

THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Neighborhood Villages

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

As the leaves change and the air becomes crisp, we find ourselves at the cusp of the upcoming months that bring a whirlwind of family activities, emotions, busy days, and challenges. This period can be particularly intense for those working in early education programs. From the excitement of holiday events to the stresses of managing daily operations and the crucial involvement of families in their children's learning journey, these months demand our utmost attention and dedication.

In the world of early education, every day is a new adventure filled with the laughter and curiosity of young minds. However, as the holiday season approaches, the pace quickens, the to-do lists grow longer, and the pressure to create meaningful, engaging experiences for children and their families intensifies. In this newsletter, we will provide updates on some local resources and tips for making your next few months more manageable.

Join us as we embark on this journey through the upcoming months, offering insights, tips, and inspiration to help you thrive as an educator, administrator, or caregiver. Together, we'll navigate the challenges and cherish the moments of joy that come with nurturing young minds during this season of busy times, holidays, stress, and family engagement.

Alina



Neighborhood Community of Practice Session

Our next Operation Manager and
Family Navigator COP will be:

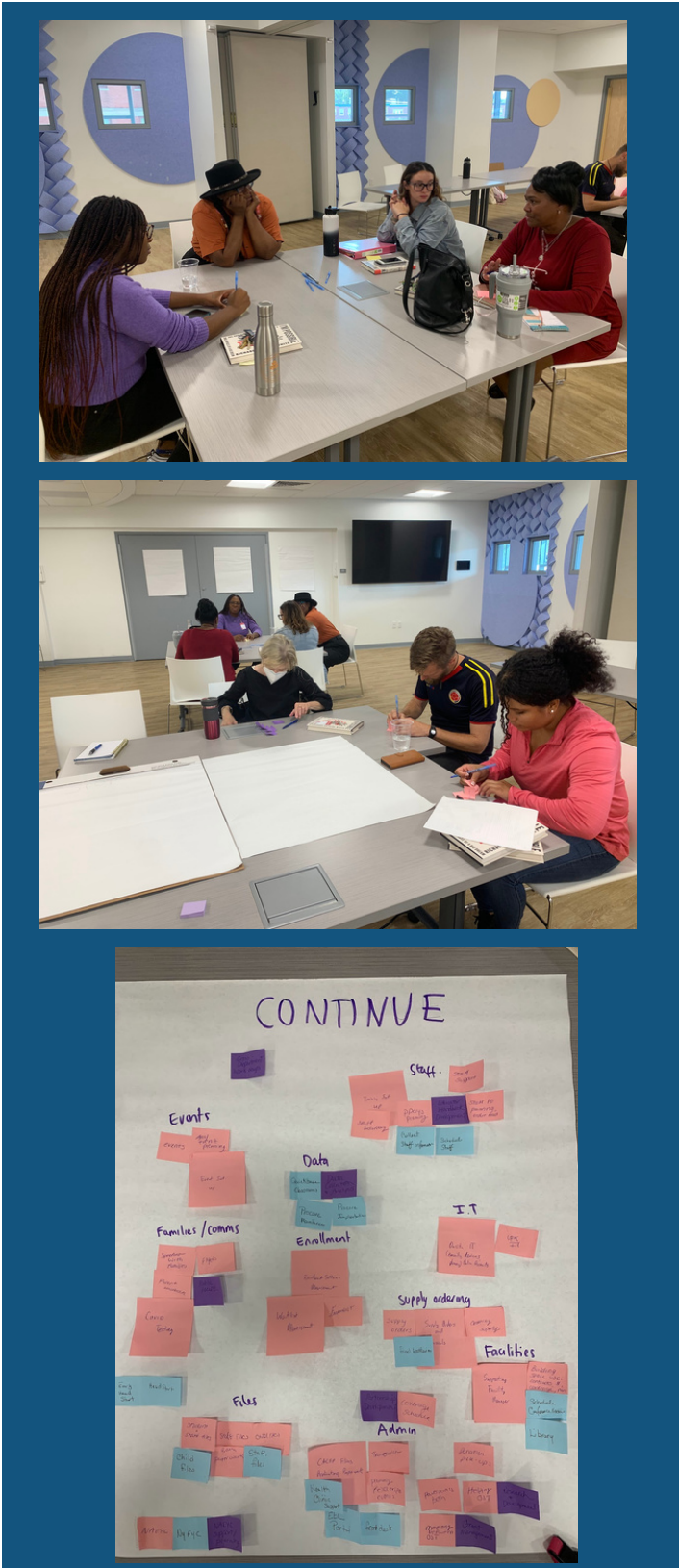
Date: Thursday, October 19,
2023

Location: East Boston Social
Centers

Time: 10:00am-12:00PM



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



Our **September Community of Practice** was held at **Horizons for Homeless**, we received a warm welcome from their exceptional team. Our colleague, Eva Marks, guided us through their impressive facilities, which included a dedicated children's library, a fully-equipped S.T.E.M room, and comfortable staff spaces for relaxation and rejuvenation. The attention and care given to early childhood education were genuinely inspiring. Additionally, we attended an informative community meeting where we gained insights into the roles of Family Navigators and Operations Managers in the programs. We participated in an exercise to identify what to "Start, Stop, and Continue," which laid the foundation for further discussions to develop our neighborhood landscape assessment.

Find below the links to the resources that were previously shared with you at our meeting:

- [Family Flex Fund Tracker](#)
- [Professional Pathways Link](#)
- [Toddler curriculum feedback survey](#)

We would really appreciate it if you could share your feedback with us before the next COP through [this form](#).

Resources for the Neighborhood and More

Our neighborhood recently received six pallets of supplies from Baby 2 Baby, for which we are truly grateful. We were fortunate enough to be able to lend a hand to a shelter in Massachusetts that serves new immigrants by distributing much-needed supplies like diapers, wipes, backpacks, and clothing. In addition, these supplies were also given to the neighborhood schools. Your assistance in arranging the pick-up of these supplies at the loading dock was invaluable, and we thank you for your help. We will continue to place orders for supplies, and we kindly ask for your cooperation in notifying us of any program needs. We understand the weather is getting chilly, and coats have been requested. We are working on this need and will inform you of our progress.



October is ADHD Awareness Month

Teaching and Learning Trainings

Neighborhood Villages facilitated two professional development trainings through our teaching and learning unit in September. One of the workshops was titled "**Environments as the Third Educator,**" geared towards early education staff and led by Pamela Thompson, Director of Teaching and Learning. Meanwhile, Alina Lopez Thomas, Senior Director of the Neighborhood, conducted a training geared towards the Family Engagement and Support team and Program Administrators on "**Family Engagement and Parent Cafes.**" These training sessions aimed to improve staff skills and knowledge in their respective areas of responsibility.



EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

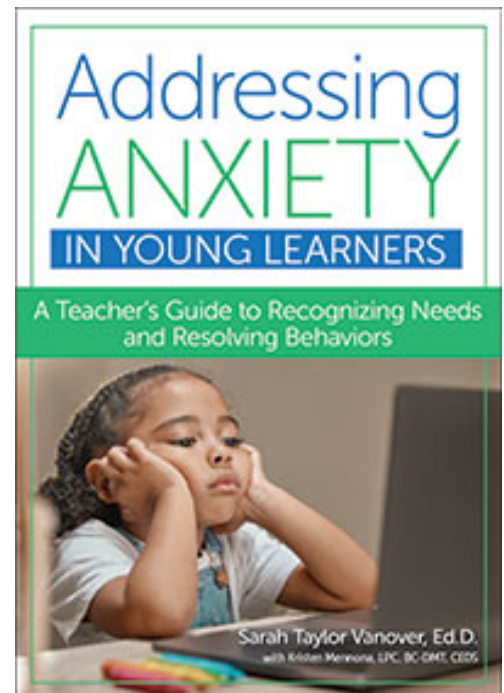
Anxiety rates are skyrocketing among young learners—and their teachers urgently need explicit guidance on how to understand and support these children. This webinar, presented by author and child care advocate, Dr. Sarah Vanover, will prepare you to recognize anxiety in children ages 3–8, identify the associated behaviors, and work effectively with children who have symptoms of anxiety. You will learn different types of childhood anxiety, symptoms, causes, and triggers, and how to address the challenging behaviors that are often symptoms of anxiety.

Anxiety in Preschool Children: Identifying and supporting anxious young learners, by Dr. Sarah Taylor Vanover

Sponsored by Brookes Publishing Anxiety rates are skyrocketing among young learners—and their teachers urgently need explicit guidance on how to understand and support these children. This webinar, presented by author and child care...

 Early Childhood Webinars /

Join this Free Webinar on
[Read More Here](#)



EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

This free, 5-episode virtual conversation series offers a safe and welcoming space to hold conversations for and by Latinx families. Explore what it means to be a parent as part of the Latinx community, raising Latinx children while navigating U.S. mainstream cultures and connecting Latinx cultural identities to physical and mental well-being. Join us as we create a Latinx parent community of mutual learning and support. All are welcome to join and engage in these powerful conversations! **The series begins on Monday, October 2, 2023, and will be held every other Monday, from 3 to 4:30 PM ET / 12 to 1:30 PM PT, through November 27, 2023.** All webinars are 1 hour followed by a 30-minute Q&A session with our panelists. You are invited to attend any and all episodes that interest you! All webinars have live Spanish translation and closed captioning available.



Brazelton
Touchpoints Center™

The Children's
Partnership

Somos Latinx Families
A Family to Family Real Talk Conversation

October 2 - November 27, 2023
3:00 - 4:30 pm (ET)/
12 - 1:30 pm (PT)
Every other Monday



Brazelton
Touchpoints Center™

The Children's
Partnership

Somos Familias Latinx
Una Conversación Real de Familia a Familia

Octubre 2 - Noviembre 27, 2023
3:00 - 4:30 pm (ET)/
12 - 1:30 pm (PT)
Cada dos Lunes

This series is moderated by Eva Rivera, MSW, Policy Director, Early Childhood Development, The Children's Partnership, and National Facilitator at the Brazelton Touchpoints Center.



Episode 1: Latinx Parenting – What does it mean to be Latinx and a Latinx parent in 2023?

Monday, October 2, 2023, 3 PM ET / 12 PM PT

Episode 2: Latinx Parenting – Embracing and Understanding Afro-Latinidad and Indigeneity in our Latinx Communities

Monday, October 16, 2023, 3 PM ET / 12 PM PT

Episode 3: Latinx Parenting – Learning from Our Latinx Fathers

Monday, October 30, 2023, 3 PM ET / 12 PM PT

Episode 4: Latinx Parenting – Supporting Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Monday, November 13, 2023, 3 PM ET / 12 PM PT

Episode 5: Latinx Parenting – Fostering and Elevating the Strengths of our Latinx Children

Monday, November 27, 2023, 3 PM ET / 12 PM PT



SAVE THE DATE

for the Families and Children in the Neighborhood



Our **2nd annual Winter Wonder Fest** this year will be filled with amusement and giveaways. This event is aimed at families and children and will offer various products, including toys, diapers, hats, mittens, and much more. Moreover, there will be a photo booth, face painting, music, and an exceptional dance party. We will provide you with further details as we plan this event so that parents can be invited to join in on the fun.

UPCOMING Events



OCTOBER

11

6:30 PM

Community Action Call Webinar

Learn how to write and submit testimony for a legislative hearing (and why it's so important to do so!)



OCTOBER

14

10:00 AM

Advocacy Workshop

In person at Epiphany Early Learning Center, join us for a hands on session to prepare to submit testimony on 10/17!



OCTOBER

17

11:00 AM

Public Hearing

The Education Committee will hold a public hearing on all bills related to early education and care. Join us at the MA State House!



MORE INFO AT: WWW.NEIGHBORHOODVILLAGES.ORG/NEIGHBORHOOD-VILLAGES-EVENTS

COMMON START HEARING

Join Us!

OCT. 17 | 11AM | MA STATE HOUSE

On 10/17, the Massachusetts Legislature will consider two bills that would make child care more affordable for more families. We need you to share your story!



C3 OPERATIONS GRANT PANEL EVENT

October 2023-Vol.3

C3 OPERATIONS GRANTS: Critical to Sustaining the Massachusetts Early Education and Care Sector

Join us for a panel event about the critical need to make operations grants a permanent funding program for the early education and care sector. Evidence from the Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grant program demonstrates that direct-to-provider operations grants have had a critical impact on preserving family access to care, raising educator wages, and promoting affordability for families.



OCTOBER 10, 2023
2-3 PM EST
ZOOM

Strategies
for Children

REGISTER NOW

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Thank you for joining our Neighborhood Newsletter community! We appreciate your contributions and encourage you to share any upcoming program news and highlights with us. Our monthly newsletter is eagerly anticipated by all, so if you have content for the next edition, please send it to itorres@neighborhoodvillages.org at least two weeks prior to publication. We can't wait to see what you have in store!



Stay Tuned for the November 2023 Newsletter

The Neighborhood is a digital newsletter by Neighborhood Villages