Mission

Coordinate and expand access to high quality early learning to 3 and 4-year-olds in Saint Paul so that all children are ready for kindergarten and all families can thrive.
The Need

- Minnesota is the **4th most expensive** state for childcare*
- **34%** of Saint Paul’s 3 and 4-year-olds live below the Federal Poverty Line
- **74%** live below 300% of the Federal Poverty Line
- Scholarships do not cover the full cost of care and only provide access to children below **185%** of poverty
- In Ramsey County, 471 families are on waiting lists for child care assistance
- Of preschool seats in community providers, **4586 are unrated by Parent Aware**
- **56%** of St. Paul children are not ready for kindergarten**

*Economic Policy Institute, 2019

**FAST earlyReading assessments for Saint Paul Public School students provided by Saint Paul Public Schools.*
Strategy

Create a Blueprint

Create a Leadership Structure

Build the Framework

Build the political will
Health Care at the Helm

Boston: Partners for “Countdown to Kindergarten”
  • Boston Medical Center
  • Boston Public Health Commission
  • Children’s Hospital Boston
  • Health Care For All
  • Allways Health Partners

San Francisco: Partners with the Office of Early Care and Education (OECE)
  • Children’s Council of SF (http://www.childrenscouncil.org/)
    • “Healthy Apple Program”

Cleveland: Pre4Cle
  • Ohio Healthy Programs Training & Technical Assistance – funded by Mt. Sinai Healthcare Foundation, Ohio Dept of Health & the Nemours Foundation
Program Elements

- **Mixed delivery system**, including Saint Paul Public Schools, charter schools, Head Start, child care centers, and licensed family child care providers.
- **Quality metrics, support and evaluation**
- **Common application and enrollment system**
- **Full funding for families at 300% of FPL and below.**
- **Annual cost:** $15 million in year 1, $27 million by year 5 and thereafter
Community engagement is a top priority.

- Parents and providers know best.
- 252 parents engaged through 1:1 meetings and listening sessions
- 79 providers reached through listening sessions and an online survey
Questions?
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