

CHILDREN YOUTH AND FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

JUNE 25, 2019



Who We Are



Established by City Council in June 2011, replacing the Early Childhood Commission and the Youth Policy Commission, as a joint commission of the of the City Council and Alexandria School Board



Comprised of community leaders and key staff of the City of Alexandria and Alexandria City Public schools (ACPS)



25 voting members and 4 non voting
17 citizen members, 4 city employees, 4 ACPS employees
2 liaisons from City Council and 2 liaisons from School Board

Structure of CYFCC

Chair and Chair Elect

Executive Committee

Advocacy and Policy Committee

Finance and Grants Committee

Outreach and Membership Committee

Research and Data Committee

Implementation and Monitoring Committee

Ad-hoc Committees

Aligned with the Goals of the Children and Youth Master Plan (CYMP)

- **Goal 1 Committee:** Every Child Will Be Physically Safe and Healthy
- **Goal 2 Committee:** Every Child Will Be Academically Successful and Career Ready
- **Goal 3 Committee:** Every Child Will Be Socially Connected, Emotionally Secure and Culturally Competent

Ad-hoc Committees, Cont'd.

Aligned with the Goals of the Children and Youth Master Plan (CYMP), Cont'd.

- **Goal 4 Committee:** Every Family Will Be Equipped the and Empowered to Effectively Support Well-Being of Their Children
- **Goal 5 Committee:** Alexandria's Systems and Institutions Will be Responsive, Coordinated, Efficient and Effective in Service to Children and Families

What We Do



Provide advice, advocacy and pertinent information to Alexandria City Council, City Staff, School Board and other relevant entities to influence policy and decisions that result in better outcomes for children, youth and families in the City of Alexandria



Provide oversight of the Children and Youth Master Plan and monitor its implementation

Out of School Time Workgroup

Goals of the Work Group:

- Address Goal Areas 1 & 3 of the CYMP related to OSTP
- Coordinate resources, standards and professional development with providers
- Increase opportunities for OSTP WG to work on shared tasks, activities and goals
- Align enrichment activities to support grade level ACPS curriculum

Out of School Time Workgroup

Key Accomplishments:

- Alexandria Out-of-School: a Community report (2017)
- Description of existing programs
- Assessment of services, data collection, mapping
- User and potential user surveys – 2,434 responses
- Two annual OSTP Citywide forums providing professional development workshops for over 74 participants and 22 organizations

Out of School Time Workgroup

Key Policy Issues:

- Identify and consider funding options to maintain and expand OSTP
- Narrow gaps in services related to affordability, access and quality

Priorities for the coming year:

- Expand representation of OSTP organizations
- Develop clear goals and objectives
- Advocate for OSTP access, expansion and professional development

Early Care and Education Workgroup

Goals of the Work Group:

- Catalyze the implementation Goal 2.1 of the CYMP
- Improve access and the quality of early childhood education across Alexandria
- Strengthen our system of early care and education

Key Accomplishments:

- Common screening tool to streamline enrollment across programs
- Aligned curriculum across ACPS and early childhood programs

Key Accomplishments, Cont'd.

- Increased resources to expand services: Mixed Delivery Preschool Grant through VECF (250K)
- Annual reports published each year outlining progress

Key Policy Issues:

- State Subsidy Participation and Child Support Question
- Methods to expand funding and capacity
- Inclusion of early childhood settings in future development projects

Early Care and Education Workgroup, Con'td.

Priorities for the Coming Year:

- Participation in Virginia's Preschool Development Grant Initiative (518K)
- Improving communication, outreach and family engagement
- Rebranding ECEWG as Smart Beginnings Alexandria
- Expanding network of private providers to support Alexandria Mixed Delivery approach
- Implementation of funding pilot to support Alexandria's Mixed Delivery System

Champions of Children Awards

The CYFCC honors individuals who have been instrumental in implementing strategies of the CYMP. The Awards celebrate the unsung heroes in our community whose tireless efforts advance the CYMP goals.



Support CYMP Five-Year Report

The Report provides a summary of our community's achievements, contributions to improving children's outcomes, and lessons learned along the way during the first five years of the Children and Youth Master Plan (CYMP).



It lays out the Plan's evolution and progress over time, starting with its development and adoption by City Council in 2014 to the present, and gives the reader a glimpse into where we are headed over the next five years.



The Report will be released and celebrated over the summer, generating excitement and galvanizing our City's commitment to improving outcomes over the next five years with the renewed CYMP 2025.

Future Work of the CYFCC

- **Goal 1 Committee** – will focus on safety education.
- **Goal 2 Committee** – will focus on how to build a pipeline of prepared students. They will consult with the Early Care and Education Workgroup to understand what's already being done in this area, and how they can best support the work in this area.

Future Work of
the CYFCC,
Cont'd.

- **Goal 3 Committee** – will focus on better understanding the landscape of stakeholders that work in the area of youth empowerment. The initial focus will be on substance use, bullying and children's mental health.
- **Goal 4 Committee** – will focus on supporting ACPS Families and Community Engagement Centers. They will look at results from the various surveys and examine whether families feel engaged and empowered.

Future Work of
the CYFCC,
Cont'd.

- **Goal 5 Committee** – will focus on supporting the alignment and coordination of three major plans – Children and Youth Master Plan, ACPS 2025 and the Community Health Improvement Plan.
- **Membership and Recruitment Committee** – will focus on developing an orientation process for new members.

Recommendations for City Council

Request Council support in CYFCC 2020 efforts to identify and inform the community about existing and new programs and funding for the five ad hoc committee priorities:

- Explore funding opportunities and initiatives to **strengthen preschool, school, and community safety**.
- Increase access to and investment in **college and career readiness programs** (e.g. work-based learning programs and apprenticeships).

Recommendations for City Council, Con'td.

- Increase **youth empowerment initiatives**.
- Increase access to and investment in youth and family empowerment programs (e.g. focus on bullying, substance use, child mental health).
- Increase investment and access to **early childhood education programs** (e.g. seek funding for facilities, infrastructure, and school capacity needs).

THANKYOU!



- Malka Zeefe, Commission Chair
- Jamica Littles, Commission Chair-Elect
- Tammy Mann, Commissioner, ECEW
- Margaret Orlando, RPCA Division Chief, OSTP