Facilitator trainings were conducted in Baltimore City and Montgomery County, for an additional 37 participants. Learning Parties took place across the state, including Baltimore City, and Worcester, Harford, Caroline, Howard, Carroll, Montgomery, Prince George’s, and Somerset Counties and reached 181 parents and 235 children. In addition, Ready At Five leveraged funding to implement Learning Parties in an additional 16 programs in Baltimore City, and Baltimore, Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties. We surveyed parent participants and found that 92% of them felt that after the PLLP, they were more confident in their ability to advocate for their child and were able to resolve conflicts in a more effective way.
Professional Learning and Development

Ready At Five knows that a child’s success in the classroom environment depends on dedicated, highly-trained educators. We continued our commitment to providing high-quality professional enrichment opportunities and resources for the early childhood workforce through our School Readiness Symposia. In the spring, 350 people attended Supporting the Whole Child: Social and Emotional Learning, featuring Dr. Stephanie Jones, Ph.D., and 293 people joined us in December for The Surprising Importance of Early Math, featuring Dr. Douglas Clements, Ph.D. In addition to our well-received Symposia, we offered trainings in Cultural and Linguistic Competence, PETALS, VIOLETS and Institutes for Early Educators.

Growing Partnerships

We believe that successful partnerships are the key to helping us achieve our vision of all children in Maryland having the foundational skills needed for success in school, career and life. In 2018 we were fortunate to partner with many strong organizations that recognize the importance of collaboration to help realize this goal.

- Bedtime in a Box
- Early Childhood Advisory Councils
- Every Parent Influences Children (EPIC)
- Judy Centers
- Local School Systems
- Maryland State Department of Education
- Nature Play Space
- ReadyRosie

Message from the Executive Director, Keri Hyde

I am so excited to have joined the Ready At Five team and truly believe in the work that we do to ensure that Maryland’s children are ready to be successful in school and in life. Ready At Five has been through a significant period of transition, but our partners at every level need to know that the vision of Ready At Five has not changed. We continue to be a consistent and strong partner in the work to build the foundational skills a child needs to be successful in school, career, and life.

Ready At Five helped drive policy and practice by collaborating with the State Early Childhood Advisory Council, the Family Engagement Coalition, and the Maryland Coalition for Equity.

Learn more about Ready At Five and DONATE on our website - www.readyatfive.org

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