



ECFC Fall 2024 Member Meeting
Resilient, Ready, and Rising - Shaping the Future of Young Children
October 23-24, 2024
The Morrow Hotel, Washington DC

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

MAIN EVENTS, MEALS AND REGISTRATION TAKE PLACE IN ARMATURE BALLROOM AND FOYER, 2ND FLOOR

8am-9am ARMATURE BALLROOM & FOYER	Breakfast available & registration open 1 st time attendees, stop by Tanner Room (adjacent to Armature Ballroom) for a meet-up with your hosts: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Liz Star, Founder and President, HopeStar Foundation; ECFC Steering Committee, Membership Committee Chair● Krystal Ivery, Member Engagement Associate, ECFC
9am-10am ARMATURE BALLROOM	Welcome, Celebrations, and Meeting Context <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Gerry Cobb, Director, Pritzker Children’s Initiative; ECFC Steering Committee Chair● Shannon Rudisill, Executive Director, ECFC● Krystal Ivery, Member Engagement Associate, ECFC
10am-11am ARMATURE BALLROOM	Connection and Reflection: What gives us hope and supports resiliency Through intentional reflection and connection opportunities, we will explore the context of current times, and our challenges and hopes in this moment. Where and how have we been able to “meet the moment” in the past? What are the challenges and opportunities we see? What has supported our resilience in the past? <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Facilitated by: Ira Hillman, Strategy Lead, Bonding, Einhorn Collaborative● Introductions with: Bryan Stokes, Director, Education Portfolio, Robert R. McCormick Foundation
11am-11:30am ARMATURE FOYER	Break
11:30am- 12:30pm ARMATURE BALLROOM	Grantmaking Practices to Support Resilient Grantees and Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introduction by: Keami Harris, Chief of Equity and Strategy, ECFC● Moderated by: Ellen Roche, Chief Media & Philanthropy Officer Co-Director, Trust for Learning Funder reflections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Anna Marie Garcia, Vice President of Early Education, LANL Foundation, New Mexico● Chinwe Onyekere, Program Officer, Vanguard Strong Start for Kids● Krista Scott, Senior Program Officer, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation● Willeen Whipple, Director, Indian Child Welfare Programs, Casey Family Programs
12:30pm - 1:15pm	Lunch ARMATURE BALLROOM & FOYER

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

1:15pm-2:30pm **Application Huddles: Grantmaking Practices to Support Resilient Grantees and Partners**

ARMATURE BALLROOM & BREAKOUT ROOMS

Round 1: 1:15pm-1:45pm | *Break/rotate 1:45pm-2pm* | **Round 2:** 2pm-2:30pm

Strategy topics and Breakout Rooms will be posted during lunch.

Strategy reflections:

- *What strategies have you supported or tried?*
- *Where do you see gaps or opportunities related to this strategy for supporting grantee/partners?*
- *What do you need to “get there” (you as an individual, your foundation/organization)?*
- *Where/how can ECFC support you getting there?*

2:30pm-3pm **Break**

ARMATURE FOYER

Peer Huddles & Connections: This afternoon, we will shift to peer huddles based on suggestions and requests received in our registration form! Peer huddles are intended for members to connect around shared interests. Bring your examples, ideas, questions, and connect!

3pm-3:55pm **Peer Huddles & Connections (Round 1)**

NOMA A (FIRST FLOOR)

- **Meet the Racial Justice and Equity Fund: Investing in Historically Underinvested Communities -** Join discussion hosts **Gerry Cobb, Pritzker Children’s Initiative, Denise Castillo Dell Isola, Irving Harris Foundation,** and **Keami Harris, ECFC Chief of Equity and Strategy** to learn more about a multi-funder cross-sector collaborative launching this year to resource under-invested community based and state-level organizations working on grassroots movement building and policy/advocacy to build influence and advance equity to meet the holistic needs of young children, families and communities. *(This huddle repeats in Round 2)*

TANNER (ADJACENT TO ARMATURE BALLROOM)

- **Early Childhood in Tribal Communities -** Interested in indigenous early childhood issues and needs? Join discussion hosts **Mary Nell Wegner, Brindle Foundation,** and **April Luong, ECFC Program Associate** and co-lead for **ECFC’s Indigenous early childhood workgroup** to learn more about efforts to support Tribal and Native communities, and consider how you can support Native and Tribal communities.

ARMATURE BALLROOM

- **Strategies for Supporting the ECE Workforce -** Join discussion host **Ola Friday, Early Educator Investment Collaborative (EEIC),** to explore how EEIC and other funders are supporting a wide range of supports for early educators and how you can support early educators in your communities.
 - **The Role of Tax Credits in Making ECE Accessible,** join discussion hosts **Jessie Rasmussen** and **Shannon Cotsoradis, Buffett Early Childhood Fund,** in a conversation about the complementary role that tax credits can play at the state and federal level to help make quality early care and education accessible to all families.
 - **First 1,000 Days Strategies,** join discussion host **Carrie Bersak, The Burke Foundation,** to hear about philanthropy support to launch the First 1,000 Days Policy Coalition, and consider how your work supports health and wellbeing of children in their first 1,000 days of life.
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Wednesday, October 23, 2024

3:55pm-4:05pm **Break/Rotate Huddles**
ARMATURE FOYER

4:05pm-5pm **Peer Huddles & Connections (Round 2)**

NOMA A (FIRST FLOOR)

- **Meet the Racial Justice and Equity Fund: Investing in Historically Underinvested Communities** - Join discussion hosts **Gerry Cobb, Pritzker Children’s Initiative, Denise Castillo Dell Isola, Irving Harris Foundation,** and **Keami Harris, ECFC Chief of Equity and Strategy** to learn more about a multi-funder cross-sector collaborative launching this year to resource under-invested community based and state-level organizations working on grassroots movement building and policy/advocacy to build influence and advance equity to meet the holistic needs of young children, families and communities.

TANNER (ADJACENT TO ARMATURE BALLROOM)

- **Infant and Toddler Mental Health** - Join discussion with **Phyllis Glink, Irving Harris Foundation** to consider how infant and toddler mental health support strategies intersect with your work.

ARMATURE BALLROOM

- **Centering Social Justice for Children in Immigrant Families** – Join discussion with **JoAnn Hsueh, Foundation for Child Development** for discussion.
- **Grantmaking for young children in the South**, discussion with **Shannon Rudisill, ECFC Executive Director** on philanthropy in southern states and ECFC plans to host a member meeting in the South.

5pm-5:30pm Meeting adjourns at 5pm with a break until our evening reception. *During our break, we will be showing Day 2 suggested Pre-Watch Video in the Armature Ballroom: **What does wealth mean to you?** TED Talk, by poverty disrupter Aisha Nyandoro (12 min)*
ARMATURE
BALLROOM &
FOYER

5:30pm – 8pm **Welcome & Networking Reception**
VESPER LOUNGE As is our tradition, we will host an evening reception for continued connections
(11TH FLOOR) with heavy appetizers for those that would like to skip dinner to join us.

- Welcome comments: **Eddie Gale**, Vermont Program Director, The A.D. Henderson Foundation; ECFC Steering Committee Treasurer
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Thursday, October 24, 2024

MAIN EVENTS, MEALS AND REGISTRATION TAKE PLACE IN ARMATURE BALLROOM AND FOYER

7:30am-9am **Breakfast available beginning at 7:30am & registration open**
ARMATURE BALLROOM AND FOYER

8am-8:45am **Nourishing Your Peer Connections - Topical Breakfast Tables**
& *Open seating for networking will also be available in Armature Ballroom.*

TANNER (ADJACENT TO ARMATURE BALLROOM)

- **Investing in America Child Care Partnership** - Join your discussion hosts **Katie Beckmann, David & Lucille Packard Foundation, Eric Buchanan, Buffett Early Childhood Fund, and Jonathan Hui, The Kresge Foundation, to learn more about a new** philanthropic effort to increase the supply of affordable and high-quality child care in communities where there are infrastructure projects.

ARMATURE BALLROOM

- **Working with Governors to elevate early childhood** - In recent years, the Buell Foundation has worked closely with Colorado Governor Polis (and now President of the National Governors Association) in his efforts to elevate EC issues in the state, resulting in several major state level EC wins. Join your discussion hosts **Steve ErkenBrack, Buell Foundation** and **Tim Blute, National Governors Association** to consider how funders can support NGA efforts to elevate early childhood among Governors.
- **Supporting movement building in your state: Meet the Raising Child Care Fund (RCCF)** - Join RCCF discussion hosts **Rachel Schumacher, RCCF Director, and Syritha Robinson, RCCF Director of Philanthropy and Partnerships, to learn more about this powerful philanthropic partnership, and learn more about how your work can be part of a national movement to transform child care.**
- **Strategies for child welfare transformation** - Join discussion host **Todd Shenk, Casey Family Programs** to talk together about current work you are funding or interested in, and how we can help keep families together.

9am-9:45am **ECFC Business & Celebrations**
ARMATURE
BALLROOM

- **Gerry Cobb, Pritzker Children’s Initiative; ECFC Steering Committee Chair**
- **Eric Buchanan, Buffett Early Childhood Fund; ECFC Steering Committee Vice Chair**

Thursday, October 24, 2024

FUNDING THE FUTURE: ECONOMIC MOBILITY AND WEALTH BUILDING FOR YOUNG CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND EARLY EDUCATORS

We are at a pivotal point in this country - coming out of an era where we saw child poverty cut in half, seeing the impact of pandemic era policies and economic support strategies, such as guaranteed income and cash benefits, that not only provided for families basic needs in a critical time, but pulled families back from a day-to-day cliff of financial uncertainty, especially at critical points in their lives (such as losing or changing a job, having a baby, going to college).

Day 2 of our meeting will focus on key strategies that are building momentum for insulating families and early education providers from financial shocks at critical points in their lives - giving them the ability to build wealth, and financial wellbeing; and helping realize their dreams of a financially stable and well future for themselves, and their children and families.

9:45am-10:15am ARMATURE BALLROOM	Wealth and Economic Opportunity: What does it mean and what does it look like in our work? To kick off our economic success and mobility discussion, we'll first ground ourselves in what we mean by wealth, what our understanding of wealth is, and what it means for families and communities. Your great examples of economic success and mobility work shared during registration will provide a jumping off point for our discussion, sharing examples of different kinds of economic work intersecting with early childhood. Introduction & Snapshot of Member Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shannon Rudisill, Executive Director ECFC
10:15am-10:45am	Break ARMATURE BALLROOM & FOYER

Economic opportunity and wealth building for young children, Families and Early Educators

See what your member colleagues are funding! Add your own examples!

tinyurl.com/yabd9s92



Thursday, October 24, 2024

GRANTEE & COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS

Through a mix of small and large group formats, we'll explore ECFC member supported examples around the country featuring grantee and community partners making the connection between economic stability/mobility and the bigger picture of child, family, EC provider well being. **Learn more about featured spotlights here:**



10:45am-11:15am Spotlight on Guaranteed Income Programs – Introduction

ARMATURE
BALLROOM

Introduction by:

- **Rachel Schumacher**, Director, Raising Child Care Fund
- **Sarah Stripp**, Program Director of Socioeconomic Well-Being, Springboard to Opportunities

11:15am-12pm Spotlight Breakouts on Guaranteed Income Programs

NOMA A (FIRST FLOOR)

Thriving Providers Project, a project of Home Grown Child Care, works with regional partners to provide direct cash payments to Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) caregivers and newly licensed Family Child Care (FCC) home providers. Selected home-based child care providers/caregivers will receive direct cash payments for one year or more, and receive peer and professional support that reduces isolation, increases access to other resources and builds wealth.

- **Natalie Renew**, Executive Director Home Grown
- **Carmen Reeves**, Thriving Providers – Child Care Provider, Philadelphia, PA

TANNER (ADJACENT TO ARMATURE BALLROOM)

Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services (HIFS), The Nest, the first guaranteed income program designed exclusively to serve Indigenous communities in the United States, serving American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian and Pacifica families in Puget Sound (Washington) area. Over the next five years the Nest will give \$1250 no-strings-attached monthly payments to 150 Indigenous pregnant people until their child's third birthday. This equates to up to \$45,000 for a family participating from the birth of their child until they turn three. *Grantee partner of Perigee Fund.*

- **Lacey Warrior**, Nest Program Manager, HIFS
- **Tia Yazzie**, Abundance Auntie, HIFS

ARMATURE BALLROOM

The Bridge Project, an unconditional cash program during the first 1,000 days of a baby's life, giving mothers up to \$1,000 a month for three years, no strings attached. Launched in New York City, and scaled to all five New York City boroughs, the project has expanded to Rochester, Buffalo, Milwaukee and Connecticut, and is soon expanding to Appalachia. *A project of The Monarch Foundation.*

- **Laura Clancy**, Executive Director, The Bridge Project
- **Lisa Chin**, The Bridge Project - Parent Partner

ROOM: ARMATURE BALLROOM

Magnolia Mother's Trust, a guaranteed income program for low-income families led by Black mothers in Jackson, MS. *Grantee partner of the Raising Child Care Fund.*

- **Sarah Stripp**, Program Director of Socioeconomic Well-Being, Springboard to Opportunities
 - **Djunaita Johnson**, Magnolia Mother's Trust – Parent Partner
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Thursday, October 24, 2024

12pm-12:45pm **Lunch**
ARMATURE BALLROOM & FOYER

12:45pm-1pm **Pop-Up Spotlight: Supporting Multi-Issue Organizations to Move the Needle on Economic Opportunity**
ARMATURE
BALLROOM

Montana Budget and Policy Center is home to many important coalitions focused on child and family economics, including a Paid Leave Coalition and Montana Advocates for Children, and a partner of Montana KidsCount. MBPC works with tribal governments, advocacy groups, and community members to inform the policymaking process and ensure that state policies honor the political status of tribal nations. And in their partnerships and coalitions, they seek to engage, include, and elevate the voices of those sometimes left out of conversations about economic policies, including women, seniors, people with disabilities, American Indians, and families living on low incomes.

- **Heather O'Loughlin**, Executive Director, MBPC
- *Grantee partner of Headwaters Foundation*

1pm-1:15pm **Pop-Up Spotlight: Housing Equity**
ARMATURE
BALLROOM

Community Development Alliance (CDA) of Milwaukee, is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization governed by dedicated Milwaukeeans committed to advancing racial equity by providing a quality affordable home to every Milwaukeean, prioritizing equitable homeownership for Black & Latino Families. Their programs include an initiative to build 40 new single family homes near ECE providers to support Early Educator home ownership.

- Teig Whaley-Smith, CDA Chief Alliance Executive
- *Grantee partner of **American Family Insurance Institute for Corporate and Social Impact***



Spotlight Partner Descriptions
tinyurl.com/4c5x2jy2

What is a quick text or tweet you would send to share something you learned or an idea you want to take-away?



tinyurl.com/avpu62eb

Thursday, October 24, 2024

1:15pm-1:30 **Introduction and to Spotlight Clusters and Breakouts (& Break)**
ARMATURE • **Rena Large**, Program Director, ECFC
BALLROOM

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Cluster Breakouts**

TANNER (ADJACENT TO BALLROOM)

Spotlight on Partnerships with Health Providers to Support Family Financial Wellness

ACEs Los Angeles Medical–Financial Partnership (MFP) connects families with supports and services to directly address financial hardship as a fundamental health risk and social determinant of health for children and the adults they will become. The MFP program partners include Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Pediatrics, UCLA Department of Pediatrics, LIFT-Los Angeles, and the families they serve. The MFP goal is to establish and sustain a multi-sector, family-centered, parent-driven pediatric care innovation model and ecosystem reducing experiences of scarcity and supporting family relational health and social emotional development across sites in the second largest public health system in the US. The program uses social workers in pediatric primary care to help families navigate their financial and medical goals side-by-side as a path to improved well-being.

- **Monique Holguin**, UCLA Medical-Financial Partnership Co-Director
- **Adam Schickedanz**, UCLA Medical-Financial Partnership Co-Director
- *Grantee partner of Pediatrics Supporting Parents*

Footbridge for Families provides rapid financial support to families facing short-term financial crises which have no other solution. Founded in 2020 after winning a Pittsburgh-based social innovation challenge, the organization has filled in the gap and prevented a crisis for over 1,000 families in Pennsylvania to date. Our organization harnesses partnerships with frontline professionals such as doctors and home visitors to identify families in need and makes payments to third-party organizations on their behalf as quickly as necessary. This unique approach strengthens the relationship between our referral partners and clients with 88% of our clients reporting that they are more likely to engage with and attend appointments with the referring organization after receiving assistance. It also dramatically improves outcomes for families on the brink of a crisis with 79% reporting that Footbridge’s financial aid is still making a difference in their families’ financial situation six months later.

- **Kim Eckel**, CEO, Footbridge to Families
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Thursday, October 24, 2024

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Cluster Breakouts**

ARMATURE BALLROOM

Spotlight on Workforce Supports and Job Training:

Mississippi Low Income Child Care Initiative’s Employment Equity for Single Moms (EESM) focuses on improving women’s economic security in Mississippi by making child care affordable for low-income working moms, and achieving gender and racial equity in the workforce and making the safety net work for women. EESM helps single mothers in Mississippi connect to the resources they need to find higher-paying jobs in their local area. Ultimately, our goal is to help every single mother earn a livable wage and become more financially secure.

- **Belinda Thornton**, MILICCI Southcentral MS Works Case Manager
- **Jasmine Morris**, MILICCI Employment Equity for Single Moms – Parent Partner
- *A grantee partner of the Raising Child Care Fund*

LIFT: Poverty, like wealth, is passed down from generation to generation. And decades of racial inequity and underinvestment in our communities have kept families trapped in a cycle. Our mission is to break that cycle by investing in parents. We build families’ well-being, financial strength, and social connections to lift two generations at once. LIFT's holistic economic coaching model partners with parents of young children. Through differentiated support, parents set their own goals to increase income, improve career trajectories, and/or obtain a degree or certification to meet those goals. LIFT provides wrap-around support and direct cash infusions for parents to navigate challenges and maintain momentum on their path toward economic mobility. It's a unique, evidence-based replicable approach primed for expansion to new early educational settings.

- **Sarah Spunt**, Executive Director, Chicago LIFT

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Spotlight Breakout**

NOMA A

Spotlight on Financial Wellness in Early Intervention

The CASH Campaign of Maryland (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) is the a stellar example of a multi-issue organization, promoting economic advancement for low-to-moderate income individuals and families in Baltimore and across Maryland. CASH provides multiple services to families including financial education and coaching, assistance to access benefits. CASH works with human service practitioners to ensure they have the knowledge and skills necessary to assist clients in moving towards financial stability. They administer the Baltimore Young Families Success Fund (BYFSF), in partnership with the City of Baltimore, a guaranteed income pilot program for young parents (ages 18-24), and recently launched a financial wellness program within early intervention settings.

- **Robin McKinney**, Co-Founder and CEO, Cash Campaign
 - **Tonaeya Moore**, Director of Policy, Cash Campaign
 - *Grantee partner of The Zanyvl and Isabelle Krieger Fund*
-

Thursday, October 24, 2024

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Spotlight Breakout**

NOMA B

Spotlight on Early Educator Home Ownership Program

The Community Development Alliance (CDA) and LISC Milwaukee are building 45 homes for early childhood educators in Milwaukee. Through the investments of the Department of Workforce Development, the Northwestern Mutual Foundation, the Zilber Family Foundation, the American Family Institute, the City of Milwaukee, LISC, CDA, and others, 40 new single family homes will be built near 5 major ECE Providers. The homes are exclusively for ECE Educators and will be sold for approximately \$100,000 each.

Continued conversation with...

- **Teig Whaley-Smith**, CDA Chief Alliance Executive
- **Jilly Gokalgandhi**, American Family Insurance Institute for Corporate and Social Impact
-

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Spotlight Breakout on Budget and Tax Strategies**

ARMATURE BALLROOM

Montana Budget and Policy Center provides in-depth research and analysis on budget, tax, and economic issues to advance responsible tax, budget, and economic policies, and advocates for policies to ensure that everyone can share in the state's prosperity – an important role in this rural (and red) state. Join this breakout for continued conversation on multi-issue strategies and partnerships MBPC coordinates to engage, include, and elevate the voices of those sometimes left out of conversations about economic policies, including women, seniors, people with disabilities, American Indians, and families living on low incomes

Continued conversation with...

- **Heather O'Loughlin**, Executive Director, **Montana Budget and Policy Center**
- **Erin Switalski**, *Headwaters Foundation*

2:30pm – 2:45pm **Break**

ARMATURE BALLROOM & FOYER

Thursday, October 24, 2024

2:45pm-4:15pm **Imagining an Economy That Works for All Kids and Families: Closing Discussion with Natalie Foster, President and Founder, Economic Security Project**
ARMATURE
BALLROOM

Calling on elements of *The Guarantee: Inside the Fight for America's Next Economy*, and building momentum from what we're learning from ECFC member initiatives that support economic stability and opportunity for kids, families and early educators, we'll end our time together with a compelling and hopeful call to action to consider how we as funders, collaboratives and advocates, can help families and communities to build wealth, and financial wellbeing; and realize their dreams of a financially stable and well future for themselves, and their children.

Natalie Foster will be joined for discussion by **Sakinah Harrison**, Program Officer for Education & Learning and Family Economic Security at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and ECFC Steering Committee member.

4:15pm – 5pm **Closing Comments:**
ARMATURE • **Shannon Rudisill**, Executive Director, ECFC
BALLROOM

BUT WAIT! There's more....

Please share your ah-ha's and take-aways! Do you want to continue discussion on some element/topic? How can ECFC support you to apply lessons and ideas learned here?

<https://tinyurl.com/9jmr6axc>

