

February 14, 2018

Dear Partners,

Background: Welcome to the second 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 October 2017. 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 April 2018, so let us know if you are interested to share your voice at that time.

1. CAPIC Head Start
2. Chelsea Public Library
3. Chelsea Public Schools
4. Chelsea-Revere Family Network
5. Harbor Area Early Childhood Services (Early Intervention)
6. MA Department of Public Health
7. MGH Chelsea Pediatrics
8. MGH Chelsea Community Health Improvement/Healthy Families
9. MGH Center for Community Health Improvement/Healthy Chelsea
10. MGH Speech & Language Department
11. Nurtury
12. Raising a Reader
13. Roca
14. United Way

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

- We launched the **resource guide** on www.ourchelseama.org (also known as OCM) with an easily-navigated early-childhood resource grouping. We are looking for 10 partners to **pilot maintaining their guide entry** two times in the next 6-8 months. The goal is to keep this guide up-to-date and available to *all* families and providers. If you are interested in participating in this pilot, please contact Amy at aizen@mg.harvard.edu.
- As we are continuing to define the Chelsea population of 0-5 year-olds, we wanted to share the **child opportunity index** with you which encompasses educational, health & environmental, and social & economic opportunities. This metric quantifies many of the trends we see in our community, and is a helpful context for the work we do. Unfortunately the Chelsea area scored with “very low child opportunity” in each of the three domains which means we will keep moving forward with our initiatives!

- Promoting participation in [United Way's DRIVE](#)(Data &Resources Investing in Vital Early Education) Program. This allows any program who is administering the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) to share results into a **broader database**. By sharing ASQ data, we can begin to gather community-level information about how young children in Chelsea are performing in developmental domains.
- We are continuing to establish a **Parent Navigator position** and establish a grant **Parent Advisory Committee**.
- Planning for "Week of the Young Child," to be held April 16-20, 2018. Current plans underway include an **early childhood professionals network event** (tentatively to be held on 4/18 from 4-7 pm), a community agency "bingo" game during one day of the week to promote families **finding new community resources** and learning about [5 simple ways](#)caregivers can help children's learning in the earliest years of life. We are also planning to market these simple tips for caregiver/child interaction throughout the week in as many avenues as possible.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information about any of the opportunities and initiatives noted here (and feel free to forward this email to others who may be interested in this work). In the meantime, thank you all for you do, and we look forward to working with you soon!

Sincerely,
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