

**Mid Atlantic Equity Consortium Inc. (MD) \$983,574** proposes the Collaborative Action for Family Engagement Center (CAFE), the current regional Statewide Family Engagement Center serving both MD and PA. MAEC has established partnerships with the Maryland State Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other committed regional and national partners. CAFE's objectives are: 1) Improve capacity of SEAs to implement family engagement policies, frameworks, and practices; 2) Increase capacity of educators to co-construct family engagement policies and practices; 3) Improve SEA and LEA interstate and cross-agency collaboration; 4) Build capacity to conduct effective outreach and communication; 5) Increase families' ability to promote school readiness, support the academic achievement and well-being of their children; 6) Build capacity to support students' social emotional needs. CAFE's activities, cradle-to-career, are divided into a multi-tiered comprehensive system of technical assistance – Universal, Targeted, and Systemic – that will address all six objectives, four competitive priorities, all four core audiences (educators, families, community-based members, and students), the absolute priorities, and education levels from birth to 12, to create and sustain an equitable and transformational family engagement statewide infrastructure.