2019 was an exciting and robust year for ECFC for refining and strengthening our strategic direction for the coming years.

The ECFC Steering Committee set a high priority on examining the ways that we can advance racial equity in early childhood services and early childhood philanthropy. We identified equity as an integral part of our vision and mission needing additional focus and convened a Racial Equity Workgroup to lead this work with the Steering Committee. With their guidance, we engaged consultants to devise a strategy for addressing racial equity through: Learning, Practice, and Collective Action.

Parallel and intertwined with our racial equity work, the Raising Child Care Fund raised $1.9 million for a three-year project and made one initial round of grants to 9 applicants to lift up authentic voices of parents, child care teachers, home-based care providers, caregivers and allies to tell their stories and be effective advocates in calling for and developing a solution to the child care crisis.

These and other growth opportunities support our strategic goals to: Increase the effectiveness of philanthropic investment in systemic, equity focused approaches to early childhood; and promote federal, state, and local policies and practices that support young children, their families, and the early childhood community.

As we consider how to approach all of our work with a racial equity lens, and how to engage authentic voices from the field, we continue to seek and strengthen relationships with other funders and collaboratives to build field and philanthropy capacity in early childhood, and to address ongoing and emerging priorities.

Thanks to our members and partners for joining us on this journey. We look forward to another year of engaging members and partners to harness their expertise and passion to address the most pressing challenges and opportunities in early childhood together.

Shannon Rudisill  
Executive Director  
Early Childhood Funders Collaborative

Thanks and Gratitude to our 2019 Steering Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
<th>Organization/Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gerry Cobb</td>
<td>Director, Pritzker Children’s Initiative</td>
<td>J.B. &amp; M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation Raleigh, NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pam Howell-Beach</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Stranahan Foundation Toledo, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy Lewis Jackson</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
<td>The Kresge Foundation Troy, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Louise McClintock</td>
<td>Director of Education Programs</td>
<td>Oregon Community Foundation Portland, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynn Merz</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Mimi and Peter Haas Fund San Francisco, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rashanda Perryman</td>
<td>Program Officer</td>
<td>Vanguard Malvern, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessie Rasmussen</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Buffett Early Childhood Fund Omaha, NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Sunshine</td>
<td>Program Officer and Manager</td>
<td>The David and Lucile Packard Foundation Los Angeles, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Vecchiotti</td>
<td>Vice President, Research and Program Innovation</td>
<td>Foundation for Child Development New York, NY</td>
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ECFC continued to strengthen its organizational structure in 2019 by expanding and improving committee membership and operations.

ECFC Staff expanded to 2 FTEs to support a growing slate of programming, communications and membership support activities.

Steering Committee expanded from 7 to 9 members to reflect growth in membership and ensure that a strong leadership base is present each year as Steering Committee member terms rotate.

Membership Committee formed two subcommittees to inform strategic direction for: engaging and making new members feel welcome; and exploring how to use our evolving network of state and local EC funder collaboratives as a strategic tool for field building.

Early Relational Health Workgroup expanded membership and hosted inaugural events focused on the dyadic relationship between parent and child, focusing specifically on improving the relational health and the social emotional development and mental health of young children and their families, including: site visit at the June 2019 Grantmakers in Health Annual Conference, and a pre-session at the September 2019 ECFC member meeting.

EC Financing Committee mapped out a scope of work to advance an action agenda in 2020 including: identifying common financing themes and areas for synergy across EC topic areas; and considering how ECFC and individual members can harness national momentum to move local, state and national EC agendas. The Committee also hosted a December 2019 webinar on: Generating State and Local Tax Revenue for Quality Early Care and Education.

Engaging Members and Partners Around System & Policy Issues

Immigrant Children and Families: ECFC remains committed to convening funders, providing advice and partnering with Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR) to prevent and mitigate harm to the 25% of all young children in the U.S. who live in families with an immigrant parent. In 2019 we partnered with GCIR to co-sponsor events and provide ECFC members with up to date and evolving information on how family separation and other issues impact young children and their families.

Leveraging Public Resources: ECFC worked with public and private partners to provide learning opportunities for ECFC members and other EC funders with information and tools to help them consider how their philanthropic investments can leverage opportunities such as state and local tax revenue, Preschool Development Grants, Head Start and Medicaid to bolster funding for programs and services for young children and their families.

Ensuring All Kids Are Counted: ECFC hosted a funders’ dialogue with the Partnership for America’s Children to explore the factors contributing to the undercount of young children in the Census and actionable strategies funders can take to ensure that every child is counted in 2020. Related website features highlighted key actions and resources for funders to: elevate the importance of counting all kids and support accurate counts in their communities.
In 2019, ECFC’s Steering Committee identified equity as an integral part of our vision and mission that needed additional focus and named racial equity as a priority learning-to-action issue for 2019-2020. A Racial Equity Workgroup (the Workgroup), was established to map out this work with the Steering Committee. The Workgroup, made up of ten ECFC members with diverse and relevant experiences in understanding and guiding, racial equity development, leads this work on behalf of ECFC.

In June 2019, ECFC engaged School Readiness Consulting (SRC) and Liberated Development to lead and facilitate a learning and planning process that addressed racial equity through learning, practice, and collective action. In 2019, we assessed members’ current work through surveys and interviews. We devoted our fall member meeting entirely to understanding racial equity, applying a racial equity lens in early childhood, and applying a racial equity lens in philanthropy. In 2020, we will build on this foundation of shared understanding to implement tailored learning activities and collective action.

Activities to support this work in 2019 included: facilitated Workgroup discussions, a survey of the ECFC membership, two days of facilitated content at the September 2019 member meeting, meeting evaluation, and several follow-up interviews with ECFC Members. Our learnings and lessons to date will continue to support the individual learning, organizational growth, critical reflection, and collective action of the ECFC in 2020.

ECFC Racial Equity Workgroup Members

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<th>LEARN</th>
<th>PRACTICE</th>
<th>COLLECTIVE ACTION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Facilitate each member’s growing individual and organizational knowledge around racial equity. Members will work to construct the personal, interpersonal, and historical awareness, along with the practical skills and resources to lead for equity within their organizations.</td>
<td>Build upon the experience and expertise among ECFC members and a variety of practical tools to assess organizational readiness, and strengthen approaches to racial equity according to each organization’s unique characteristics.</td>
<td>Articulate a shared vision for equity as a cornerstone of ECFC’s work, including opportunities for ECFC to support member organizations in their ongoing learning and efforts, as well as opportunities for the collaborative to influence and support the larger philanthropic community, to prioritize equity.</td>
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**Rashanda Perryman** (Workgroup Chair)  
Vanguard

**David Addams**  
William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund

**Kellie Brown**  
William Penn Foundation

**Liz Pungello Bruno**  
Brady Education Foundation

**Barbara Chow**  
Heising-Simons Foundation

**Felicia DeHaney**  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

**Iheoma Iruka**  
Brady Education Foundation

**Marica Cox Mitchell**  
Bainum Family Foundation

**Ellen Roche**  
Trust for Learning

**Sara Slaughter**  
W.C. Stone Foundation

**Sara Vecchiotti**  
Foundation for Child Development
Launched in 2018 in partnership with ECFC’s fiscal sponsor, TSNE Missionworks, the Raising Child Care Fund (RCCF) is a pooled fund created to address the national crisis in lack of equitable access to high-quality child care for young children and their families. Supporting ECFC members include: The Irving Harris Foundation, The Heinz Endowments, Heising-Simons Foundation, J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation, and the Vanguard Starting Kids Off Right Program.

Although the idea behind the RCCF was to see if this type of investment might result in child care policy “wins” in key states, working more closely with organizing experts has shifted the focus to building power within individuals and their communities as a more long-lasting and profound outcome. A critical lesson learned to date is that organizers help people recognize and hone their own leadership skills to advocate for themselves, set their own policy agendas, and determine what actions they are willing to take to demand change. This is fundamentally different than paid professionals advocating on behalf of those most affected by a social policy, or soliciting involvement of parents, teachers, and home-based care providers in support of policy asks developed by the advocates.

In 2019, the pool raised $1.9 million for a three-year project and made one initial round of grants to 9 applicants from focus states across the country: California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, and Oregon. Demand for RCCF grants was triple the funding level raised thus far. In 2020, RCCF hopes to include more funders in the pool and elevate the importance of grassroots organizing to engage parents and those most impacted by the child care crisis.

2019 RCCF Grantees
- 9to5 (Georgia)
- Alliance for Quality Education (New York)
- Coalition for Social Justice (Massachusetts)
- Family Forward (Oregon)
- ISAIAH (Minnesota)
- Mothering Justice (Michigan)
- Ohio Organizing Collaborative (Ohio)
- OLE Education Fund (New Mexico)
- Parent Voices (California) c/o CA Child Care Resource and Referral Network
Fostering Funder to Funder Collaboration

ECFC welcomed new members, bringing membership to 40 philanthropic organizations in 2019 (from 25 in 2017).

We continued growing our state and local EC Funder Collaboratives network including:

- Launching a dedicated Collaboratives landing page on ECFC’s website and login access for Collaboratives;
- Establishing a Google resource library for Collaboratives, a fledgling project that compiles resources, tools, and reports related to funder collaborations on topics such as operations, best practices, and lessons learned.
- Hosting two virtual events to showcase Collaboratives website content and invite Collaboratives to contribute features and content.
- Hosting a Collaboratives meeting in conjunction with the March 2019 ECFC Member Meeting.

We showcased updates and progress from national philanthropic initiatives with early childhood intersections at our Spring 2019 member meeting and in member updates and website features throughout the year, including:

- Pediatrics Supporting Parents
- Home-Grown: Home-based child-care initiative
- Funders’ Group on Parent Organizing, Family Engagement and Leadership Development
- Early Educator Investment Collaborative

Elevating Early Childhood Among Philanthropic Partners

Grantmakers for Education Annual Conference
Coordinated a workshop and funders reception co-hosted by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, focused on culturally responsive practices in Hawai’i and New Orleans that spur deeper child learning and development; and facilitated a Grantmakers Breakfast Exchange on EC issues in education.

Grantmakers in Health Annual Conference
Coordinated a site visit co-hosted by ECFC’s Early Relational Health Committee, Perigee Fund, and the Irving Harris Foundation to visit King County, Washington’s Best Start for Kids Initiative, one of the most comprehensive and innovative approaches to child development in the nation, which embodies a neighborhood-based approach to a continuum of services bridging health, mental health, early learning, and parent-child relationships in all settings.

Co-Sponsored Events with Partners
- Advocacy and systems change strategies for children and families (webinar) co-sponsored with Children, Youth and Family Funders Rountable
- Collaborative Grants as Catalysts for Quality Early Learning (webinar) co-sponsored with Grantmakers for Education
2016-2021 Strategic Plan Progress

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Program

- A Focus on Racial Equity
- Launch of the Raising Child Care Fund
- Convened State and local EC funder collaboratives
- Early Relational Health Group well-launched, including a GIH site visit.

Organizational

- Hired our first program manager
- Established $150,000 Reserve

January 2017

- Newly hired ED
- 25 members
- Strong relationships
- Consistent meetings
- Informal but strong communication
- Consistent engagement with outgoing Federal administration
- Annual programming with GFE

2017-2019

- Open Membership & Outreach
- Regular communications via website and newsletter
- Establishment of topical workgroups with broader focus
- Partnership development
- Regular consultation with potential EC funders and local and state EC funder collaboratives
- Occasional between-meeting learning opportunities
- Addition of "study tours"
- Policy work focused on values, funder education & statements consistent with values and POV
- Small program grants extend our capacity
- Launch of Raising Child Care Fund

January 2020

- 41 Members
- Stronger POV on racial equity, cultural responsiveness, & centering lived expertise
- 3 staff: Executive Director (FT), Program Manager (FT), Membership and Program Associate (PT)
- Regular consultation with new or potential EC funders, and state and local EC Funders Collaboratives
- Cross-programming with EFSF, GCIR, GFE, Funders Roundtable, GIH
  - Between 3-5 virtual learning opportunities annually
  - Raising Child Care Fund
with gratitude...

thank you to our 2019 members

A.D. Henderson Foundation
Johnson, VT

Bainum Family Foundation
Bethesda, MD

The Ballmer Group
Bellevue, WA

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Seattle, WA

Buffett Early Childhood Fund
Omaha, NE

The Burke Foundation
Princeton, NJ

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Los Altos, CA

Einhorn Family Charitable Trust
New York, NY

The Ford Family Foundation
Roseburg, OR

Foundation for Child Development
New York, NY

GAR Foundation
Akron, OH

The George Gund Foundation
Cleveland, OH

The Grable Foundation
Pittsburgh, PA

The Grossman Family Foundation
Cos Cob, CT

The Heinz Endowments
Pittsburgh, PA

Heising-Simons Foundation
Los Altos, CA

Irving Harris Foundation
Chicago, IL

J.B. & M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation
Chicago, IL

The Kresge Foundation
Troy, MI

Let’s Grow Kids
Burlington, VT

Maher Charitable Foundation
Florham Park, NJ

Mimi and Peter Haas Fund
San Francisco, CA

The Nicholson Foundation
Newark, NJ

Omidyar Network
Silicon Valley, CA

The Oregon Community Foundation
Portland, OR

Perigee Fund
Seattle, WA

Rauch Foundation
Garden City, NY

Robert R. McCormick Foundation
Chicago, IL

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Princeton, NJ

Rodel Foundation of Delaware
Wilmington, DE

Rose Community Foundation
Denver, CO

Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation
Honolulu, Hawaii

Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
Canton, OH

Stanley H. Durwood Foundation
Kansas City, MO

Stranahan Foundation
Toledo, Ohio

Trust for Learning
Washington, DC

Vanguard Charitable
Philadelphia, PA

W. Clement & Jessie V. Stone Foundation
Honolulu, Hawaii

W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI

William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund
Hamden, CT

William Penn Foundation
Philadelphia, PA