

April 6, 2018

Dear Partners,

Background: Welcome to the third edition of the quarterly “e-newsletter” of the Chelsea Early Childhood Network! The Chelsea Early Childhood Network began to form in August 2017 as Healthy Chelsea ramped up their Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) grant work. The ECCS grant will continue through July 2021 and is focused on **improving the developmental health of children ages 0-5** years via a collective impact approach to systems alignment.

Current Partners: We are thrilled to grow our list of partners since our last newsletter was sent in February 2018. If you are on this email (or know someone who should be), let us know if you would like to join our list of partners. Partners are invited to join meetings which occur every two months for 1.5 hours. Our **next meeting** will be in June 2018, so let us know if you are interested to share your voice at that time.

1. CAPIC Head Start
2. Chelsea Community Connections Coalition
3. Chelsea Community Gardens (Green Roots)
4. Chelsea Public Library
5. Chelsea Public Schools
6. Chelsea-Revere Family Network
7. Children & Family Services of Lynn, Chelsea Branch
8. First 1,000 Days Study at MGH Chelsea
9. Harbor Area Early Childhood Services (Early Intervention)
10. MA Department of Public Health
11. MGH Chelsea Community Health Improvement/Healthy Families
12. MGH Center for Community Health Improvement/Healthy Chelsea
13. MGH Chelsea Pediatrics
14. MGH Speech & Language Department
15. Neighborhood Developers, The
16. Nurturey
17. Outdoor Rx (Appalachian Mountain Club)
18. Raising a Reader
19. Roca
20. Women, Infant & Children (WIC) Program at MGH Chelsea
21. United Way

Week of the Young Child: The Chelsea Early Childhood Network has been busy planning promotion and events for “Week of the Young Child” for the first time as a community! The Week of the Young Child is from April 16-20, 2018 and is an opportunity to promote the importance of early brain development between the ages of 0-5 years of life. Attached you will find flyers and game play instructions for the family **Community Bingo**. We encourage you to use the family flyer (or take content from it) on your agency’s social media to promote the important message about how to stimulate brain development as

well as the **hashtag #wycchelsea18**. We are also asking businesses and agencies to post a flyer of support in their windows beginning the week of April 9. We have also attached these flyers to this email in case you would like to post one as well.

Recent Goals/Focus: In the last two months, we have worked toward the following goals:

- Organizing **tracking** of partner grant initiatives and multi-directional **communication** about those initiatives to the Early Childhood Network.
- Continuing to gather data to help us understand who are the young children in Chelsea. We **approximated** that about 82% of children ages 0-3 years are achieving 5-domain developmental health (based on number of children 0-3;11 in Chelsea and the number of children referred to Harbor Area Early Childhood Services for EI services).
- We formally welcomed our Parent Navigator, to be housed at Chelsea-Revere Family Network, **Yareli Sanchez Arenasto** our grant “core team” on April 2. Yareli is a resident of Chelsea, and a parent of a 5-year old and has experience navigating systems for young children and interest in improving systems. She speaks English and Spanish. Yareli will be working on establishing parent navigation systems that we will communicate with you, as well as putting together our grant **Parent Advisory Committee**. She will be working 12 hours/week through July.
- Although we will **not be hosting a networking** event for Week of the Young Child on 4/18, please stay tuned for future events plans for a gathering outside of the next grant input meeting are in the works.

Resources:Our partners have suggested these resources we would like to share.

- [State list](#) of over 200 trainings for professionals that work with young children
- [Vroom](#), a free app with daily age-specific brief activities caregivers can use to stimulate their child’s learning. The app is currently available only in English (online portal in Spanish).
- [Boston Basics](#) is a local non-profit that promotes five simple ways to help young children learn. They have a recently updated resource section on their website with free trilingual downloadable materials to share with families.
- [CDC Milestone Tracker](#) is a free app that uses a questionnaire format to help caregivers identify skills that children are learning at expected ages or after expected ages. The app is currently available only in English.

As always, please reply to this newsletter with any questions or comments about the information listed, and feel free to share this email with others who may be interested in this work. We look forward to continued work together, and thank you for your promotion of Week of the Young Child!

Sincerely,
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