



Illinois Early Childhood Collaboration Directory

Community Systems Statewide Supports (CS3)
An Initiative of Illinois Action for Children

Sixth Edition, April 2022



Greetings,

Across Illinois, organizations, agencies and individuals that care about young children have come together to form early childhood community collaborations. From the geographically tiny urban neighborhood to the expansive, rural counties, early childhood community collaborations come in all shapes and sizes. They vary not only in their geography, but also in their scope of work, membership makeup, and capacity. Despite these differences, one common thread ties them all together: they all understand the importance of regularly convening a diverse group of stakeholders to improve outcomes for children and families.

Community collaborations have the unique role and opportunity to reimagine the early childhood system, asking questions like, “How can we better align services in our community?” and “Where are the inequities in our community?” Questions like these lead to creative solutions and innovative partnerships at the local level.

Our team at Illinois Action for Children believes that local communities know their needs best. We work with community collaborations to build their capacity to continuously improve early childhood systems. Thanks to the work at the community-level, our state leadership can understand what children and families need to thrive.

This directory acts as a reference guide to help you understand a bit about each early childhood community collaboration in our state. Use it to connect with a collaboration in your area or to connect with others doing similar work. While the directory is formally updated every two years, we welcome edits anytime. To provide feedback on your community collaboration’s profile, please contact partnerplanact@actforchildren.org.

Thank you for your commitment to children and families.

In Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Grace Araya". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Grace Araya
Director of Community Systems Statewide Supports

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Background

Throughout the years, the early childhood field has increasingly taken a cross-sector approach to meeting the needs of families with young children. Early childhood program agencies (i.e. Early/Head Start, Preschool for All, Child Care, Maternal and Child Health, Mental Health, Prevention Initiatives and Home Visiting) are working together to develop collaborative strategies and activities to better serve these families. Many communities are developing local partnerships to help enhance the lives of young children and families, and to ensure the healthy growth and development of Illinois' youngest learners. The Illinois Early Childhood Community Collaboration Profiles highlights this collaborative work and serves as a resource for strengthening peer networks. The first edition of the profiles was created by the Ounce of Prevention Fund (in conjunction with the Community Systems Development (CSD) subcommittee) in 2008. Since then, there have been five other editions, and it is our goal that the sixth edition will continue to serve as a resource to strengthen peer networks and learn about collaborative work done around the state.

About Community Systems Statewide Supports (CS3)

In February 2018, Illinois Action For Children (IAFC) was awarded a grant through the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to develop a statewide training and technical assistance system, building the capacity of community collaborations to improve early childhood education systems.

IAFC will support communities as they work to develop and implement community-wide, collaborative strategies to ensure more children, ages birth-to-five, enroll in and regularly attend high-quality early learning programs.

The CS3 project has four goals:

1. Provide foundational supports (training, access to planning, and collaboration tools) to early childhood professionals, at no cost, in support of their goal to form and/or strengthen community collaborations that are focused on improving local early childhood systems.
2. Provide targeted supports (including individualized coaching) to select communities that wish to receive in-depth support, at no cost, that is focused on increasing the number of children ages birth-to-five who are enrolled in high-quality early learning services.
3. Collaborate and coordinate with existing statewide providers of early childhood training to align training opportunities across systems.
4. Implement a data and evaluation process to support continued system improvement at the community and state levels.

Purpose and Scope of Directory

The 2022 community directory was updated and revised based on the guiding principles and criteria of early childhood collaborations. The directory also serves as a way for early childhood advocates and collaboration leaders to connect with and learn from each other.

Early Childhood Collaboration Criteria:

1. Has an early childhood focus (i.e. Birth to 5 or Birth to 8) or part of a larger early childhood initiative
2. Cross-sector approach and includes representatives from across the broad early childhood system
3. Serves a defined geographic area (neighborhood, city/town, county, region)

The development of survey questions and identification of collaborations for the 2022 Directory was informed by members of the CSD Subcommittee. Survey responses were collected through online survey submissions, emails, and/or telephone interviews.

For questions, updates or additions: Please visit www.partnerplanact.org or send an email to partnerplanact@actforchildren.org

Adams County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 1998



Areas Served

Adams County

Target Population

Adams County

Collaboration Address

330 Vermont
Quincy, IL

Collaboration Contact

Anita Hanke
217.222.8440 Ext. 1107
ahanke@co.adams.il.us

Communications

www.co.adams.il.us
Facebook: Adams County All Our
Kids - AOK Network

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members
Media

Vision

All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents/caregivers. This is accomplished by assuring a well-coordinated, easily-accessible, equitable, and just system of services and supports that engages parents as partners in making the system work for them.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The AOK Network is staffed by one full time coordinator and volunteer co-chairs for Network work groups. All Network partners have an equal voice in decision-making. The All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks initiative is funded through the Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Early Childhood and the Adams County Health Department.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The Adams County AOK Network has cross sector representation, including early learning, family support, healthcare, faith-based and human services.
2. Network members have increased their awareness and understanding of community services and resources to better support families needs.
3. The Network conducts bimonthly meetings and workgroups are formed for identified work. Lunch and Learn opportunities are provided by and offered to Network partners and community stakeholders increasing their knowledge on identified priority issues.
4. The IRIS system of information and referral is being adapted in the community with partners. The Network partners have collaborated to start Covered Bottoms Diaper Bank.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Health and well-being

Addison Early Childhood Collaboration

Established in 2012



Areas Served

Addison, IL

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

222 N. Kennedy Drive
Addison, IL 60601

Collaboration Contact

Mary Haley
630.392.9353
haley@m.metrofamily.org

Communications

www.asd4.org/AECC
facebook.com/Addison-Early-Childhood-Collaborative-1103201969714672

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Vision

The Addison Early Childhood Collaborative's vision is to ensure all children from birth in the Addison community are safe, healthy, and equipped to learn.

Mission

The Addison Early Childhood Collaborative's mission is to partner with Addison families so that children and families learn, grow and succeed.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

- Part-time Project Director
- Steering Committee
- Work groups: Parent & Family Engagement Committee, Professional Development Committee, and Data Committee
- Funding is provided by Metropolitan Family Services, Addison School District 4, and the DuPage Foundation.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Kindergarten Camp - parent relationship-building and education; providing Kindergarten Transition materials for 175 children
2. Integrating data tracking, analysis and decision making for Preschool for All, Preschool for All Expansion, Special Ed, and Head Start programs
3. Coordinating partners to conduct developmental screenings for children ages birth to 5; involving partners at screenings to provide information to families about childhood development, and social services.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increasing quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Professional development for early childhood workforce

The Alliance for Early Childhood

Established in 1989



Areas Served

The North Shore of Chicago

Target Population

Parents, families, and educators

Collaboration Address

1235 Oak Street
Winnetka, IL 60203

Collaboration Contact

Stefanie Maiuri, Executive Director
847.780.7442
stefanie@theallianceforec.org

Communications

Website: theallianceforec.org
Instagram: @theallianceforec
Facebook: @theallianceforec
Twitter: @allianceforec

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Businesses

Mission

The Alliance for Early Childhood is a collaborative, community organization that supports and guides families and educators to nurture the healthy, well-rounded development of children from birth to eight years old.

Vision

As a community, we can “put the child back in childhood” and build a strong developmental foundation for our children’s lifelong learning, accomplishment, and joy.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Alliance for Early Childhood Executive Board has responsibility for setting the strategy of the organization, hiring and evaluating an Executive Director, overseeing Human Resources matters, and ensuring financial soundness through annual and long-term budgeting. The desired size of the Executive Board is twelve members that are elected annually.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Let’s Play! Ongoing Community Program
2. Preschool-Kindergarten Summit
3. Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increasing quality of early learning programs
- Experiential learning with families

Altgeld-Riverdale Early Learning Coalition

Established in 2012



Areas Served

Riverdale (Chicago Community Area 54)

Target Population

Pre-birth to age 8

Collaboration Address

c/o BPI
25 E. Washington St., Suite 1515
Chicago, IL 60602

Collaboration Contact

Susannah Levine
Director of Education and Early Learning, BPI
312.641.5570
slevine@bpichicago.org

Communications

www.thecommunitybeat.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Government
Families/Community Members
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Public Library
Chicago Park District

Mission

The mission of the Altgeld-Riverdale Early Learning Coalition is to assure that all children are healthy and on track to succeed (academically, cognitively, social-emotionally) by third grade. By working collaboratively to establish a comprehensive support system for children (prenatally to age 8) and their parents, the Coalition builds partnerships among residents, parents, community organizations, and key institutions which maximize their collective resources and position it to develop new initiatives for/with families. This includes the Altgeld-Riverdale Parenting Program (a doula/home visiting program); Pre-K to Kindergarten Transitions Project; Early Language Development Program; supporting Pre-K enrollment efforts; trauma support programming; out-of school science enrichment programming and a community website (www.thecommunitybeat.org).

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

BPI serves as the administrative home for the Altgeld-Riverdale Early Learning Coalition and provides a portion of their annual budget to help support the work. The Education and Early Learning team at BPI manages the coalition and BPI helps coordinate meeting topics and speakers. Funding is provided through foundations and individual fundraising. The Coalition's membership meets monthly as a whole and makes decisions based on consensus.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. A continuum of evidenced-based programming for ages PB-8 free to the community. (Doula/home visiting, early language development programming, Pre-K to K Transitions Program, trauma support programming, after-school STEM programming)
2. A new trauma counseling program helping teachers and students address issues related to stress and trauma
3. A robust coalition that has been meeting monthly for seven years, providing a place for stakeholders to connect, collaborate, and problem -solve together

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations

CCSD93 Birth to 5 Community Coalition

Established in 2014



Areas Served

CCSD93 Communities of Carol Stream, Bloomingdale and Hanover Park

Target Population

Families with children, birth to age 5, within CCSD93 Boundaries

Affiliation

DuPage Early Childhood Collaborative

Collaboration Address

CCSD93 Early Childhood Center
280 Old Gary Avenue
Bloomingdale, IL 60108

Collaboration Contact

Rosary Horne
630.307.3751
horner@ccsd93.com

Communications

www.ccsd93.com/BirthTo5
Facebook: @BirthTo5
Twitter: @BirthTo5D93

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Families/Community Members

Mission

Community Consolidated School District 93 partners with many local organizations that specialize in providing care & services for our community's families with children age birth to 5. Through such partnerships, we work together to increase family access to services in our community & support the needs of the "whole child" & family.

Vision

Building a foundation of success for all children through community and family partnerships.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The CCSD93 Birth to 5 Community Coalition, originally a vision of the CCSD93 Board of Education, is fully supported by the district's senior leadership, including the Board of Education, Superintendent, Senior Leadership Team, and school administrative teams.

This is evident in the resources provided by CCSD93, including in-kind services of the Early Childhood Center (ECC) Principal and Birth to 3 Coordinator who serve as the facilitators of the Coalition, as well as the materials, equipment, and staff without which the events and resources available to children, families, and partners would not be possible.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Connecting families to community resources
2. Increasing services and access to underserved populations
3. Increasing coalition partnerships, including partners from the medical field and local businesses

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Central Illinois Home Visiting Collaboration

Established in 2015



Areas Served

Peoria and Tazewell Counties

Target Population

Pregnant mothers and families with children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

3310 North Prospect Road
Peoria, IL 61603

Collaboration Contact

Christopher Heider
309.687.7615
cheider@chail.org
igrow@chail.org

Communications

Facebook page at IGrow Central IL

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R)

Mission

The mission of Coordinated Intake is to conduct outreach to families who will most benefit from home visitation services, in an effort to promote family well-being and positive child outcomes. Additionally, Coordinated Intake's role is to reduce duplication of resources so that more families can be served.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Coordinated Intake home visiting collaboration receives grant funding to support the work and the administrative home is within Children's Home Association of Illinois. Staffing includes a CI Specialist and a supervisor. The Coordinated Intake Home Visiting collaboration includes the accredited home visiting agencies in the area as well as the referring agencies. Decision making is done collaboratively at monthly meetings.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The CI-collaboration is proud of their continuing partnership and work done by the Home visiting agencies in the collaborative which has increased public awareness of home visiting in the community as well increasing referrals to these programs.
2. The collaborative is also proud of the current participation of collaborative partners being cohort #1 in the launch of database IRIS in the counties of Tazewell, Peoria, and Woodford and that referrals would follow same understanding/community standards as in the coordinated intake collaborative.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Stephenson County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 2000



Areas Served

Stephenson and Carroll Counties

Target Population

High-risk families with
children birth to age 8

Collaboration Address

10 W. Linden
Freeport, IL 61032

Collaboration Contact

Dana Keim
815.599.8404
dana.keim@aeroinc.net

Communications

www.aok-nwil.com

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Families/Community Members

Mission

AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents/ caregivers by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

Vision

Committed to a community system that assures positive growth and development of children 0-8 and their families by providing a framework to support initiatives embracing this goal.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The AOK Network's administrative home is within the Stephenson County Health Department. A full-time coordinator staffs the AOK grant. Network partners convene monthly with activities conducted at work group level. Decisions are made by consensus. Funding for the initiative is provided through the Illinois Department of Human Services. The AOK Network is a collaboration of service providers serving children pre-birth up to age 8 who participate as a Network to develop a community data driven strategic plan.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Implemented the use of online referral and follow-up system called IRIS.
2. Developed a pre-k system of all child care providers to use the same curriculum and assessment tools to track kindergarten readiness.
3. In 2016 the AOK Network worked with United Way of NW Illinois to fund and implement the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. This program direct mails monthly books to ALL enrolled children from birth up to age 5. We currently have approximately 50% of the child population enrolled in this program.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Increase children's attendance in early learning programs

Champaign County Home Visiting Consortium

Established in 2019



Areas Served

Champaign County

Target Population

At risk children and families

Collaboration Address

2202 E Washington Ave
Urbana, IL 61801

Collaboration Contact

Kelly Russell
217.384.3616
krussell@usd116.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Community organizations
Families/Community Members

Mission

The mission statement of the Champaign County Home Visitor Task Force is to build a system of care that will support at risk children and their families through collaboration and coordination of services.

The Champaign County Home Visitor Task force will work together to create seamless, unduplicated home visiting services in Champaign county that support the delivery of early care, developmental, and educational services for pregnant women and children from birth to age 5 through home visitation services.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Champaign County Home Visiting Consortium is made up of representatives from the 8 home visiting programs in Champaign County.

The consortium meets monthly to discuss openings, updates from programs, referrals, professional development, etc.

The Champaign Home Visiting Consortium is not funded. We have worked together to create a coordinated system of referring families to programs that ensure best fit.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The Consortium conducts monthly screening events to assist with referrals into the Home Visiting programs as well as supporting Child find for Early Intervention.
2. The Consortium has implemented a coordinated referral system.
3. The Consortium has instituted a “no wrong door” policy to ensure families are placed into which ever home visiting program fits their needs best.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings

Kindergarten Readiness Goal Team- CUC2C

Established in 2014



Areas Served

Champaign County

Affiliation

Champaign Urbana Cradle to Career (CUC2C)

Target Population

Birth-to-five

Collaboration Address

5 Dunlap Court
Savoy, IL 61874

Collaboration Contact

Beverley Baker
217.352.5151
beverley@uwayhelps.org

Communications

www.uwayhelps.org/CUC2C

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations

Mission

Every child will be ready when entering Kindergarten.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Volunteer structure with 10 hours per month of dedicated United Way staff time.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Shared parent education opportunity calendar
2. Developed coordinated intake for early childhood home visiting programs
3. Implemented collaborative screenings

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Coordinated intake
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Increase parent education

Cicero: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network/Early Childhood Committee

Established in 1999



Areas Served

Cicero

Target Population

Pregnant women and children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

5341 W Cermak
Cicero, IL 60804

Collaboration Contact

Linda Rios
708-222-4503
aok@childrenscenterciceroberwyn.org

Communications

www.aoknetworks.org/illinois
www.facebook.com/aokcicero

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Families/Community Members

Mission

Statewide All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks (AOK Networks) Mission Statement - AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents / caregivers by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

The overall goal of this AOK/ECC Collaboration is to respond to the needs of Cicero children and their families to support the vision of every child entering kindergarten safe, healthy, ready to succeed and eager to learn.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Cicero AOK/ECC Network's backbone organization is the Children's Center of Cicero and Berwyn. A full-time coordinator and a volunteer co-chair host monthly Network meetings. Initiative approaches and strategies are developed within work groups and presented to AOK Network partners during Network meetings. Decisions are made by consensus. Implementation of efforts are promoted and supported by community stakeholders. Funding for the initiative is provided through the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Network partners collaborate to provide monthly community-wide developmental screenings for children birth to age three, serving families not currently enrolled in an early learning program.
2. Launched and implementing a web-based information and referral system engaging early childhood system providers and family support services to provide a clear referral path for families to receive services, streamline communications among referring partners and track all referral activity to completion in one place, promoting data-informed decision making.
3. Increased community awareness on the importance of early education through an awareness campaign that included parent awareness and involvement opportunities such as: Parent Cafe's, Trainings/Workshops, Events and Door to Door Canvassing.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Comprehensive referrals

Coordinated Intake for Home Visiting Programs

Established in 2018



Areas Served

Kankakee County

Target Population

Pregnant mothers or mothers with children 3 years and younger.

Affiliation

Aunt Marthas

Collaboration Address

1777 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Collaboration Contact

Pia A. Green
pgreen@auntmarthas.org
815-937-5430

Partners & Participants

Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

Coordinated Intake helps establish home visiting as a proven strategy for strengthening families by promoting family self-sufficiency. Home visiting has a positive effect on parenting by helping parents watch for developmental milestones and communicating effectively with healthcare providers. Home visiting facilitates activities that increase parent-child attachment by understanding and responding to their child's needs, while reducing child maltreatment, increases kindergarten readiness, and helps families connect with community services.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Coordinated Intake position is funded through MIECHV with Aunt Martha's as an employer. The position requires a supervisor via Aunt Martha's. Only one person is required for the position.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Built a working relationship with Department of Human Services for Home Visiting programs to have a constant presence within office to build a referral system.
2. Planning a celebration in February with referral partners, enrolled families, and all home visiting agencies for the community to understand the successes and basis of home visiting.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Coordinated Intake
- Implement collaborative screenings

Collaboration for Early Childhood

Established in 2003



Areas Served

Oak Park and River Forest, IL

Target Population

Families with children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

123 Madison, Suite 209
Oak Park, IL 60302

Collaboration Contact

John Borrero
Executive Director
708.613.6122
jborrero@collab4kids.org

Communications

www.collab4kids.org
Facebook: Collab4kids
Instagram: @collab4kids

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Community organizations
Families/Community Members

Mission

We champion high-quality early childhood care and learning experiences and support for families so all children develop their full potential.

Vision

A community where every child thrives.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Collaboration for Early Childhood is a nonprofit organization managed by a Board of Directors in conjunction with a Collaboration Council. The Board has sole authority for all decisions of the Collaboration, provided that the Board seeks consent from the Collaboration Council on a) election of Board members and officers, b) adoption of the annual budget, c) changes to the mission and vision, d) changes to strategic direction, e) frameworks for public policy advocacy, and f) approval of changes to the Bylaws. An individual becomes a Council member by supporting the mission of the Collaboration and either a) serving as a member of the Board, b) regularly participating in Council meetings, c) being the designative representative of an organization that makes significant monetary or non-monetary contributions to the Collaboration.

Funding comes from financial contributions by all of Oak Park's governing agencies, plus foundations, individuals, corporations and volunteer time.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Since launching this program, we have partnered with local providers (24 currently) to deliver 1,500-2,000 screenings to children of families in our community each year.
2. In 2022, we will host our 19th annual Early Childhood Symposium.
3. Our Early Childhood Resource Directory is a one-stop resource for parents and caregivers to find local child care centers and preschools in the community, as well resources around developmental screenings, early intervention, and enrichment programs.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Madison County Coordinated Intake

Established in 2021



Areas Served

Madison County

Target Population

Families with children ages birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

2133 Johnson Road
Granite City, IL 62040

Collaboration Contact

Heidi Elliott
800-467-9200, Ext. 119

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)

Vision

Through a single point of entry, Madison County Coordinated Intake connects expectant parents and families with children (prenatal to age five) to Home Visiting and community resources. Valuing family choice, the IRIS Coordinated Intake System offers programs information, options, and referrals that are responsive and respectful of each family's needs within their community.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The partnership is steered by a leadership team and is funded by PDG B5 grant funding.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Established in 2021 with committed collaborative home visiting partners valuing family choice
2. Using a web based referral system (IRIS) providing quick and seamless referrals between partners with referrals happening on day one.
3. With continued success since initial launch, this coordinated intake group is expanding recruiting efforts to community resource agencies and services in Madison County.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intakes

DeKalb Coordinated Intake Collaborative

Established in 2017



Areas Served

DeKalb County Illinois

Target Population

DeKalb county families with children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

155 N 3rd St
DeKalb, IL 60115

Collaboration Contact

Fanya Mojica
(815) 217-9995
fmojica@childrenshomeandaid.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)

Mission

DeKalb County Coordinated Intake is a collaboration of community partners dedicated to serving families who have young children (including expecting moms and dads) by connecting them to home visiting programs and community resources--giving all families the tools they need to raise their children and reach their goals.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

DeKalb Coordinated Intake employs one CI Coordinator on a full-time basis. The Leadership Team of the Collaborative includes, the CI Coordinator, a representative from each of the network home visiting programs, and a representative from the Regional Office of Education. Funding for DeKalb Coordinated Intake is through MIECHV - Illinois's Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. Governance is shared among collaborative partners.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. DeKalb Coordinated Intake has established a community collaborative that meets monthly. The collaborative is currently composed of individuals from the Doula program (CH&A), HFI HV program, (CH&A), Baby Talk HV program (4-C), DeKalb County Health Department, DCFS, and 4C's--Community Coordinated Childcare's Child Care Assistance Program.
2. DeKalb Coordinated Intake was accepted into the second Partner Plan Act Cohort, and formed a leadership team with representatives from each of the three home visiting programs serving the county, plus the DeKalb County Regional Office of Education. DeKalb Coordinated Intake has completed a decision tree, group norms have been established and the referral process has been clarified and established.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
- Implement collaborative screenings

DeKalb County Collaborative for Young Children

Established in 2016



Areas Served

DeKalb County

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

2500 N. Annie Glidden Rd., Suite C
DeKalb, IL 60115

Collaboration Contact

Amanda Christensen
815.217.0460
achristensen@dekalbcounty.org

Communications

www.basicsdekalbcounty.org
Facebook: basicsdekalbcounty

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Families/Community Members

Vision

All DeKalb County children have equitable opportunities to be prepared for school and life success.

Goal

To increase the number of DeKalb County children ready for Kindergarten in the following impact areas:

- Access to early learning opportunities
- Parent and community partner education, support, and resources
- Health and wellness of children

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The DeKalb County Collaborative for Young Children Steering Committee consists of cross-sector county-wide representation with liaisons to partner committees. Members include the Health Department, the Mental Health Board, the Community Foundation, Community Coordinated Child Care, and community members. These partner committees focus on trauma-informed practices, home-visiting, Basics DeKalb County ambassadors, professional development and networking for Pre-K and K, alignment of services for transition of children from Birth into K, and a new Family Council. The Collaborative itself is volunteer from organizations. The DeKalb County Community Foundation funds some of the objectives through the DeKalb ROE. Basics DeKalb County is primarily funded by the McCormick Foundation, the DeKalb County Community Foundation, and the DeKalb ROE. In the collective impact model, the DeKalb ROE serves as the backbone organization.

Collaboration Accomplishments

- A joint professional development committee was created to help inform decisions regarding what professional learning is most useful for both Pre-K and K-5 worlds.
- Significant progress made, including the installation of 3 Toddler Gardens with park districts, mailings to housing managements, and literature in new mother take-home folders. Basics DeKalb County is also leading Basics Illinois, a state-wide network for all Basics communities.
- The DeKalb County Collaborative for Young Children has drafted a strategic plan, worked on governance, family engagement, and racial equity.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)
- Increase public awareness of importance of early learning

DuPage Home Visiting Network IRIS Community

Established in 2021



Areas Served

DeKalb County

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

2500 N. Annie Glidden Rd., Suite C
DeKalb, IL 60115

Collaboration Contact

Catherine Soto
Phone: 630-221-7077
Email: Catherine.Soto@dupage-
health.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Community organizations
Foundations

Mission

Coordinated Intake IRIS work is important because it will: enhance community partner collaboration, facilitate equitable access to resources for families, streamline our approach to connecting families to the services they need and ultimately lead to increased positive outcomes for children and families.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Our IRIS Leadership Team is comprised of representatives from early childhood and home visiting programs across the county, including the DuPage County Health Department. The DuPage County Health Department is the fiscal agent of funding we receive to support Coordinated Intake efforts. Currently, the IRIS Leadership Team reports and coordinates with the DuPage Home Visiting Network to ensure CI efforts meet the collective needs of families across our communities. Our CI IRIS efforts are currently funded by the PDG B-5 grant from the GOECD. DuPage IRIS Leadership provide support within the roles of their home

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. DuPage launched the IRIS system in September 2021.
2. As of December 2021 we have successfully enrolled 9 of 12 area HV programs, with one pending.
3. We have had 55 referrals with an 88% acceptance rate and an average response time of 1 day, 4 hours.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Early Childhood Alliance

Established in 2018



Areas Served

Niles Township and surrounding areas

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Collaboration Contact

Rosa Ines Mendez
773-255-8372 r
mendez@ntdse.org

Communications

nilestownshipca.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Government
Families/Community Members

Vision

All young children and their caregivers have healthy relationships, safe environments, and high-quality learning experiences in order to reach their full potential.

Mission

To advocate for and coordinate comprehensive community-based supports for young children and their caregivers that promote equity and honor strengths and diversity.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The charter of the ECA identifies a Steering Committee, General Members, Parent Council, Fiscal Agent, Specialist/Director, Subcommittees. The collaboration is funded through grants and the financial support of school districts and early childhood organizations and centers.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Hired Early Childhood Resource Specialist
2. Conducted parent survey to understand the experiences of family while seeking an early childhood program and provider survey to help understand factors that contribute to under enrollment in programs.
3. Formed a task force to address increasing enrollment in fully funded programs

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Early Childhood Community Coalition of Lake County

Established in 1978



Areas Served

Birth through 8 years

Target Population

Lake County services and care providers, children and families

Collaboration Address

P.O. Box 1366
Deerfield, IL 60015

Collaboration Contact

Lynn Allison
847.990.5824
lynn.allison@advocatehealth.com

Pat O'keefe
847.721.7868
okpatok@gmail.com

Communications

www.EarlyChildhoodLC.org
info@EarlychildhoodLC.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Legislators

Mission

The ECCC is a united voice of community partners and leaders who advocate, collaborate and strategize to support healthy early childhood growth, development and school readiness. Our work is a community-wide effort. Our vision and passion is a community where children develop to their highest potential in a healthy, safe, and stimulating environment.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

We are a 501c3 funded by donations and dues. We meet monthly and have an elected board of directors as well as committee chairs. Board of Directors consists of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents of Advocacy, Communication, Education, ECEC, and Membership committees. Our Board of Directors includes professionals from Child Care Centers and Homes; Regional Office of Education, Kohl's Children's Museum, Early Intervention - Health Department, Head Start, State's Attorney's Office, Child Care Network of Illinois, United Way and Mental Health Consultant.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Redesigned survey and sent to over 575 Lake County providers to gain information to better serve early childhood providers and systems in Lake County.
2. Production of our video - "A Day in the Life" to showcase what quality care and education should look like.
3. Completed a community assessment and system scan of Lake County's early childhood landscape - providing snapshots of county-wide and town-specific needs of young children and their families.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs

Early Childhood Coalition of the Illinois Quad Cities Area

Established in 2000



Areas Served

Rock Island County

Target Population

Birth to age five

Collaboration Address

4800 60th Street
Moline, IL 61265

Collaboration Contact

Marcy Mendenhall
309-764-8110
mmendenhall@salfcs.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Community organizations
Foundations
Businesses
Families/Community Members

Mission

The purposes of the Early Childhood Coalition shall be charitable and educational. The Early Childhood Coalition is a dynamic collaboration that identifies needs and cultivates resources to enhance services and supports to young children and families.

Vision

In our community every young child and family has the support they need to be successful.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The principal governing body of ECC shall be called the Board of Directors who have the powers and duties to supervise, control, and direct the affairs of ECC, determine its policies and procedures or changes, actively promote its purposes, and have discretion in the disbursement of its funds. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable, and may, in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such committees or agents as it may consider necessary. Membership of the Board of Directors: the Officers of ECC shall be President, Past President, President Elect, Treasurer and Secretary who shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices. The Board shall consist of Officers, Committee Chairs and At-Large Board Member(s), elected by the Membership of ECC via emailed ballot or in person by ballot at an ECC meeting. The size of the Board is subject to change at its discretions. This is a volunteer board and all services are donated.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The collaboration is proud of developing a diverse membership of early childhood service organizations to work together for the benefit of young children and families in their communities. We were successful to bring the AOK Network into our community.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Facilitated vital conversations with multiple stakeholders
- Preschool for All collaboration
- Grow Your Own Teacher collaborations

Early Childhood Forum of Central Illinois

Established in 1998



Areas Served

Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford Counties

Target Population

Early Childhood - birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

233 Leadley Avenue
East Peoria, IL 61611

Collaboration Contact

Kelsey Sepich
(309) 674-0105
kelseys@crittentoncenters.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Families/Community Members
Higher Education and Mental Health

Mission

The Early Childhood Forum of Central Illinois is a network of community service providers who share a vision of promoting quality programming for families with children age birth to eight. The partnership advocates for children and families, provides opportunities for professional growth and development, and increases public awareness of the benefits of early childhood education.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

This collaboration is overseen by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Birth to 3 Chairperson and Birth to 3 Secretary. There is no funding or paid staff.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The Early Childhood Forum of Central Illinois works together to provide trainings, collaborates in hosting a Legislative "Happening Hour", and collaborates with referrals to best serve families in the community.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs

Elgin Partnership for Early Learning

Established in 2012



Areas Served

Elgin and Surrounding Areas that Feed into U-46 School District

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

220 E. Chicago Street
Elgin, IL 60120

Collaboration Contact

Amber Peters
847.452.2457
amberpeters@elginpartnership.org

Communications

www.elginpartnership.org
Facebook: Elgin Partnership for Early Learning
Twitter: @epel844kidinfo
Instagram: @elginpartnership

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Vision

Our children are happy, healthy, and ready for Kindergarten.

Mission

Elgin Partnership for Early Learning is building a connected community dedicated to helping young children thrive.

Purpose

- Ensure a shared vision for young children in the Elgin, Illinois community is clearly held, broadly disseminated, and acted upon.
- Support awareness and access for families to high-quality child development and early learning experiences.
- Coordinate efforts across all birth to five programs to increase impact and efficiency.
- Support quality improvement and capacity building of birth to five professionals and organizations.
- Respond to community data about strengths, needs, and gaps.
- Through a collaboration of community partners (childcare centers, library, healthcare, etc...) our work brings together the pieces of the early learning puzzle with the aim of improving Kindergarten success.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Executive Director only employee and a working board of 11 that meet monthly. We meet as a full collaboration with all partners three times a year. EPEL has four committees that meet monthly. The YWCA Elgin is our fiscal sponsor. We are funded by Grand Victoria Foundation, United Way, School District, and a few other small grants and donations.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Received one of three OMG First book grants in Illinois and the only fully funded at \$70,000 to add 20,000 books into Elgin children's hands.
2. 2 Language in the Laundromat programs to offer resources and pop up preschool where partners go in each week to read and play with children for school readiness.
3. Named 2020 organization of the year from Elgin Hispanic Network

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Meeting Families Where They Are by finding Non-traditional locations to offer early learning opportunities

East St. Louis, MIECHV Collaboration

Established in 2018



Areas Served

St. Clair County

Target Population

Pregnant and Parenting mothers

Affiliation

Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center

Collaboration Address

505 South 8th Street
East St. Louis, IL 62201

Collaboration Contact

Rachel Linzy
618.482.7654
rlinzy@cbhc1.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Families/Community Members

Mission

To become the single point of entry for the community and its partners in the St. Clair Region.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

MIECHV, Gia Moore, Coordinator, Rachel Linzy, Coordinated Intake Worker, and funded by MIECHV.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Partnership with the local DCFS
2. Partnership with the Local TANF Office

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
- Increase children's attendance in early learning programs

Community Based Planning - Effingham County

Established in 2021



Areas Served

Effingham County

Target Population

Early Childhood - birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

Effingham Public Library, 200 N.
Third St. Effingham, IL 62401

Collaboration Contact

Johnna Schultz
johnna@effinghamlibrary.org
217-342-2464 x. 5

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Foundations
Government

Mission

TBD

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

TBD

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Effingham County has established a Childcare Research Committee. Two County Board members will sit on the committee.
2. Community Based Planning group completed the goal of determining which organization would apply for additional publicly-funded preschool spaces.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs

Evanston Cradle to Career

Established in 2015



Areas Served

City of Evanston

Target Population

Children birth to age 23

Affiliation

United Way Neighborhood Network

Collaboration Address

2010 Dewey Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201

Collaboration Contact

Maricar Ramos
847-920-7605
mramos@evanstonc2c.org

Communications

www.evanstonc2c.org
@evanstonc2c

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

Evanston Cradle to Career (EC2C) is a community-wide collective impact initiative. We are committed to the vision that by age 23, all Evanston young adults will be leading productive lives, building on the resources, education, and support that they and their families have had to help them grow into resilient, educated, self-sufficient, healthy, and socially responsible adults.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

An Operations Team of representatives of our partner organizations guides routine operations and strategic direction. All organizational partners sign off on strategic direction. An HR Team made up of representatives of the Operations Team supervises the Executive Director. Two teams of community members, Advocates for Action Alumni and Advocates for Action 2.0, serve as the arm of the organization into the community and manage a Community Building Grants program. A team of Student Advocates works on community building projects with youth. Six Action Teams made up of representatives of partner organizations work on implementing EC2C's collective impact mission. Staff includes an Executive Director, Assistant Director/Director of Research and Evaluation, Director of Community Engagement, Communications Manager, and part-time AmeriCorps Member. EC2C is funded by United Way of Metro Chicago as the Evanston Neighborhood Network. All EC2C partners also financially contribute annual dues on a sliding scale.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Trained staff at 10 partner early childhood centers in identifying and responding to trauma in students, initiated Sunshine Circles in many of those centers, and jointly offered emergency trauma counseling for children, families, and staff of partner organizations.
2. Reached consensus on standards for kindergarten readiness and developed teacher and parent guides to ensure a common understanding of "readiness," reinforced through an annual Pre-K and K Teacher Summit.
3. Developed process for sharing individual child level information from early childhood providers in the community to principals and kindergarten teachers to achieve a smooth transition to kindergarten.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)

Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative

Established in 2017



Areas Served

Marquardt D15, Queen Bee 16, Glen Ellyn D41, CCSD 89, Lombard SD 44

Target Population

Families with children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

22W600 Butterfield Rd
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Collaboration Contact

Jeanine Woltman
224.588.4012
jwoltman@casedupage.org

Communications

Facebook: bit.ly/geccfacebook
Twitter: @GlenbardECC
Webpage: bit.ly/glenbardecc

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based

Mission

Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative is a group of community-based partners who work with families and young children to develop and support an environment where all are safe, happy, healthy, and eager to learn.

Vision

Working together as a community to create a society that empowers young children and their families.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

We are comprised of our Full Collaborative (community partners), Core Team (including Core Team Officers) and Parent Advisory Council. Our Fiscal agent is the Cooperative Association for Special Education (CASE). Our private funding comes from Bright and Early Grant (DuPage Foundation), state funding comes from the ISBE PI Grant, and additional funding comes from donations.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Established a living Glenbard ECC Charter
2. Established an interactive Parent Advisory Council
3. Working with the DuPage Home Visiting Network to implement the IRIS coordinated intake system county wide

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Coordinated intake

Greater East St. Louis Early Learning Partnership

Established in 2009



Areas Served

ELP includes the footprint of East St. Louis School District which includes the communities of East St. Louis, Washington Park and parts of Alorton, Centreville and Fairmont City. These communities encompass zip codes: 62201, 62203, 62204, 62205 and 62207, all within St. Clair County.

Target Population

Families with children birth to age 5

Affiliation

East Side Aligned

Collaboration Contact

Kaelin Richardson, they/them
ELP Network Manager
kaelin.richardson@stl.unitedway.org
404-694-3196

Communications

www.facebook.com/GESLELP/
www.eastsidealigned.org/elp

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

To strengthen and sustain a high-quality prenatal to five early childhood system of programs, services, and supports.

Vision

Every child has the knowledge, skills, and disposition for kindergarten success.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

ELP is governed by an executive committee with guidance from co-chairs. Currently, it is staffed by volunteers with one part-time employee funded by private foundations.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Annual "Ready, Set, Enroll!" effort that directly increases enrollment of children in early learning programs and implements collaborative screenings
2. Week of the Young Child events build community support and contribute to literacy
3. Kindergarten Transitions pilot in partnership with ISBE in order to improve stakeholder experiences with transitions and boost readiness.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings

Grundy Partnership for Children

Established in 2009



Areas Served

Grundy County

Target Population

General children, but primarily birth to age 3

Collaboration Address

520 W. Illinois Ave.
Morris, IL 60450

Collaboration Contact

Devan Gagliardo
815.941.0852
devan@cfgrundycounty.com

Communications

www.facebook.com/GrundyPartnershipForChildren/

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations

Mission

The Grundy Partnership for Children (GPC) collaborates with organizations, stakeholders, and community members to prepare young children in Grundy County for lifelong learning by identifying and addressing early childhood care and education issues.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

GPC falls under the Community Foundation of Grundy County's (CFGC) Programs, GPC does not have its own staff or funding for this reason.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. GPC has created a county wide screening calendar.
2. GPC has increased our membership to include diverse partners.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Implement collaborative screenings

IGROW – Coordinated Intake Cicero

Established in 2016



Areas Served

Cicero

Target Population

Pregnant, Children 0-3

Affiliation

Family Focus

Collaboration Address

1500 s 59th Ct.

Cicero, IL 60804

Collaboration Contact

Jennifer Jimenez

773-441-8234

ci@family-focus.org

Communications

www.igrowillinois.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)

Mission

Coordinated Intake (CI) is a collaborative process that provides families with a single point of entry for home visiting programs within a community.

Trained Coordinated Intake workers serve as a hub for home visiting, assessing families' needs, referring them to an appropriate home visiting program, and tracking what happens to the referrals.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

In terms of governance, collaboration is key in creating a consensus between MIECHV, ISBE, AOK, CFC, Ounce of Prevention and Coordinated Intake.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. We have collaborations with the following Community agencies through the AOK network: Claudia Aly (ISAC), Sandra Barajas (Morton College), Liz Bethell (CFC #7), Laura Castro (EC PA), Roxanna Chavez (Cicero Family Services), Ana Cordova (EC PA), Concepcion Cortez (EC PA), Ana Luis Garcia (CCC PA), Sofia Gutierrez (EC PA), Darrin Johnson (Family Focus), Amy Kalas (District 99 and AOK/ECC Co-Chair), Ana Patricia Lopez (EC PA), Silvia Perez (Parent Liaison CCC), Rosie Macias, Felicitas Miranda, Silvia Moran, Susana Olivares (EC PA), Alejandra Ortiz (Family Focus), Elida Ortiz (Youth Crossroads and Interpreter), Silvia Palmerin, Tracy Patton (CCCB MIECHV), Jonathan Peralta (SGA), Sonia Romo (CCC Support Staff), Linda Rios (AOK Co-ordinator and AOK/ECC Co-Chair), Emma Roldan, Teresa Ruiz, Olivia Sanchez (ISAC), Ericka Saucedo (EC PA).

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

iGrow Vermilion County Early Childhood Network

Established in 2012



Areas Served

Vermilion County

Target Population

Teen, first and second time parent, homeless, DCFS involved, lives in rural area, mental health, receiving TANF or WIC

Collaboration Address

516 N. Jackson St.
Danville IL 61832

Collaboration Contact

Niah Hamilton or Katie Gibson
217.483.BABY (2229) or
217.260.5006
hamiltonn@danville118.org or
gibsona@danville118.org

Communications

iGrow Vermilion County-FB
@iGrowVercounty-Twitter
igrowillinois.org

Partners & Participants

Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Families/Community Members

Mission

The purpose of iGrow is to provide an opportunity for collaboration and partnership at the federal, state, and community levels to respond to the diverse needs of Vermilion County children and families and to improve their health and developmental outcomes through evidence-based home visiting programs.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

All HV agencies contribute through their Home Visiting supervisors' participation as voluntary members of the collaborative, and Coordinated Intake staff assist with organizing and leading collective efforts for community services. When making decisions, each agency is given a vote and decisions are made by majority agreement. Funding comes from MIECHV & ISBE.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Successful Coordinated Intake process since 2012, working dual coordinated team, and program expansions.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Kane County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 1999



Areas Served

Kane County

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Affiliation

Kane County Health Department

Collaboration Address

1240 N. Highland
Aurora, IL 60506

Collaboration Contact

Kim Peterson
630.232.5829
petersonkim@co.kane.il.us

Communications

kanehealth.com/Pages/All-Our-Kids.aspx
www.facebook.com/KaneAOK/

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members
Judicial

Mission

AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents / caregivers by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

Local Kane County AOK Network Purpose Statement: The AOK Network is a county-wide network where partners collaborate together to ensure all children enter kindergarten safe, healthy, ready to succeed, and eager to learn.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Collaboration housed at the Kane County Health Department.

Coordinator: Kim Peterson

Supervisor: Michael Isaacson

The Kane County AOK Network is supported by 1 full time coordinator and volunteer co-chairs that lead work groups and committees. All AOK Network partners have an equal vote in decision making and development of approaches toward identified outcomes. Funding for the initiative is provided through the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Successfully implemented a cross-sector, county wide community referral system to improve the way in which we connect individuals, children and families to services. This system improvement initiative launched in March of 2021 and has continued to grow and thrive, now including over 100 participating organizations and 1,000 referrals.
2. Distributed 10,000 comprehensive AOK Family Resource Guides throughout Kane County to be utilized by community members, providers, and staff (over a period of 6 months from 7/21-12/21).
3. Played a critical role in forming the Kane County Hunger Relief Network (collaboration of food pantries) and getting them to participate in IRIS as a central hub for food and nutrition connections throughout the county.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Early childhood trauma and support

Success by 6

Established in 2008



Areas Served

Kankakee & Iroquois County

Target Population

Birth to age 6

Affiliation

United Way of Kankakee & Iroquois Counties

Collaboration Address

P.O. Box 1286

Collaboration Contact

Fiana Comer

815.932.7476

fiana@myunitedway.org

Communications

myunitedway.org

facebook.com/successby6

Partners & Participants

ECE providers

Health providers

Social service providers

Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)

Other public services (housing, police, libraries)

Community organizations

Foundations

Faith-based

Businesses

Government

Families/Community Members

Mission

Success By 6 works to ensure all Kankakee County children ages 0-6 have the positive and enriching experiences and positive parent-child relationships necessary to begin school ready to succeed. Success by 6 envisions a community where all children and families are happy, healthy, and well-adjusted. We are dedicated to supporting our community through family and parent engagement, early mental health services, and raising awareness about resources available to parents, caregivers, and early childhood providers.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Success By 6 is a community collaborative, funded by the United Way of Kankakee & Iroquois Counties and the Community Foundation of Kankakee River Valley. United Way of Kankakee & Iroquois Counties' Community Impact Coordinator serves as the collaborative liaison for members of the coalition.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Success by 6 partners with the Erikson Institute to use their Early Development Instrument to prioritize impacted communities based on neighborhood-level data from their Early Development Instrument.
2. Kankakee County is gaining national attention for grassroots efforts towards health equity and cultivating a trauma-informed community.
3. Success by 6 is helping with the realignment of Kankakee County's system of care to better serve the impacted population and cross-systems collaboration.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations

Macon County Early Childhood Collaboration

Established in 2013



Areas Served

Macon County and surrounding counties

Target Population

Prenatal and at risk parenting families of children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

1221 E Condit St,
Decatur, IL 62521

Collaboration Contact

Karen Shiflett RN, BSN
217-423-6988
kshiflett@maconchd.org

Communications

igrowmaconcounty.org
facebook.com/igrowmaconcounty
email: igrowmaconchd.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Faith-based

Purpose

To work collaboratively to maximize the impact of Early Childhood Home Visiting in our community.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

We have no formal governance however we are current working toward a charter agreement to establish governance. Staff from partnering home visiting agencies attend monthly as well as multiple community agencies on a quarterly level. The meetings are facilitated in large part by the MIECHV CI pers. We are not funded.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Creation of Charter Agreement that includes mission statement, defines roles and decision making.
2. Creation of referral flow chart and decision tree which has increased transparency between home visiting providers regarding differences in each program's criteria and services.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated Intake

Little Village Education Collaborative

Established in 2014



Areas Served

Little Village Community

Target Population

Low income and working class
Mexican immigrants

Affiliation

Enlace Chicago

Collaboration Address

2756 South Harding Ave
Chicago, IL 60623

Collaboration Contact

Valerie E. Coffman
312-566-7121
vcoffman@enlacechicago.org

Communications

www.enlacechicago.org/lvec
Facebook: Little Village Education
Collaborative

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members
Policy makers

Mission

The Little Village Education Collaborative (LVEC) was established in 2014 to focus on implementation of the educational strategies of the 2013 Little Village Quality of Life Plan. LVEC works to connect the key players impacting the education system in the community in order to evaluate the current state of this system, plan strategic improvements for the future, and support legislative changes that expand educational access and opportunity from birth to old age. Central to LVEC's approach is a community "cultural wealth" framework that is based on the recognition of parents' and students' cultural wealth, and that challenges the current "cultural deficit" framework that our educational system has adopted to explain and respond to issues related to educational attainment in low-income communities of color like Little Village.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Funding - supported by different private foundations

Governance/ Staffing:

ORGANIZED: LVEC is intentionally structured to empower its members and move its mission forward. Its subcommittees implement and revise strategies that are outlined in the 2013 Little Village Quality of Life Plan. All members convene quarterly in order to align the work of subcommittees and reinforce broader goals.

INNOVATIVE: LVEC convenes a diverse range of stakeholders and promotes unique methods of collaboration. This encourages the development of innovative and comprehensive ways to address educational issues in Little Village.

PARTICIPATORY: LVEC seeks to be inclusive of all stakeholders. It uses a participatory approach that embodies respect, trust, transparency, "human goodness" and social justice.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Responsive to the LV QLP ECE strategies and priorities
2. Strong participation of diverse ECE stakeholders
3. Increased the number of children enrolled using ECE services in LVC

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)

McLean County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 1999



Areas Served

McLean County Illinois

Target Population

Pregnant women & their partners,
families with children birth to age 5

Affiliation

Illinois AOK Networks

Collaboration Address

200 W Front St, #304,
Bloomington, IL 61701

Collaboration Contact

Maureen Sollars
309.888.5539
maureen.sollars@mcleancountyil.gov

Communications

www.aoknetworks.org/illinois/
health.mcleancountyil.gov/

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Heal providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members

Purpose Statement

We bring together community organizations to facilitate collaborative solutions that support families with young children. The McLean County All Our Kids Early Childhood Network envisions a community that provides the best health care and support for pregnant women from conception through the healthy, full-term birth of their infant. We must work with parents and caregivers of young children to raise successful learners, confident adults, and responsible citizens. To help ensure that all our children have the same opportunities: pregnant women need appropriate health care and supports; and children need to be safe, nurtured, healthy (physically and mentally), active, included, and respected. We further picture a mental health system that is abundant, affordable, and easy to access and navigate; that supports pregnant women, their partners, and families with very young children; and recognizes that mentally-healthy families are the key to life-long success and wellness.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The McLean County Health Department is the administrative home of this AOK Network. The Network is led by one full-time Coordinator; responsibilities include: establishing and maintaining a community collaboration representing health & human service providers; building strategies on coordination of care, workforce staffing, information and referral, and developing and updating the Network's local webpage, to name a few. We have work groups meeting bi-monthly to move the work forward. The AOK Network strives for consensus through decision and cooperation. The McLean County AOK Early Childhood Network is a grant funded program through the Illinois Department of Human Services and local tax dollars.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Launched IRIS in May 2021, an online information & referral program. Local health and human service providers will use IRIS to support referrals through warm hand-offs and improve communication among partners, to enhance coordination of referrals by:
 - Increasing partner awareness of community resources,
 - Enhancing following-up and tracking procedures,
 - Closing the referral loop; and
 - Utilizing current referral data and trends to ensure all families receive the most beneficial services to meet their needs in a timely manner.
2. Hosted many community forums to raise awareness of Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders.
3. Coordinates the McLean County Mental Health First Aid Collaboration and its instructors who trained 2,600+ in Mental Health First Aid and Youth Mental Health First Aid over the last seven years.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Coordinated intake
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)

McLean County Coordinated Intake Collaboration

Established in 2014



Areas Served

McLean County

Target Population

Families with children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

403 S. State Street
Bloomington, IL 61701

Collaboration Contact

Fanya Mojica
Children's Home & Aid
(815) 217-9995
fmojica@childrenshomeandaid.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The McLean Coordinated Intake Collaboration employs one CI Coordinator on a full-time basis. The collaboration is made up of representatives from each of the network home visiting programs, the doula program, and other community partners. Funding for McLean Coordinated Intake is through MIECHV - Illinois's Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. Governance is shared among collaborative partners.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Decision Tree for home visiting referral distribution
2. Updated outreach messaging through the creation of a new parent flyer

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

North Lawndale Early Learning Collaborative

Established in 2013



Areas Served

North Lawndale

Target Population

Priority Families with children birth to age 8

Affiliation

Illinois Action for Children

Collaboration Contact

Rarzail Jones

Community Connections Program
Manager

312.823.1108

Rarzail.jones@actforchildren.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers

Health providers

Social service providers

Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)

Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)

Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)

Community organizations

Foundations

Faith-based

Businesses

Government

Families/Community Members

Mission

North Lawndale Early Learning Collaborative ambition is to ensure that priority families with children 0-8 years old have the resources needed to engage, enroll and sustain in quality early learning programs.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Illinois Action for Children serves as the administrative home for the collaborative. The collaborative has a team dedicated to this work and leaders range from various agencies. Decision making is done through a consensus and made as a collective.

There is currently no funding for this initiative.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Partnered with community health center to message early learning programs and enrollment process on patients visit summary
2. Collaborative shared consensus with getting outdoor playful learning installed across the community
3. Partnered with Carole Robertson Center for Learning to share input on the Community Parenting Saturation project

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Provide early learning resources and referrals for families with children 0-8 to increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Support retention of families connected to early learning programs within the NL community—primarily done across 4 CPS elementary schools to increase children's attendance in early learning programs

PELA - Palatine Early Learning Alliance

Established in 2019



Areas Served

Palatine, Rolling Meadows, Arlington Heights, Mt Prospect, Prospect Heights and parts of Wheeling

Target Population

Underserved families in our communities

Collaboration Address

2626 S. Clearbrook Dr
Arlington Heights IL

Collaboration Contact

Kristen Ford
224-366-8629
Kford@cntrmail.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Community organizations
Other (community college and homelessness agency)

Mission

To create system level change that increases enrollment in our early learning programs and the quality of the programs serving underserved young children and their families.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

We arrange a monthly meeting (usually a doodle poll) and share out the information with partners. The slides, notes, and related materials are sent out to all members after the completion of the meeting. Depending on how we have decided to move forward the partners connect with those who are interested in the strategies we are working on at that time. We all work for other agencies but come together to collaborate on early childhood issues.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. We are currently working on locating a space, obtaining the space, and opening a quality childcare facility to offer care to our underserved families.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning
- Serve priority populations

Plano Area Alliance

Supporting Student Success

Established in 2018



Areas Served

Plano area including parts of Kendall and DuPage County, Lisbon, Newark, Sandwich, Somonauk and surrounding areas

Target Population

Birth to 3rd grade

Affiliation

Plano CUSD 88/P.H. Miller Elementary School

Collaboration Address

904 N. Lew Street
Plano, IL 60545

Collaboration Contact

Laurel Mateyka
630.552.8504
lmateyka@plano88.org

Communications

www.facebook.com/PAASSS
paasssinfo@gmail.com

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

PAASSS (Plano Area Alliance Supporting Student Success) will strengthen the community by ensuring that all families in the Plano area are aware of and have equitable access to services and supports that empower them to raise children that are safe, healthy, eager to learn, and ready to succeed.

Vision

A community where all children and families are empowered to succeed in learning and in life.

Values

Partnering for Awareness and Access to Services Supporting Success.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

P.H. Miller Elementary School serves as the administrative home for PAASSS and provides a portion of their budget to support the work. The preschool support team, volunteer members from the Fox Valley YMCA, Mutual Ground, Family Focus, DayOne PACT, Kendall County Health Department, and United Way plan and facilitate meetings and guide the collaborative regarding strategic planning. The collaboration's membership meets quarterly as a whole and makes decisions based on consensus.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Opened the Plano Family Resource Center where we offer FREE services and supports to family members with children ages birth-5.
2. Partnered with Fox Valley YMCA to provide before/after school care for preschool students.
3. Community-wide screening of 'No Small Matter' in April 2022.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increased enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings

Rock Island County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 2008



Areas Served

Rock Island County

Target Population

Agencies that serve the birth to age 5 population

Collaboration Address

524 15th Street
Moline, IL 61265

Collaboration Contact

Georgia Stear
309-736-7170 ext. 103
georgias@childabuseqc.org

Communications

www.rockislandaok.org/
www.childabuseqc.org
www.facebook.com/groups/rockislandaok

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their caregiver by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

Rock Island County's AOK Early Childhood Network promotes and strengthens the health and well-being of families in our community.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Rock Island County AOK Network exists under an umbrella organization (Child Abuse Council). The Child Abuse Council is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency governed by a Board of Directors. AOK Network programming is ran by the AOK Network Coordinator who is overseen by the Community Education Program Manager. Local community early childhood agencies, professionals and invested parties are encouraged to join as Network Members and inform the direction of network activities, share information, gain resources and more.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Implemented the Learning Through Play Initiative within our community
2. Active ongoing collaboration on an Integrated Referral and Information System for our community
3. Collaborated toward the implementation of a Food Resource Guide specific to our community outlining where to access fresh food, food pantries, markets, and other options besides grocery stores

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
- Implement collaborative screenings

Early Learning Council

Established in 2020



Areas Served

Knox, Warren, Henderson, Mercer
Counties of Illinois

Target Population

High-risk families with children
birth to age 8

Affiliation

Regional Office of Education

Collaboration Address

235 East Main St
Galesburg, IL 61401

Collaboration Contact

Rhonda Hillyer
309.345.0101 Ext 1038
rhillyer@roe33.net

Communications

<https://www.roe33.net/>

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members
Behavioral Health Services

Mission

Bringing a community of people together to evaluate and design
programs and services for young children and their families.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Regional Office of Education #33 has hired a full-time employee
to facilitate the creation of this collaboration and build community
relations.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The ROE #33 has various collaborations and MOU's within the
service delivery area. We are building on this.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)

Sauk Valley STARS Early Childhood Education Coalition

Established in 2004



Areas Served

Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties

Target Population

Expectant parents and families with children birth to age 5 in Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties

Collaboration Address

c/o ROE #47
1001 W. 23rd St.
Sterling, IL 61081

Collaboration Contact

Lois Meisenheimer
Regional Office of Education #47
815.625.1495
lmeisenheimer@roe47.org

Communications

www.roe47.org/page/sauk-valley-stars

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Community organizations
Early Intervention
Special Education

Mission

The mission of the Coalition is to plan, provide, and promote a comprehensive and collaborative system that identifies, coordinates, and facilitates equitable access to early education and community services designed to help all children, prenatal through age five, and their families reach their full potential.

Vision

Sauk Valley STARS Early Childhood Coalition works to help all families know about and utilize needed services for Kindergarten readiness.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The coalition is governed by a Board of Directors. The regular work of the coalition is directed by the general member leadership team. Recommendations approved by consensus of the general members are presented to the Board of Directors for final approval and adoption. There is no dedicated funding for the collaboration.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Development of community-based referral system (IRIS) to increase outreach and recruitment of priority and diverse populations.
2. Coordination and expansion of shared professional development opportunities.
3. Increasing messaging about the importance of home visiting and early childhood programs through targeted marketing and public education campaigns.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs, particularly from priority populations
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Southern Illinois Coalition for Children and Families

Established in 2008



Areas Served

Alexander, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Pope, Saline, Union, White and Williamson Counties

Target Population

Families with children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

700 Logan College Dr.
Carterville, IL 62918

Collaboration Contact

Lori Longueville
618-924-0504
southernillinoiscoalition@gmail.com

Communications

www.southernillinoiscoalition.org
www.sifamilies.org
www.facebook.com/sifamilies.org
www.facebook.com/sicoalitionchildrenandfamilies
www.facebook.com/SIReadyFreddy/

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Businesses
Families/Community Members
Higher education
Partnership for Resilience

Mission

The Southern Illinois Coalition for Children and Families is dedicated to providing leadership and support that builds strong communities, strengthens families, and promotes children's success in school and life. The Coalition's primary goal is to develop a strong & effective infrastructure that promotes positive outcomes for children and families in southern Illinois. This is accomplished by: Communicating, Coordinating, and Connecting Working together in a coordinated manner and with a unified voice and mission, community coalitions play a critical role in improving the lives of young children and their families. Coalitions help fill gaps and provide the resources and support needed to keep families strong, children healthy and learning as they travel down the path to success.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Oversight and guidance of the Coalition's activities is the responsibility of a Governance Council whose members include no less than 5 and no more than 14 representatives from agencies whose mission is aligned with the Coalition and who willingly dedicate in-kind resources to assist in meeting Coalition goals. Lead Agencies are also identified as those who oversee multiple programs and/or those with the capacity serve as a fiscal agent for any of the Coalition's special projects. Lead agencies act as guides for the Coalition through its member's knowledge of the community and are actively engaged in Coalition committees and projects. Program coordination and implementation is carried out by various committees, task forces and advisory panels. We appreciate the time and effort all the Coalition members invest into building stronger, brighter futures for the children and families in Southern Illinois.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Over 11,000 children ages birth through five years of age documented as screened for developmental delays.
2. Improved KG transitions in five schools districts.
3. Consultation and training initiative with Tamarack Institute to deepen community knowledge about collective impact, readying region for new Regional and Community Systems Infrastructure including the launching of "Children's Cabinets" in two communities in region.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)

Southside Early Learning Network

Established in 2013



Areas Served

Englewood, West Englewood,
Greater Grand Crossing
Communities.

Target Population

Low income

Collaboration Address

1701 W. 63rd St.
Chicago, IL 60636

Collaboration Contact

Sintia I. Morales
773.918.7909
smorales@childrenshomeandaid.org

Communications

www.childrenshomeandaid.org/

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Community organizations
Families/Community Members

Mission

Children's Home & Aid partners with children, youth and families whose potential is at risk to create hope, opportunity and bright futures.

Vision

All children, youth and families thrive in strong communities.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Southside Early Learning Network (SELN) is 100% MIECHV funded. There is one full time SELN Coordinator and a part time SELN Coordinator assistant. There is a Supervisor where a percentage of the salary is supported with MIECHV dollars.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Increase in participation for Collaboration Meetings.
2. Increased community awareness of Home Visiting Programs.
3. Developed relationships across the state with Home Visiting programs and have increased referrals sent to partners.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

SPARK Early Childhood Collaboration

Established in 2012



Areas Served

Aurora

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Affiliation

Fox Valley United Way

Collaboration Address

44 E. Galena Blvd
Aurora, IL 60505

Collaboration Contact

Trish Rooney
630.896.4636 ext. 108
trish.rooney@foxvalleyunitedway.org

Communications

www.sparkaurora.org
FB: Fox Valley United Way

Partners & Participants

ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

The mission of SPARK Aurora Early Childhood Collaboration is to empower our diverse families and children to attain full success in learning and life by ensuring all Aurora's young children have equal access to exemplary Early Childhood Care and Education.

Purpose

SPARK is a collaborative approach in which Aurora Early Childhood Stakeholders will work jointly to improve and strengthen the early childhood system in Aurora by ensuring that:

1. Parents and the community are educated and informed about the importance and value of an early childhood education for all of our young children and the impact it has on children's success in school and life
2. The on-going improvement of the early childhood programs in the Aurora community are sustained through continued professional development of its teachers
3. Early childhood coordinated system are created in which the school districts, community-based early childhood programs, and community agencies serving families and children

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Governed by an Executive Committee
Staff - FT Director, 2 FT Family Engagement Specialist, 1PT Consultant
Philanthropic, School District, City of Aurora Funding
Fox Valley United Way Corporate Sponsorship

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Increase capacity through Preschool Expansion
2. Gateway to Early Childhood - single point of entry for families to connect to EC services
3. Play.Learn.Connect. - community-wide family outreach and engagement

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

St. Charles Early Learning Partnership

Established in 2019



Areas Served

St. Charles CUSD 303 boundaries, including the City of St. Charles and portions of West Chicago, South Elgin, Elburn, Wayne, Campton Whills, Wascoe, and unincorporated Kane County

Target Population

Birth to age 8 (tentative)

Collaboration Address

Fox Ridge Early Childhood Center
1905 E. Tyler Rd.
St. Charles, IL 60174

Collaboration Contact

Tricia Sabathne
tricia.sabathne@d303.org
331.228.5727

Partners & Participants

ECE Providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission & Vision

Mission: Bringing together people, resources and services to create a community-wide system of support so that every child from birth to age eight in the St. Charles' area is healthy, safe, eager to learn, and ready to succeed.

Vision: A community connected together to prepare every child from birth to age eight for success.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Currently, Library and School District staff members on leadership team and completing work through those established positions at this time. Parent on leadership team volunteers time. No funding for collaboration specific activities.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Collected over 800 parent surveys from across the service area (St Charles Community Unit School District 303 geographical area) as part of a comprehensive listening campaign plan.
2. Our group adapted to the resurgence of COVID-19 and new policies by adjusting the work plan and timeline to reflect new realities. This included a shift in our workflow, making equity and the engagement of diverse stakeholders the focal point of the year. Next steps include designing and holding Data Walks throughout the community, using data collected from parent surveys, along with public sources. This will allow the public the opportunity to engage with, process, and gain meaning from this data. This will be followed by a community stakeholder survey about perceptions, interests, and potential support of the Partnership's vision and mission
3. The first emerging collaboration to be funded as part of Fox Valley United Way's strategy to build an early childhood coordinated system in Fox Valley. Funding is to support collaboration-building, with the CUSD 303 school board agreeing to the district serving as the Partnership fiscal sponsor.

Stephenson County Health Dept- Coordinated Intake

Established in 2014



Areas Served

Stephenson County, Illinois

Target Population

Pregnant/parenting families

Affiliation

Stephenson County Health
Department

Collaboration Address

10 W Linden Street
Freeport, IL 61032

Collaboration Contact

Barbara Davis
815.235.8356
barbara.davis@aeroinc.net

Communications

IGROW, Healthy Families America,
AOK-NWIL, and Stephenson
County Department of Public
Health

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home
visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Government
Families/Community Members
Mental Health

Mission

Building community health throughout Stephenson County and Northwest Illinois by:

- Preventing disease and injury
- Promoting healthy lifestyles
- Assuring environmental quality
- Encouraging individual and family self-sufficiency
- Providing Public Health Emergency Response

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Advisory Board--All Our Kids Network Stephenson County
Board of Directors--Stephenson County Board of Health

Funding streams include: IDHS, MIECHV

Staffing is part-time team leader and full time outreach worker

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Assist in linking families to Family Connects Illinois Program, that offers nurse home visits to every newborn resident/family; Coordinated Intake program serving Stephenson County-completing referrals HFI, Family Ties, and Parent Enrichment Program.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
- Nurse visit to every newborn's home

Tazewell County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 2000



Areas Served

Tazewell County

Target Population

Birth to age five

Affiliation

All Our Kids Early Childhood
Networks

Collaboration Address

21306 IL Route 9
Tremont, IL 61568

Collaboration Contact

Julie Herzog (AOK Coordinator)
309.929.0266
jherzog@tchd.net

Communications

www.tazewellhealth.org
www.aoknetworks.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home
visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Families/Community Members
Mental Health

Mission

AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents / caregivers by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

Vision

The Tazewell County All Our Kids: Early Childhood Network works collaboratively with a comprehensive network of community resources to promote the overall well-being of children birth to five and their families.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Network's administrative home is within the Tazewell County Health Department. A full-time coordinator staffs the AOK grant. The large group meets bi-monthly as a network with activities conducted at work group level. Decisions are made by consensus. Funding for the initiative is provided through the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The Tazewell County AOK Network is proud to be the leading implementation of the Integrated Referral and Intake System (IRIS) AOK pilot in Tazewell, Peoria & Woodford (TPW) Counties. IRIS is a web-based community referral system that helps organizations connect the families they serve to the right resources in their community. The TPW IRIS community engaged partners to understand the current referral practices, how's and why's of IRIS, configured IRIS to meet the specific needs of the community, and established community standards for using the integrated referral system. IRIS helps families thrive through connected communication. The TPW 1st cohort launched January 2020 consisting of Coordinated Intake, home visiting, early intervention, and supportive early childhood services.
2. The Tazewell County AOK Network conducted a multi-year (2017 - 2018) community assessment. A root cause analysis was conducted and several root causes emerged: (1) not all pregnant women receiving WIC/FCM in Tazewell County stop using smoking during pregnancy, (2) more members of the household smoke, (3) some pregnant women do not understand the negative impact of smoking on their child, (4) not all smoking intervention services and supports in Tazewell County are accessible to pregnant women, and (5) not all providers talk to pregnant women about the dangers of smoking or encourage them to seek help. To address these root causes, Tazewell AOK began a partnership with the Home Visitor Network (HVN). HVN is a group of home visitors and/or parent educators working directly with pregnant women and/or children birth - five years in Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford Counties. A workshop series was developed. The four workshops focus on the following topics: tobacco / vaping trends, effects of smoking on mom & baby, how to talk to pregnant women / parents about sensitive subjects, and local smoking cessation resources / referrals to cessation programs.
3. The Tazewell County AOK Network and Child & Family Connections #14 is co-sponsoring a monthly support group for parents of young children with special needs. Parents are invited to attend who have a child with a disability, diagnosis or suspected diagnosis. The objective is to co-sponsor monthly support groups to (1) develop leadership pathways that support families of young children with special needs (2) build relationships to consistently support families and (3) continually reflect on progress and adopt efforts as needed. The group consistently has 6-10 parents in attendance monthly. Group is driven by parent need and feasibility. AOK Coordinator, CFC Parent Liaison, and CFC Social Emotional Consultant participate as staff support. Group is open to parents with young children with special needs.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Streamline intake, referral, and service acceptance among partners

The Village Early Childhood Collaboration

Established in 2020



Areas Served

Knox, Warren, Henderson, Mercer Counties

Target Population

Birth to age 8

Affiliation

Stephenson County Health Department

Collaboration Address

105 North E Street
Monmouth, IL 61462 |
121 South Prairie Street
Galesburg, IL 61401

Collaboration Contact

Rhonda Hillyer
rhillyer@roe33.net
309-354-3828 Ext. 1037

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Foundations
Families/Community Members

Mission

Action... Diverse Stakeholders coming together and collaboratively working to better the system for families.

Vision

To create an easily accessible, seamless, quality early childhood system that will support the success of families.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Regional Office of Education #33 employs an Early Childhood Community Systems Coordinator works with a core team of stakeholders to ensure collaboration best practices. The core team works together in the coordination and facilitation of collaboration meetings, engaging community stakeholders, and supporting members in the development and implementation of work plans. Regional Office of Education #33 serves as the VECC's administrative home, backbone agency, and fiscal agent.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. New collaboration building this area

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Serve priority populations
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning
- Increase children's attendance in early learning programs

Wabash/Edwards Counties: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 1999



Areas Served

Wabash/Edwards Counties

Target Population

Wabash/Edwards Counties

Collaboration Address

130 W 7th St
Mount Carmel, IL 62863

Collaboration Contact

Steve Akins
618-263-3873 ext 118
sakins@wabashhealth.org

Communications

www.wabashhealth.org
[www.facebook.com/
AOKWabashEdwards](https://www.facebook.com/AOKWabashEdwards)
[www.instagram.com/
aokwabashedwards/](https://www.instagram.com/aokwabashedwards/)

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home
visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents/caregivers by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The AOK Network is staffed by one full time coordinator and volunteer co-chairs for Network work groups. All Network partners have an equal voice in decision-making. The All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks initiative is funded through the Illinois Department of Human Services' Office of Early Childhood and the Wabash County Health Department.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Through Network partner collaboration we have increased access to dental health services for children in our communities, especially those with IL Medicaid.
2. Network members have increased their knowledge of early childhood issues and community resources to better support families needs through quarterly Lunch and Learn workshops.
3. The Community has an increased awareness of local event information and understanding of how to access community services and resources through the development and implementation of the Wabash/Edward AOK Network Resource App. that may be downloaded through Apple Store and/or Google Play.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Through Network partner collaboration we have increased access to dental health services for children in our communities, especially those with IL Medicaid.
- Network members have increased their knowledge of early childhood issues and community resources to better support families needs through quarterly Lunch and Learn workshops.
- The Community has an increased awareness of local event information and understanding of how to access community services and resources through the development and implementation of the Wabash/Edward AOK Network Resource App. that may be downloaded through Apple Store and/or Google Play.

WeGo Together for Kids

Established in 2005



Areas Served

West Chicago

Target Population

Families with children birth to age 18

Collaboration Address

312 E. Forest Ave.
West Chicago, IL 60185

Collaboration Contact

Josephina Frankovich
630-293-6000 ext. 1229
frankovichj@wego33.org

Communications

Facebook: WeGo Together for Kids
Twitter: @WeGoTogetherWC

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Fire and Police Department

Mission

The mission of WeGo Together for Kids is to support and enhance the health, safety, learning, and social-emotional well-being of children and families through a collaborative, coordinated, and comprehensive approach for the West Chicago community.

WeGo Together focuses on six result areas to work towards the mission statement, which includes, stable families, academic achievement, youth and family health, community engagement, emergency preparedness, and early childhood.

The result statement that the early childhood workgroup is focused on is West Chicago community partnerships help families and children, 0-8 years old, build strong relationships through access to play and learning opportunities. This is currently in redevelopment as we work with our PPA coach.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

WeGo Together for Kids is a community collaborative in West Chicago that has a focus on six result areas with the recent addition of early childhood in September 2019. WeGo Together has a steering committee that provides oversight and guidance to WeGo Together while the community partners of the early childhood group do the direct planning and decision making of the group. There is no staff whose sole responsibility is the early childhood workgroup; rather, the Birth to Five Community School Coordinator dedicates time to the work and facilitate the meetings. With that, there is no direct funding for the early childhood workgroup, but there is funding that may be utilized through WeGo Together's braided funding stream.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Currently, the early childhood work group is focused on drafting a community needs assessment to better understand West Chicago's perceptions of early childhood and opportunities for families with children 0-8 years old.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)

Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative

Established in 2013



Areas Served

Community Unit School District
200; Wheaton and Warrenville

Target Population

Children birth to age 5

Affiliation

DuPage Foundation's Bright and
Early Grant

Collaboration Address

222 E Willow Ave.
Wheaton, IL 60187

Collaboration Contact

Annie Behrns
(630) 272-2226
behrnsa@metrofamily.org

Communications

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wheatonwarrenvilleecc/>
Website: <https://www.cusd200.org/wwecc>

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home
visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school
districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral
(CCR&R)
Other public services (housing,
police, libraries)
Community organizations
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

The Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative (WWECC) is a group of community agencies, early childhood providers and supporters of early childhood in DuPage County working together to improve kindergarten and school readiness for children in Community Unit School District 200 with a focus on increasing access to services for those in under-resourced areas of the community.

Mission: The mission of the Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative is to effectively coordinate services focused on providing opportunities for learning success and improved Kindergarten readiness for all Community Unit School District 200 children birth to five, especially those most vulnerable.

Goals:

1. Improve communication among early childhood service providers.
2. Increase parent education about childhood development needs.
3. Increase professional development for early childhood service providers.
4. Increase children's Kindergarten/school readiness.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

Metropolitan Family Services DuPage acts as the lead agent and the administrative "home" for the Collaborative. The Director for the WWECC oversees the overall operational day-to-day responsibilities of the Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative. The WWECC Executive Committee adopts a consensus decision making process that is guided by the following principles: Inclusive and Participatory, Agreement Seeking, Process Oriented, Collaborative, Relationship Building, and Whole Group Thinking. The Executive Committee will have the ultimate decision making power over the Collaboration Program Director and collaboration. Current funding for the WWECC was made possible by a grant from the DuPage Foundation (DF), through the Bright and Early DuPage Initiative.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. The WWECC provides Play to Learn events that focus on the importance of play in the health of the developing brain.
2. We also have a large scale provider training that focuses on increasing quality and providing professional development among early childhood service providers called the Early Childhood Symposium.
3. We also increased enrollment of high need priority populations through our PEG and PI grants.
4. Lastly, the WWECC increased the local messaging of the importance of universal developmental screenings through the developmental screening marketing campaign. This campaign promoted the importance of screening and asked families in the CUSD 200 area with children birth to five to give to complete the ASQ-3 online at <http://asq.cusd200.org> or call 630-682-2109 to set up a time to take the screening in person. The flyers and posters were printed and placed in 10 locations across the Wheaton and Warrenville areas.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Increase children's attendance in early learning programs

Will County: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network

Established in 2004



Areas Served

Will County

Target Population

Families pregnant or parenting children birth to age 5

Collaboration Address

501 Ella Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433

Collaboration Contact

Rebecca Deang
rdeang@willcountyhealth.org
(815) 727-8864

Communications

www.aoknetworks.org/illinois/willcountyhealth.org/aok-all-our-kids-early-childhood-network/

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Foundations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

AOK Networks are community-based collaborations that promote healthy pregnancies and the positive growth and development of all children birth to five and their parents / caregivers by assuring a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports.

Vision

The Will County All Our Kids Early Childhood Network is a community based collaboration which works to create and support long lasting partnerships which empower families with knowledge and community resources promoting healthy development and lifelong success.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Will County AOK Networks' lead agency is the Will County Health Department. A full-time coordinator hosts monthly Network meetings. Decisions are made by consensus. Funding for the initiative is provided through the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Piloting and launching IRIS in January 2020, a web-based information and referral system engaging early childhood system providers and family support services to provide a clear referral path for families to receive services, streamline communications among referring partners and track all referral activity to completion in one place, promoting data-informed decision making.
2. An annual Early Childhood Mental Health Conference is hosted in May for service providers, families and community stakeholders, averaging 100 participants annually which has led to community awareness, increased knowledge and practice changes that support families with young children.
3. Increasing awareness of the importance of developmental screenings through the development and dissemination of a Community Screenings Video created in August of 2019. This video will be promoted by AOK Network partners and primary care providers in Will County on their websites and viewed in waiting rooms.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Implement collaborative screenings
- Increase children's attendance in early learning programs
- Information and Referral Initiative

Winnebago County Health Department

Established in 1962



Areas Served

Winnebago County

Target Population

Winnebago County Residents

Affiliation

Aunt Marthas

Collaboration Address

555 N Court St.
Rockford, IL

Collaboration Contact

Dr. Sandra Martell
Public Health Administrator
815.720.4000
smartell@wchd.org

Communications

Twitter: @WinnCoHealth
Facebook: www.facebook.com/WinnebagoCountyHealth
Instagram: @winncohealth
<http://www.wchd.org/>

Partners & Participants

Government
Public Health

Mission

Achieving a Healthier Rockford and Winnebago County
The Winnebago County Health Department provides services designed to protect, promote, and maintain the health of Winnebago County residents. Services address three primary goals: improving the length of useful life, reducing health disparities, and assuring access to preventive health services for every person in Winnebago County.

WCHD MISSION STATEMENT:

Prevent disease, promote health and enlist community efforts to improve the health of all Winnebago County residents

WCHD VISION STATEMENT:

Healthy people in a healthy community without health disparities

WCHD VALUE STATEMENT:

Responsiveness, resource for the community, expertise, collaboration.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Winnebago County Health Department is a state certified, nationally accredited local health department, governed by the Winnebago County Board of Health. WCHD employs an average of 115 employees representing public health practice including physicians, nurses, environmental health practitioners, nutritionists, epidemiologists, communication specialists, disease intervention specialists, and case managers. WCHD is funded through local public health tax referendum, fees, third party insurance, and federal/state/local grants.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Established partnerships with DHS, local FQHC, United Way and DCFS.
2. Instituted quarterly home visitor meetings and trainings to encourage connections, promote knowledge sharing and encourage professional development.
3. Attended many community collaborative meetings to encourage systems development and create connections.
4. The current partners include: Rockford Public School District # 205, Easter Seals, YWCA La Voz Latina, City of Rockford Early Head Start, Children's Home + Aid, and Harlem School District # 122.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Willowbrook Corner Early Childhood Collaboration

Established in 2018



Areas Served

Unincorporated South East corner of DuPage County serving CCSD #180

Target Population

Birth to age 5

Affiliation

DuPage Regional Early Childhood Collaboration

Collaboration Address

16W631 91st.
Willowbrook, IL 60527

Collaboration Contact

Marianne Pokorny
630-542-4196
marianne.pokorny@ywcachicago.org

Partners & Participants

ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Foundations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission

To ensure that coordinated and high quality services are accessible and meet the needs of Willowbrook Corner families, so all children from birth to five are safe, healthy, and ready to learn when they start school.

Vision

Ensure that each and every child enters kindergarten safe, healthy, ready to succeed, and eager to learn.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The YWCA Metropolitan Chicago serves as the lead agency and administrative home of the collaboration. The collaboration is staffed by a Community Outreach Specialist who is responsible for engaging key stakeholders with an emphasis on community leadership under the supervision of the YWCA's Senior Manager of Strategic Engagement. The Collaborative is been funded through generosity of the DuPage Foundation's Bright & Early Initiative.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Collaboration worked to continue to support parents in the community through the pandemic through a number of initiatives. Support came in many forms based on need. Support include but not limited to supplying parents with PPE personal protective equipment, well-being calls and monetary stipends to cover rent, utilities, and clothing needs. We together with community partners to hold 2 outdoor activities that included resource fairs. in order to assist families with additional resources. We were able to employ eight parents with census outreach work calls. Held collaboration and partner meetings via Zoom. With the assistance of a DuPage County Board member we were able to receive a grant in order to begin a transportation study of this unincorporated and isolated area. Planning continued for Parent Leadership meetings and parent cafes to take place monthly. In the process of hiring a new staff member for the collaborative community work.
2. Through the work of the collaboration and community data the collaboration we to offer Prevention Initiative for Birth to Three home visiting from ISBE.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations

While the majority of collaborations submitted profiles, a few collaborations were unable to do so. In consideration of the work that they are doing, the Partner Plan Act team wanted to ensure that they were listed.

Champaign County Local Interagency Council for Early Intervention

Kim Woolridge
kwoolridge@cifc.org

South Suburban B-5 Forum

Kathy Chvostal
kchvostal@speed802.org



**Illinois
State Board of
Education**



**Governor's Office of
Early Childhood Development**



GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY
Illinois Professional Development System

Illinois Action For Children
4753 N. Broadway
Suite 1200
Chicago, Illinois 60640
partnerplanact@actforchildren.org
www.partnerplanact.org

