

MARYLAND



MARYLAND
FAMILY
NETWORK

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Maryland Family Network (MFN) was originally formed in 1986 as a prevention-oriented program in response to the increasing number of children entering the foster care system. MFN has become the primary advocate for the needs of young children and their families. MFN Program components include oversight of the Network of Early Head Start Centers, Family Support Centers, and Child Care Resource Centers, referral services for parents seeking childcare for their young children, leadership training for parents, and conducting Parent Cafes. Positioned at the front end of the education continuum, MFN advocates for the interests of providing and promoting positive outcomes for Maryland's youngest families.

At a Glance

- Network Structure: Independent Nonprofit
- Network Annual Budget: \$6.3M
- Funding Sources:
 - Federal Early Head Start
 - Federal Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention
 - State Department of Education
- Types of Members:
 - Community-Based FRCs: 12
 - Child Care Resource Centers: 8
 - Early Head Start Centers: 18

Network Functions

- Connecting Members Through Regular Meetings
- Training/Technical Assistance
- Working on Systems Change/Policy/Advocacy
- Pass-Through Funding to Members
- Marketing/Public Awareness Activities/
Public Awareness Activities
- Shared Data Management System
- Evaluation and Monitoring

YEAR
FOUNDED

1986

NETWORK
MEMBERS

38

INDIVIDUALS
SERVED

3,000

Member Service Areas

- Parenting Support
- Access to Resources
- Child Development Activities
- Parent Leadership Development
- Family Economic Success Activities
- Education Activities
- Health/Wellness Activities
- Intentional Multiple Family Member Engagement Activities
- Community-Strengthening Activities (Voter registration and related education)
- Life Skills Training



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MISSION STATEMENT:

To ensure young children have strong families, quality early learning environments, and a champion for their interests.

Highlights

2019

- New Executive Director hired and agency restructuring
- Held Legislative Advocacy Day
- Incorporated provision of mental health services
- Centers passed ITERS with scores of 6.0 & above

2020

- Family Support Centers and Early Head Start sites began providing virtual services
- Received Pritzker grant to promote healthy outcomes for children and families
- Implemented ASQ-OnLine

2021

- Funded 2 new FSCs
- Engaged in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Anti Racism Anti Oppression work
- Held Participant Essay Contest
- Developed a partnership with a university to provide nursing students to support Centers to provide health education, screenings, and health related materials for staff, parents, and children

2022

- Awarded 6 planning grants for new FSCs
- Engaged in an assessment of FSC system with the National Family Support Network

Outcomes

In Fiscal Year 2019:

- 100% Family Support Center adults participants engaged in goal-setting made progress towards goal attainment.
- 87% of adult participants completed formal parent education.
- 97% of children participating in a Family Support Center received a developmental screening.
- 93% of children attending a Family Support Center were participating in with their immunizations.

