BY THE NUMBERS
Collaboration is changing the way we do business across the region; opportunities are fitting together like a puzzle.

Lorena Vaughn
Former Director
DuPage Early Childhood Collaboration
dupagefederation.org/early-childhood

The DuPage Foundation has been making grants to benefit young children since our founding. Expanding our work in that area, the Bright & Early DuPage initiative was launched in 2012 to ensure that all DuPage children, regardless of race, ethnicity or income level, are ready to succeed when they enter kindergarten.

During the past four years, the Foundation has provided grants to help DuPage communities build collaborative, sustainable systems to assist young children and their families, particularly those who are at risk, obtain the resources they need to prepare for success in school.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

$5,016,425
In new individual, foundation, local, State and Federal funding has been received to support early childhood in DuPage County since the launch of Bright & Early DuPage.

~$1 MILLION
In early childhood grants from the DuPage Foundation has served as a catalyst in changing the landscape of early childhood in DuPage County.

FOUR

Formal community collaborations have been created and strengthened benefiting children and families in Addison, Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Hanover Park, Warrenville, Wheaton & Wood Dale.

Additionally, the DuPage Early Childhood Collaboration was created as a central resource point for county-wide advocacy, data support, and technical assistance.

The Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaboration’s Parent Council network, which has grown from 8 to 36 parents in the past two years, has fostered connections to resources. One parent who is a refugee was hired as a Program Aide for HeadStart after receiving application assistance through the Parent Council.

Cover Photo: The efforts of the Addison Early Childhood Collaboration were a key factor in the establishment of the Addison Early Children’s Center which provides high-quality early learning and child care for 16 at-risk children ages six weeks to three years. The Center opened in 2016.

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Additional children have been screened for developmental delays as a result of targeted outreach.

Isolated and at-risk families have been identified through extensive outreach from local collaborative partners and many have been connected to local services and programs such as Birth to 3, HeadStart, Early Intervention, home visiting, parent education workshops and ESL classes.

In 2016, 20 at-risk families from Bloomingdale, Carol Stream and Hanover Park have been provided with resources and referrals as a result of the Birth to Five Community Coalition’s outreach events.

$6 MILLION
The DuPage Foundation’s Bright & Early DuPage endowment from gifts made by the Grand Victoria Foundation and Gustafson Family Foundation, among many others.

796
Additional children have been screened for developmental delays as a result of targeted outreach.

1850
Isolated and at-risk families have been identified through extensive outreach from local collaborative partners and many have been connected to local services and programs such as Birth to 3, HeadStart, Early Intervention, home visiting, parent education workshops and ESL classes.

3→258
As a direct result of collaborative efforts among partners, participation in high-quality parent education workshops delivered by Project Help increased from three parents in FY14 to 258 parents in FY16.

811
at-risk children participated in an organic summer outreach effort focused on art and gross motor activity improvement with 374 parents given referrals to programs.

The Bright and Early DuPage Initiative has been a ‘game changer’ in fostering systemic change in the early childhood efforts of DuPage County. The Foundation’s leadership has helped transform a single agency system into one that looks to collaboration partners FIRST before proceeding with action plans. DuPage families are benefitting every day from the work that you have promoted!

Cynthia Michul
Technical Advisor

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I am so thankful for the Early Childhood Collaborations. They have created partnerships that are making powerful and systemic change for the children in our community.

Peggy McGuire
Executive Director
Project HELP

Bensenville School District 2 broke ground on their new Early Childhood Center which will serve 110 to 140 children. The need for the additional classrooms was partially informed by the data collected through the Bensenville Early Learning Supporters’ outreach efforts.

The most recent program grant cycles for Preschool for All, Preschool Expansion and Prevention Initiative saw a significant increase in funding and early childhood slots in DuPage County.

246
New high-quality learning slots were created for at-risk children.

$2,656,243
in new State funding was granted.

13
The number of volunteer leaders dedicated to the Bright & Early DuPage Committee.

FIVE
New home visitor positions were established to provide one-on-one support for parents in need.

The Bright and Early DuPage funding has really made it possible for us to connect families to the necessary services they need to be kindergarten ready, while supporting the collective impact of our existing early childhood network to promote the coordination of services, improve communication and reduce siloed work among our local community partners.

Elise Schram, MPH, CHES
Project Director
Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative

For more information or to make a gift to the initiative, please contact:

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