

# Bright & Early DuPage FY2019 Impact

Through Bright & Early DuPage, the DuPage Foundation is changing the landscape of early childhood throughout DuPage County. The system has evolved into a collaborative network of partners working to ensure that all children in DuPage are ready to succeed when they enter kindergarten. The DuPage Foundation's financial support and leadership have been key factors in breaking down the silos that were impeding true progress in the early childhood environment.

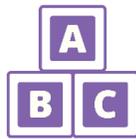


A DuPage Foundation Initiative

## Collective Early Childhood "Wins" In FY19:

### 396 MORE CHILDREN

whose families have limited financial resources, now spend their day in publicly-funded, high-quality early childhood programs.



### 345 ADDITIONAL FAMILIES

now receive home visiting services by a trained professional to assist in providing a safe and supportive environment for their children.



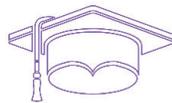
### 1,632 CHILDREN

were screened for developmental delays.



### 580 OF THOSE SCREENED

were referred for early intervention, with the hope of reducing the need for specialized instructional support during their school years.



## ORGANIZING LEADERS

"We worked with local schools and the Cooperative Association for Special Education to implement Glenbard Parents as Teachers, an evidence-based program serving parents and families with children ages birth to three living in Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, and Lombard. The funding we received from the State of Illinois to implement the program allowed us to serve 110 new families. Working as a collaborative—an efficient, organized group of early childhood leaders—was the key factor in our receipt of this funding, and that collaboration exists because of Bright & Early DuPage."

- Jeanine Woltman, Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative

## LEVERAGING FUNDS

"Our growing partnerships have leveraged more than \$1 million annually in state and federal grants to support high-quality, publicly-funded early childhood programs, such as Preschool for All, Prevention Initiative, and HeadStart. Responsible use of these funds encourages continued receipt of them, which means we can serve more children and families, connecting them to critical resources for which they are eligible."

- Christy Poli, Bensenville Early Learning Supporters

## CONNECTING COMMUNITY PARTNERS

"Our partnership with Northwestern Medicine and DuPage Medical Group educates pediatricians and medical personnel about early childhood community partnerships, screenings, and parent education. Through face-to-face meetings, and a one-year commitment from Northwestern Medicine to participate on our coalition, we receive a medical expert's voice and can better serve our families. Quarterly, we'll further educate pediatricians in their wide network about the benefits our families reap from collaboration between early childhood and medical professionals."

- Michelle Scharinger,  
CCSD93 Birth to 5 Community Collaboration



## STRENGTHENING PARENT RELATIONS

“Through a series of informational parent breakfasts held while kindergarteners attended summer camp, important relationships were developed. More than 125 parents learned tips to working with the school system, how to support their children’s learning, and the best ways to advocate for their children during the course of their education. Establishing trusted relationships with parents early on promotes easy access to needed resources in the future.”  
 - Mary Haley, Addison Early Childhood Collaborative

## STANDARDIZING OUTCOMES

“We researched and adopted the Ready Child Equation as a unified approach to kindergarten readiness across DuPage County. A defined approach ensures all early childhood collaboratives and partners are collectively focused on the same positive outcomes. We’re strengthening partnerships with our health systems, K-12 schools, early care and education providers, community members, and parents with the same goals in mind, which is more efficient, more economically beneficial and more impactful.”  
 - Fakelia Guyton, DuPage County Early Childhood Collaboration



## INCREASING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION SEATS

“Community Unit School District 200 and Metropolitan Family Services added a new early childhood classroom for 3- to 5-year-old children with significant needs. Collaboration members were instrumental in securing space for 19 children, previously on a waitlist, to a high-quality early childhood education program. Finding appropriate space for new classrooms in our community has long been a struggle, so we’re thrilled to see this opportunity come to fruition because of our collaborative efforts. We also added 60 new home-visiting spots for 0-3 year olds.”  
 - Elise Schram, Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaboration



## RAISING AWARENESS

“Our coalition is bringing attention to issues and challenges experienced by the residents of the unincorporated Willowbrook Corner community, such as violence, drug use, lack of transportation, and poor living conditions. These challenges are having a direct impact on family well-being and student school readiness. There have been many efforts in the past to strengthen this community; however we’ve determined a systems-level approach is required, providing residents a voice at the table and supporting residents as leaders in this work. We are grateful for the partnership and dedication of CCSD #180 and the DuPage Foundation for supporting this life-changing work.”  
 - Marianne Pokorny, Willowbrook Corner Coalition

