

Growing Opportunities for Family Child Care (GOFCC)

Division of Early Childhood

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PRESENTED BY

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Presentation Outline

1. Introduction
2. Supporting GOFCC
3. Funding GOFCC
4. Promising practices of GOFCC



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Introduction

The goal of the Growing Opportunities for Family Child Care program is to increase the supply and ensure the sustainability of family child care providers in areas with above average rates of poverty and unemployment.

The COVID-19 Pandemic Exacerbated the Reduction of Licensed and Registered Child Care Programs

Specific Date	Provider Type				Total Licensed Providers
	Large Family Child Care Home	Letter of Compliance Facility	Licensed Child Care Center	Registered Family Child Care	
1/24/2020	138	209	2,508	5,089	7,944
2/24/2020	139	212	2,507	5,067	7,925
10/16/2023	151	194	2,416	4,045	6,806
11/15/2023	150	195	2,412	4,031	6,788
12/15/2023	150	195	2,410	4,026	6,781
1/16/2024	152	195	2,417	4,008	6,772
1/24/2024	151	195	2,420	4,001	6,767

Purpose of the GOFCC program

The Growing Opportunities for Family Child Care (GOFCC) pilot program, HB 944/SB 711 CH437 passed during the MD Legislative session in 2021 and authorized MSDE to provide grants to local jurisdictions or child care licensing regions.

Currently, there are 6,767 licensed and registered programs in Maryland.

The intent of these awards is to increase the supply and ensure the sustainability of family child care providers in areas with above average rates of poverty and unemployment.

Maryland Family Network (MFN), as the State Coordinating Entity of the Maryland Child Care Resource Network (MCCRN), provides grant management, oversight, and leadership of the GOFCC project at the direction of MSDE's Division of Early Childhood.

MFN developed and released the request for Proposals and selected three agencies (Child Resource Connect in Central MD South counties, Abilities Network in Central MD North Counties, and The Family Tree in Baltimore City) to receive funding under this grant.



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Supporting GOFCC

The Division of Early Childhood provides grant monitoring support for the GOFCC program, including technical assistance, monthly meetings for updates and progress, budget monitoring, processing invoices, and monitoring quarterly reports.

How does the Division of Early Childhood support the GOFCC program?

The Division of Early Childhood supports the GOFCC program with grant monitoring to include:

- Technical assistance
- Monthly meetings (which entails updates, questions, and progress of the program)
- Budget monitoring
- Processing invoices and requests
- Monitoring quarterly reports



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Funding GOFCC

The Division of Early Childhood used \$450,000 in state general funds for FY23 and FY24 to fund the GOFCC program, distributing \$150,000 each to three agencies and supporting two additional agencies with federal American Rescue Plan Act funds.

How MSDE funds the GOFCC program?

The Division of Early Childhood funds the GOFCC program from the Governor allotment of state general funds of \$450,000 for FY23 and FY24 for three (3) agencies:

- Child Resource Connect (Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties)
- Abilities Network (Baltimore, Cecil, and Harford Counties)
- The Family Tree (Baltimore City)

Each selected program receives \$150,000.

Two additional agencies (Eastern Shore Child Care Resource Center and Child Care Choices) participated in GOFCC with use of one-time federal American Rescue Plan Act funds.



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Promising Practices of GOFCC

GOFCC achieved promising outcomes from January 2023 to January 2024, with 88 programs licensed or registered (36 pending), 62 new programs enrolled in MD EXCELS, and 3 reaching Level 3, along with 58 programs set up to accept the Child Care Scholarship.

Promising Outcomes (1 of 2)

GOFCC provides training, technical assistance, coaching, business consultation, licensure startup orientation, business sustainability, and quality supports. Below are the January 2023 – January 2024 GOFCC program advancements:

- License and Registration – 88 programs have completed and received their license or registration (36 are currently awaiting a decision)
- MD EXCELS – 62 of new programs enrolled in MD EXCELS
- MD EXCELS Published level – 3 out of the 62 programs enrolled in MD EXCELS, have published at Level 3
- Child Care Scholarship – 58 out of the 62 programs are set up to accept Child Care Scholarship

Promising Outcomes (2 of 2)

January 2023 – January 2024, there were 88 graduates with a license or registration.

Baltimore City Child Care Resource Center at the Family Tree

Baltimore City – 14

Abilities Network Project Act

Baltimore, Cecil, and Harford
Counties – 12

Child Resource Connect

Anne Arundel and Prince
George's Counties – 7

*Additional Child Care Resource Centers participated in GOFCC through ARPA funding include Eastern Shore Child Care Resource Center (23 graduates with a license) and Child Care Choices (32 graduates with a license).