

Maryland SEFEL Pyramid Model Monthly Leadership Meeting Minutes

Date Tuesday, September 14, 2021 | *Time* 11:30 PM – 1:00 PM | *Location* Zoom Meeting

The Vision of the Maryland Pyramid Model State Leadership Team (SLT) is for families in partnership with the early childhood workforce to have the ability to equitably nurture and support infants' and young children's social emotional development and well-being within their diverse family cultures and communities to foster lifelong success. This can be accomplished through integration of the Pyramid Model with other related promotion, prevention, intervention, and treatment efforts in the state.

The Mission of the Maryland Pyramid Model State Leadership Team (SLT) is to develop, evaluate and sustain a statewide collaborative effort, guided by national models, that supports the local implementation of the Pyramid Model framework. This work is rooted in fidelity within a variety of early childhood programs and settings across communities within the state. We are committed to actualizing this work with deep intentionality around addressing equity and the needs of BIPOC students, educators, families and communities as referenced in our Equity Statement.

Equity Statement for the Maryland Pyramid Model State Leadership Team (SLT)

In recognition of the historical, systemic and current racial inequities that exist throughout all levels and layers of our society, we acknowledge that our youngest citizens are too often exposed and harmed. We know this delivers a lasting impact on their social and academic trajectories, the most detrimental of which are higher rates of suspension and expulsion among young black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) before they enter kindergarten, which begins the preschool to prison pipeline. We believe that practices that promote social and emotional awareness and skills in both children and adults, like the Pyramid Model, can serve to significantly correct and address these realities. Recognizing this, the Maryland Pyramid Model SLT commits to implementing the Pyramid Model through a culturally responsive and anti-racist lens. In an effort to move this work forward, we are currently focusing on the following action items, and articulate them here to hold ourselves accountable:

- Implementation of a subcommittee dedicated to elevating equity that meets regularly and supports activities of the full SLT, with specific review of goals and accomplishments during the annual review of the Benchmark of Quality (BOQ).
- Ongoing review and adaptation of training and coaching curriculum to increase the equity lens within Maryland Pyramid Model efforts.
- Adding diversity, equity and inclusion measures into the BOQ fidelity items.
- Ongoing intention of adding and elevating the voices and perspectives of BIPOC partners involved in Pyramid Model efforts across the state.

Attendance: Cynthia Bouchard, *Howard County Public Schools*; Jenice Bruce, *Maryland Coalition of Families*; Mary Rose Catena, *Montgomery County Public Schools*; Don Corbin, *MSDE*; Katherine Endy, *UMB SSW*; Ashley Fehringer, *UMB SSW*; Tresa Hanna, *MSDE*; Angelique Kane, *UMB SSW*; Deborah Langer, *MSDE*; Sheila Maness, *Prince George's Child Resource Center*; Mary Manning-Falzarano, *Montgomery County Infant & Toddlers Program*; Kum Nwosu, *Howard County Public Schools*; Kristen Paul, *Parent's Place of Maryland*; Candace Place, *Anne Arundel Community Center*; Melissa Romano, *Harford County Public Schools*; Lisa Spera, *UMB SSW*; Kate Sweeney, *UMB SSW*; Rachel Vannata, *UMB SSW*

Members Shared Updates & Announcements Related to their PM Activities:

- Under their PM pilot, Montgomery County ITP is piloting ASQ-SE with late referral children.
- The application window for the Parent's Place of Maryland's Baby LEADers training program is now open. They are also gearing up for Y2 of the AUCD-CDC "Act Early" grant. Link and resources were shared during the meeting with attendees.
- Prince George's Child Resource Center is reconnecting with providers for the new school year and planning Maryland Pyramid model training to start in October for child care providers.
- Anne Arundel Community College continues to seek out underserved populations in their community to offer Family Life Education programming. Most recently, they offered a 12 hour, Ready, Set, Learn: Preparation for Kindergarten certificate program to 20 Spanish speaking families in Glen Burnie. The first Module was Social and Emotional development in children birth to 5. They also offered PD training to AACO Recs and Parks, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in a Child Care setting.

Meeting Minutes from August were reviewed and ratified.

PM SLT Shared Announcements Related to National Opportunities:

- Georgetown Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Program offering 3 new certificates for the early childhood workforce: <https://www.iecmhc.org/resources/programs-and-models/>
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- Registration for NCPMI NTI 2022 will begin in September. To learn more visit <https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/Training/Conference/index.html>.
 - The Pyramid Model Consortium (PMC) is excited to announce a call for the third annual PMC Champion Award. Through this award, PMC aims to recognize individuals or teams who embrace and demonstrate the Pyramid Model in action through their sustained and impactful implementation of the Pyramid Model in homes, schools, and community settings to support children, birth to 5 years and their families. Click [here](#) for the application!

Administrative BoQ Items for 2021

- The Annual SLT Retreat will be held on December 7th from 11 AM – 4 PM – please mark your calendars! The agenda will include celebrating success, looking at past data, and accomplishing BoQ review so we can start the new year ready to jump into work plan.

Proposal: [Maryland PM SLT Structure](#)

- The UMB SSW-PIEC presented a proposal to implement a committee structure for the SLT to maximize opportunities for participation and productivity.
- The proposal was ratified unanimously (15-yes/0-no/0-abstain) with the following feedback:
 - Add the PM/EXCELS Badge project to the Implementation & Demonstration Site Subcommittee.
- A [Doodle Poll survey](#) was shared to allow SLT Members to select their subcommittee of interest.

Elevating Equity Subcommittee Report

- The leadership team discussed the recent MAEC Training of Trainers in Equity (TOTE) to train trainers in an introductory equity training, which works to help participants recognize equity, privilege, identity and how they intersect with early childhood work. Several SLT members participated, as well as other PM trainers.
- As a follow up to this TOTE, a Community of Practice will be launched, and release of the content will take place in December 2021. PM equity efforts will be aligned with MAEC's TOTE.
- The leadership team discussed the ongoing effort through the Elevating Equity Subcommittee to update the PM training curriculum with equity and anti-racist efforts. The cohort of PM Trainers engaged in the TOTE, along with those that self-select from the cadre and other trainer lists, will pilot the updated PM curriculum once finalized.

Review of 2021 Priority

- BoQ #32: *SLT develops readiness criteria, recruitment and selection procedures and MOUs for programs participating in the initiative as Implementation Sites (Sites have program leadership team and at least one practitioner coach)*
- A draft of the Maryland's Pyramid Model Implementation Survey was reviewed for the next round of edits. Next month we will focus on a plan to disseminate the survey once ratified by the leadership team as final.

Evaluation form shared with members to complete before signing off to give feedback on the meeting.

Adjourned

Next Meeting: October 5, 2021, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, Zoom