

Bristol Early Childhood Alliance

ZOOM

December 7, 2022 (11:00 – 12:00 p.m.)

In attendance: Maegan Adams, Kate Bassett, Maureen Eaton, Jacquelyn Furniss, Sandra Godin, Dolores Heckman, Kate Kerchaert, Lauren Kittle, Donna Koser, Manny Martinez, Dorothy Minniefield, Donna Osuch, Kristen Peck, Jenn St. John, Valerie Toner, Morgan Urgo and Rachael Witkewicz

Introduction: Maureen and Lauren welcomed all in attendance and asked members to introduce themselves.

Collaborating Grants:

United Way provided a “Letter of Intent” to apply for funds on behalf of the Bristol School Readiness Council to support the BOE Behavioral Support Specialist position.

Maegan and Jenn, asked for members to keep watch for funding support “Bristol Family Fun Day” for the June event. Sponsorship or grant opportunities.

Main Street Community Foundation (MSCF) will be seeking grant applications and scholarship applications early in January. If you are interested in applying for funding, please reach out to Kate prior to beginning your application. More information can be found on MSCF website: <https://www.mainstreetfoundation.org/>

Break Out Session: To help formulate questions and plan for parent engagement activities, members present were asked to answer the following questions:

Ideas for parent engagement:

Involve parents in classroom, see what is going on firsthand. Reading to children, volunteer in other capacities.

Send out flyers about events,

Show up at civic activities to promote

Community day, Family Fun Day

Look into Parent Square App to get information out to parents

sponsor play group at the library once per month

Pop in event – like “speed dating” where families can meet agencies

Cultural night

Informational programs around IEP’s and 504 Plans

Bring your parent to school day

Monthly newsletter with column about family activities

PEP

Play and learn groups

Father’s group

Sparkler

Raising Readers

Family nights

Parent Square

Conferences

Questions for Parent Survey:

What are some barriers that prevent involvement, transportation, work commitments Do you know how to get involved

What activities would you like to get involved in? What times are good? Nights, weekends?

Is your child enrolled in preschool? If not, what are the barriers?

What are your biggest concerns/needs
What activities does your family/child currently participate in?
How do you prefer to receive information?

Community members to bring to the BECA table:

- Parks and Rec
- Senior Center
- Boys and Girls club
- Clock Museum
- Private/public school principal
- Representative from religious community
- Police/Fire Department liaisons
- Pediatric Doctor/Dentist
- Salvation Army
- Barber/beautician (in some cities/states barbers and beauticians are considered community leaders as they provide a place for people to gather and share opinions).
- UCONN NFN Grant to offer higher level of care perspective
- Representative from the homeless programs

BECA Committees:

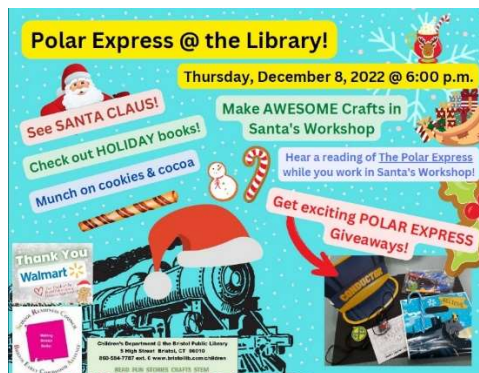
- Health** – Next Meeting: Dec 13, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
- Infant & Toddler** – Next Meeting: Dec 20, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.
- Transition to K** - Next Meeting: Dec 19, 2022 at 3:45 p.m.

Community Sharing:

FRC: Still has a need for sponsors for Christmas. UCONN People Empowering People (Spanish/English) class begins in January. Recruitment in progress. Reach out to Sandra for more information:
sandragodin@bristolct.gov.

Bristol Public Library Reach out to Valerie Toner at ValerieToner@bristolct.gov if you are interested in scheduling a site visit. There are no story times scheduled until February, however, there are lots of events scheduled. Check out the website: <http://www.bristolct.gov>

Bristol Child Development Center: Renovations almost completed, and 16 additional toddler spaces will be available at the West Street location.



Next meeting: January 4, 2023 (on ZOOM)