



**MARYLAND
EARLY CHILDHOOD
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Shriver Center/Division of Professional Studies

Last week, the MECLP Advisory Committee came together for our annual retreat and strategic planning session—a powerful time to reflect, plan, and reimagine the future of early childhood leadership in Maryland. We were also reminded that the heart of MECLP is our fellows. We have been fortunate to bring together 78 inspiring early childhood leaders from across the state—administrators, family child care educators, and advocates—who are not only advancing their own professional journeys, but also helping transform Maryland’s early childhood ecosystem. Our fellows represent the core of MECLP’s vision -

A Maryland where all early childhood professionals—regardless of role or sector—are equipped, empowered, and connected as transformative leaders driving positive outcomes for young children, families, and communities.

We are excited to spotlight a few of our outstanding fellows from across MECLP’s six cohorts. These stories embody the power and promise of early childhood leadership.

#MECLP #EarlyChildhoodLeadership #MarylandECE
#LeadershipMatters #ECELeaders



Tiffany Jones is owner of the Precious Moments Family Childcare program in Montgomery County, Maryland. Jones started the program in 2005 and since that time has guided the early learning of more than 125 children. As a Maryland Early Childhood Leadership Program (MECLP) fellow, Jones was inspired to use her voice and become a champion for her fellow family childcare providers. She is modeling the power of family childcare as an essential ingredient of a mixed delivery system. Jones is one of a handful of family childcare providers who operate a prekindergarten expansion site as part of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, and, she was recently recognized as one of three Maryland providers for the We Vision EarlyEd Early Care and Education Home Solutions Lab sites program of the Bainum Family Foundation.

"The MECLP experience helped me get out of my comfort zone. I was able to develop confidence, and I learned the importance of being direct. It's okay to speak up to share what we know, and to ask for what we need," said Jones. And she is doing just this as she calls attention to the need to develop recognition and respect for family childcare and the role that it can play in a quality, equitable, mixed-delivery early childhood system.

Cohort I Fellow



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