Cincinnati preschool promise

Expanding Access to Quality Preschool

2023-2024

The Power of the Promise

THE BOARD
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A MESSAGE
from Leadership

Dear Supporters,

Since our inception in 2017, Cincinnati Preschool Promise has believed in the transformative power of preschool education. Research consistently shows that when children have access to high-quality preschool, every measure of their future success improves.

We began with little more than a dream — a dream that we could positively shape a child's educational journey and enhance their trajectory through college and beyond. As our supporters, you embraced this vision, particularly for those children facing the greatest economic challenges. Twice now, the Cincinnati community has empowered us to continue making a difference by passing levies to support education.

Year after year, our data and analysis enable us to implement strategies that expand our work and that of our partner organizations who share a commitment to children. These partnerships have powered the expansion of preschool programs, provided educational training, and strengthened our network of community-based providers.

Our families have embraced our mission and the goals we have set for the future of early childhood education. Providers and educators have come together to inspire our youngest learners to reach higher. As an organization, we have focused on the things that matter most for preschoolers, families and the community–and more than 12,000 children have benefitted.

Words cannot fully express how far we have come and the significant progress we have made, even as we navigate the significant challenges within the education ecosystem. What we have learned over the years is the immense power of community to make an impactful difference in the life of a child.

Thank you for supporting us on this journey. There is more to come because there is more to do!

Sincerely,

Micah Kamrass

Micah Kamrass
Board Chair

Chara Fisher Jackson

Chara Fisher Jackson
Executive Director & CEO

OUR MISSION

Cincinnati Preschool Promise ensures families have equitable access to high-quality preschools so that every Cincinnati child is prepared for kindergarten.

OUR VISION

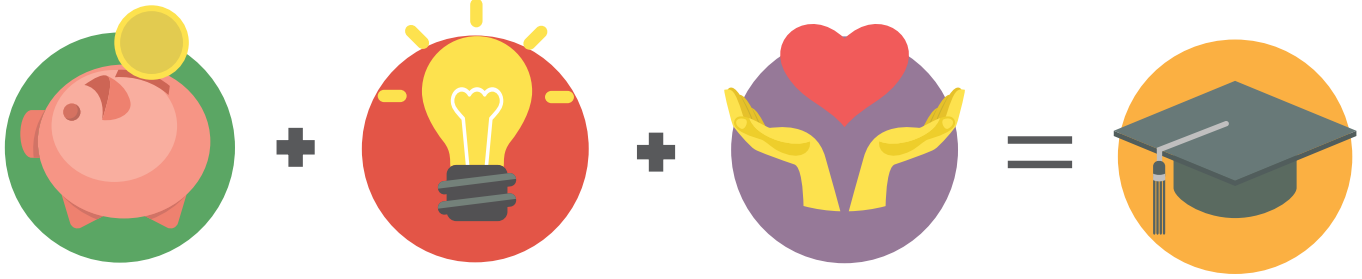
In our region, we understand that preschool is more than just an early start—it's a vital foundation for a child's lifelong learning journey and a critical support for hardworking families. Our community recognizes that the best outcomes for our children stem from uninterrupted access to high-quality education, beginning with preschool and continuing throughout their academic years.

We are especially committed to ensuring that children with the greatest needs receive this support. By investing in preschool, we're not just preparing our children for kindergarten or aiming for third-grade reading benchmarks—we're laying the groundwork for their success in middle school, high school, and beyond. This long-term vision will ultimately lead to a stronger, more qualified workforce and a thriving community where everyone has the opportunity to flourish.

OUR CORE VALUES

Contagious Collaboration
Unwavering Equity
Continuous Education
Equal Access
Bold Commitment

OUR ABCs

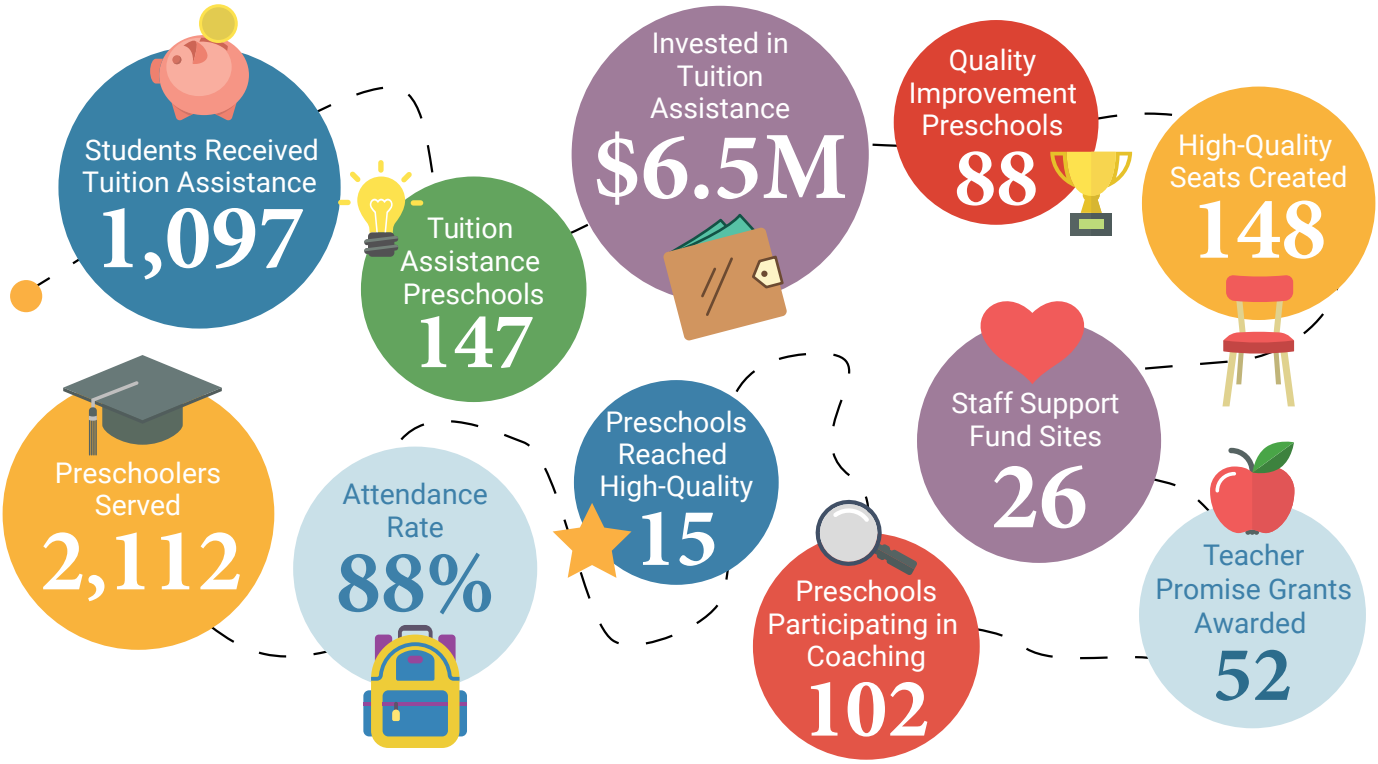


We expand **ACCESS** to affordable quality preschool for Cincinnati children and families.

We **BUILD** partnerships with Providers to increase high-quality programs.

We **CONTRIBUTE** to an equitable early childhood community to sustain high-quality programs and results.

Preschoolers ready for kindergarten.



OUR STORY

The Power of the Promise

Cincinnati Preschool Promise exists because of the incredible commitment of our community. In 2016 and 2020, the community came together to support a Cincinnati Public Schools levy that ensures our children receive the best start possible.

Thanks to this overwhelming support, $15 million is invested in expanding access to quality preschool, and $33 million is dedicated to strengthening K-12 education annually. This initiative is powerful proof of what we can accomplish when we invest in our children's future together.

12,000

Preschoolers have received Cincinnati Preschool Promise Tuition Assistance since 2016, making a high-quality preschool education possible.

The power of the Cincinnati Preschool Promise comes from decades of focused efforts to make a difference for the children and families in Greater Cincinnati. What began with a research report in 1988 outlining the opportunities and challenges with preschool expansion, has become one of the leading preschool initiatives in the country. Our mission, vision, and core values continue to guide us, as we pave the way for a brighter future, demonstrating how fulfilling the promises lays a strong foundation for our youngest learners to thrive.

We keep the Promises by

Offering preschool tuition assistance to families who need it most.

Increasing the number of quality preschool seats in Cincinnati.

Partnering with community preschools to improve quality.

Supporting recruitment, retention, and wage parity for early childhood education workforce.

2024 OUR IMPACT

63% of preschoolers who received tuition assistance through the Cincinnati Preschool Promise showed up for kindergarten ready to learn as measured by the Overall Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Revised (KRA-R).

88% is the average attendance rate of preschoolers at a high-quality community preschool in the CPP network.

54% of preschoolers in Cincinnati are being educated by the Cincinnati Preschool Promise Community Provider Network.

CPP's Year 7 Evaluation showed that on the KRA-R, CPP TA participation increased the odds of Overall Demonstrating Readiness by **30.5%** and the odds of being On Track in Language and Literacy by **53.8%** when statistically controlling for the other predictors.

The external evaluator for the Cincinnati Preschool Promise is INNOVATIONS in Community Research and Program Evaluation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Each year, they report on CPP's impact, including child outcomes, accessibility of high-quality preschool, experience of preschoolers, stakeholder perspectives, and recommendations for delivering on the mission. For more detailed data and key findings, view the Evaluation Reports from Years 3 to 7 on the CPP website at www.cincy-promise.org

CPP Evaluations

TUITION ASSISTANCE

The Power of Expanding Access

This year, **1,097** preschoolers attended community preschools with tuition assistance from the Cincinnati Preschool Promise. The Tuition Assistance program supports families who:

- have children aged 3 or 4 years old by September 30;
- live within the Cincinnati Public School boundaries; and
- live at or below 300% of the federal poverty level (FPL), which equates to about $69,090 for a family of three.

Tuition Assistance reimbursements are determined on a sliding scale from 50% to 100% of a maximum **$9,948** tuition cost, based on a family's income, other sources of public support, and attendance. The estimated costs to provide a high-quality preschool seat in Southwestern Ohio is from $13,195 to $15,300 per student per academic year. The significant and growing gap between actual costs and reimbursement amounts will continue to hurt the efforts to expand access to high-quality preschool. Preschool sites that are non-profit organizations must rely on grants and individual contributions for sustainability. Center and family child care programs that are small businesses must constantly balance limited revenue and increasing expenses to operate. The investments CPP makes through the Tuition Assistance program not only benefit eligible families but also make a powerful impact on all the children and families who participate in that preschool.

2,112

preschool students received Tuition Assistance at CPP Community Providers and Cincinnati Public Schools

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

In July 2023, the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) was established to bring together children-serving state agencies. DYC's mission is to promote positive, lifelong outcomes for Ohio youth through early intervention, quality education, and family support programs. The Early Education programs include Early Intervention, Publicly Funded Child Care, Early Childhood Education, Preschool Special Education, and Licensing. DCY has prioritized making early education more affordable for families, increasing the availability of preschool seats, streamlining administrative processes, and consistently communicating with early childhood educators and providers. A state objective of DCY is to develop "a sustainable financing strategy for Publicly Funded Child Care to meet federal compliance, stabilize capacity, and improve access to high-quality early care and education services." DCY will continue to be an important strategic partner in CPP's mission delivery. To learn more about the Ohio Department of Children & Youth and the resources available for children, families, and providers, visit their website at www.childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

Ohio DCY

TUITION ASSISTANCE

The Power of Expanding Access

Community Preschools with ratings of 3, 4, or 5 stars on Ohio's Step Up to Quality Rating and Improvement System were considered high-quality by the Cincinnati Preschool Promise and eligible to receive reimbursements on behalf of a family. This year, more than **147** centers, parochial schools, and family child care programs were part of the CPP TA network. CPP TA preschools must

- meet all Ohio Department of Children and Youth licensing requirements,
- accept families who are part of the state's publicly funded child care program,
- maintain Ohio's highest quality ratings, and
- complete a comprehensive compliance review and onboarding process.

$6.5M

invested in Tuition Assistance for preschoolers attending CPP Community Providers.

90% of parents said they could not afford the full cost of preschool without Tuition Assistance from the Cincinnati Preschool Promise. A typical family in Ohio with an infant and a 4-year old would have to spend $17,592, or 30.7% of its income, on early education and care.[1] The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) defines affordable care as costing no more than 7% of a family's income. Many families cannot afford a preschool education for their child without CPP.

[1]*Source: "Child Care Costs in the United States: Ohio", The Economic Policy Institute, accessed on August 29, 2024.*

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

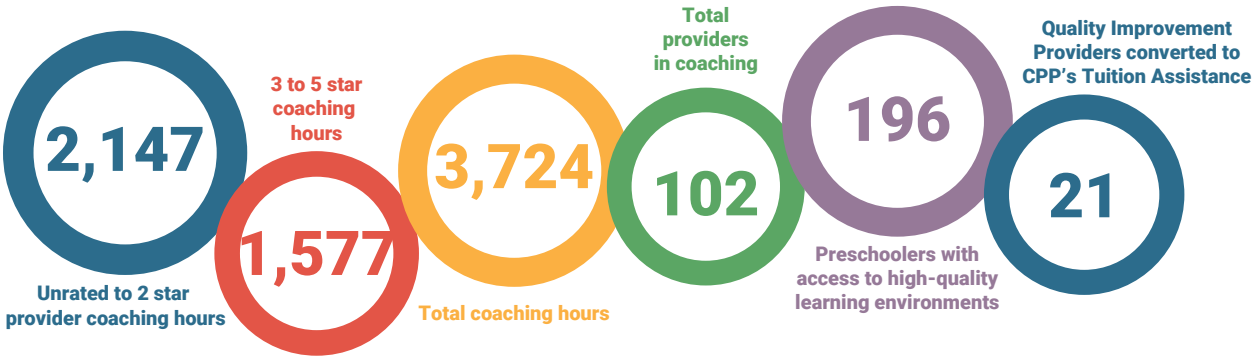
The Power of Partnerships

Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives support Community Providers in creating and maintaining high-quality learning environments that are aligned with Ohio's Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) tiered rating and improvement system for early learning and development programs.

Community Providers with a demonstrated commitment beyond basic licensing, health, and safety standards are invited to participate in the QI network. Preschools develop goal-oriented plans to implement research-based learning and development practices that lead to better outcomes for children. These plans include goals for teacher professional development and credentialing, evidence-based instructional practices, and family engagement strategies.

CPP's QI Providers are eligible for a variety of supports including

- Coaching
- Curriculum and assessment tools
- Developmentally appropriate materials
- Professional development sessions



While Providers work hard every day to build quality, achieving and sustaining a high-quality rating takes time and resources. CPP is proud to partner with Learning Grove and 4C for Children to lead our coaching efforts. The CPP QI network has significantly improved the quality of early childhood education, offering the capacity for 804 new high-quality preschool seats, giving children the proven benefits of a high-quality early learning environment. Families cannot access that capacity without ongoing support and investments by CPP. The demand for coaching and quality improvement supports has steadily increased over the last five years. CPP's work is essential to help Providers improve more quickly, tackle the ongoing challenges in the early childhood education system, and maintain the highest standards that support the best outcomes for children.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The Power of Partnerships

Coach of the Year
Heather Webb
4C for Children

In July 2024, Ohio's Step Up to Quality Rating and Improvement System (SUTQ) changed from a five-star scale to a three-tier scale. The stated goals of the changes are to improve child outcomes, reduce administrative burden for providers, and increase parental access to quality preschools. CPP's quality improvement initiatives have been realigned with the new SUTQ standards and guidelines. Partnership with 4C for Children, the local Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, is essential to help CPP's Community Provider Network manage the changes while striving to achieve and maintain the highest quality educational environment.

"Through the SUTQ system, the state is continuing its commitment to providing quality education to our youngest learners. Parents bringing their children to any rated program can be confident that their child will be learning from a curriculum that is preparing them for a brighter future."
-Andrew Brzezinski, Quality Programs Strategic Director, 4C for Children

SUSTAINING QUALITY

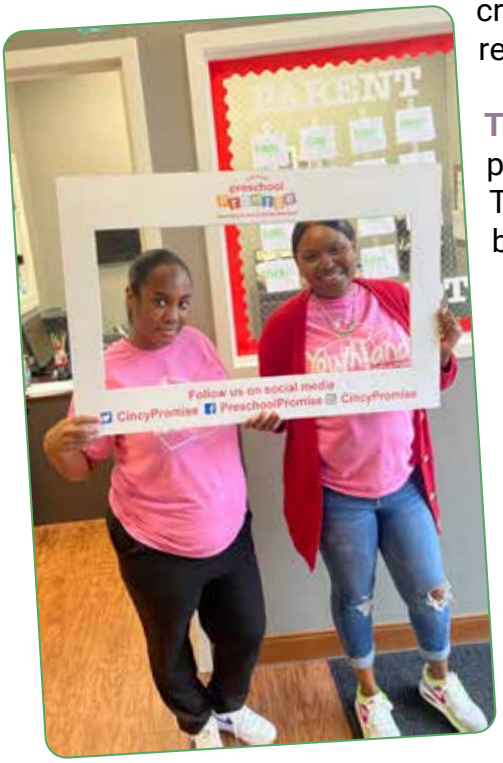
The Power of Bold Commitment

Cincinnati Preschool Promise prioritized partnerships and initiatives that support educators, leaders, and future professionals in our network. Recruitment, retention, and equitable compensation are the goals of our workforce efforts. By supporting our teachers, we are investing in the long-term quality of preschool education. A survey of CPP Community Providers found that CPP's workforce grants encourage teacher retention, higher wages, work life balance, professional development and overall program sustainability.

52
Teachers awarded Promise Grants

26
Staff Support Fund Preschools

Teacher Promise Grants are more than just financial support—they are a powerful investment in the future of our education workforce. As part of the grant, educators are required to continue their professional development training, ensuring they remain at the forefront of early childhood education practices. Plus, recipients who earn a degree or further educational credentials are eligible for bonuses, recognizing and rewarding their commitment to excellence in teaching.



The Staff Support Fund provides grants for preschools participating in the Quality Improvement program. These funds can be used in several ways: offering bonuses for retention, recruitment, or advancement;

SUSTAINING QUALITY

The Power of Bold Commitment

covering costs for health insurance or other benefits; supplementing teachers' wages; or paying for formal education in early childhood education degree programs.

Teacher Completion Grants support Cincinnati State Technical & Community College students in the final stages of their Early Childhood Education coursework. Students gain hands-on experience at a CPP preschool site, with the goal of securing permanent employment. CPP offers a stipend, in partnership with the Cincinnati State Foundation, to help future educators overcome any financial obstacles to obtaining the credentials needed to join the early childhood profession.

"The collective benefits from participating in the CPP Provider Network and receiving CPP support have created a positive, nurturing, and enriching environment for everyone involved. Our program has seen significant improvements in quality and service delivery, our teachers and staff are more skilled and motivated, and our families have greater access to high-quality early childhood education and support services. This program has been nothing but awesome!" – Provider, CPP Year-End Evaluation, pg 11

4C for Children Child Care Careers Program offers Career Navigators for those interested in early childhood careers. Participants receive financial stipends, paid training, guidance on state requirements, and help with job preparation and ongoing employment assistance. CPP is proud to partner with 4C since this initiative launched in response to workforce crisis that has been exacerbated by the Pandemic. CPP offers financial stipends to Child Care Career participants at CPP community preschools. For more info on Child Care Careers and the 4C Job Board, visit www.4Cforchildren.org.

4C Child Care Careers

"The child care and early learning workforce is underpaid and undervalued. Despite the crucial nature of their work in supporting the growth, learning, and development of young children, early childhood educators—overwhelmingly women and disproportionately women of color—are paid poverty wages with few, if any, benefits. Many child care providers cannot afford to raise wages because doing so would raise tuition beyond what most families are able to pay. While preschool teacher median hourly wages are slightly higher than those of child care workers, wages overall have remained far too low and stagnant over time. When adjusting for inflation, wages between 2015 and 2022 increased by only $1.70 for child care workers and $0.10 for preschool teachers."

-The Center for American Progress, Data Dashboard: An Overview of Child Care and Early Learning in the United States, December 14, 2023.

CPP PLUS

We select innovative ideas to implement based on parent feedback, educator insights, successful pilot programs, responses to our community surveys, public input, and, most importantly, our annual evaluations. These CPP+ initiatives focus on providing equity, access, family engagement, and training for Community Providers to help prepare preschoolers for Kindergarten.

PB & J Musical Journeys

In partnership with Linton Chamber Music and Peanut Butter & Jam Sessions, this program enriches preschoolers' language skills through music, creating a vibrant and fun environment for practicing communication and rhythm skills. Musical Journeys kicks off each year with a celebration The Back-to-Preschool Jam. This exciting morning in the park features a concert, music-centered art projects, a Meet & Greet with Providers, and our signature Smart Start Backpacks.

Smart Start Backpacks

This initiative, in collaboration with Union Bank, Guardian Savings, and the African American Chamber, provides young learners with backpacks and educational materials, giving them a 'smart start' outside the classroom.

CPP PLUS

Coffee & Conversations

Over a cup of coffee, our network of Community Preschool Providers connect. These lively sessions offer a Provider-only space to discuss the latest in early childhood education, share best practices, and tackle any topic—from managing workplace stress to designing creative classroom activities.

Preschool Chats

We created the virtual open forum, Preschool Chats, to engage with parents and the Cincinnati community. These are not just discussions but interactive sessions where leaders, experts, and partners share valuable resources with parents and caregivers to address immediate needs and answer questions that support healthy growth and development. Popular topics include understanding childhood trauma, money management for preschoolers and finding the best Kindergarten for your child. Join the conversation and check out Preschool Chats by visiting CPP's YouTube Channel: Cincy Preschool Promise.

Calm Caterpillar

Calm Caterpillar

Calm Caterpillar is a set of tools and curriculum that teaches emotional regulation at home and at school. Rooted in the science of mindfulness and the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) methodology, it has successfully enhanced children's prosocial skills and decreased conduct problems. It provides user-friendly tools for meeting state social-emotional learning standards. It is the most requested resource by the CPP Provider Network. CPP Providers participate in training, earning necessary professional development credits, to implement the curriculum in classrooms and share it with families. After training, Calm Corner Kits are available for each preschool classroom.

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Our Mission: To ensure equi
Preschool so that every Cincinnati

We expand **ACCESS** to affordable quality preschool for Cincinnati children and families.

We **BUILD** partnerships with Providers to increase high-quality programs.

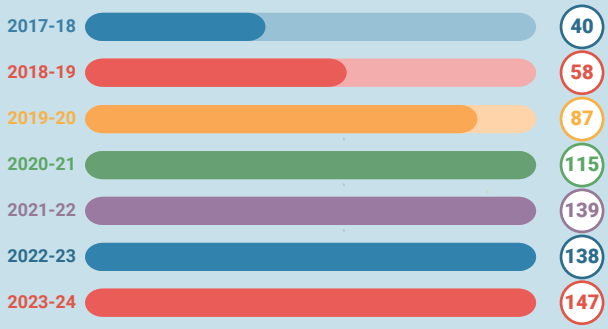
We **CONTRIBUTE** to an equitable early childhood community to sustain high-quality programs and results.

EXPANDING ACCESS

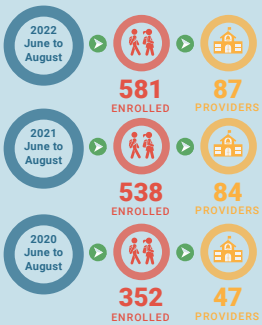
TUITION ASSISTANCE

Cincinnati Preschool Promise has supported 12,000 preschoolers.

COMMUNITY PROVIDERS PARTICIPATING IN TUITION ASSISTANCE



EXTENDED LEARNING SESSION



PRESCHOOLERS SERVED AT COMMUNITY PROVIDERS 6,144

PRESCHOOLERS SERVED AT CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS 5,856

BUILDING PA

QUALITY I

MOVING TO HIGH-QUALITY

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chool
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table access to high-quality
child is prepared for kindergarten.

Preschoolers ready for kindergarten.

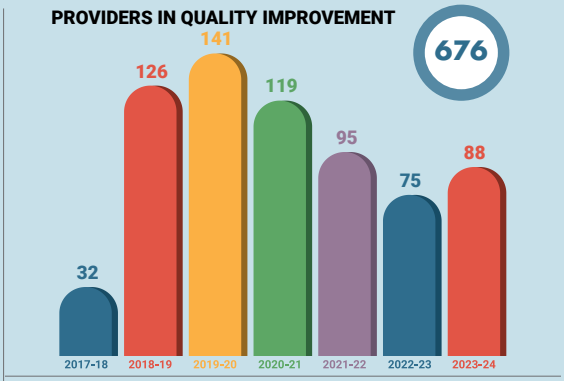
63% to 78% of preschoolers

who received Tuition Assistance through Cincinnati Preschool Promise showed up for kindergarten ready to learn throughout our levy lifecycle.

As measured by Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessments

RTNERSHIPS

MPROVEMENT

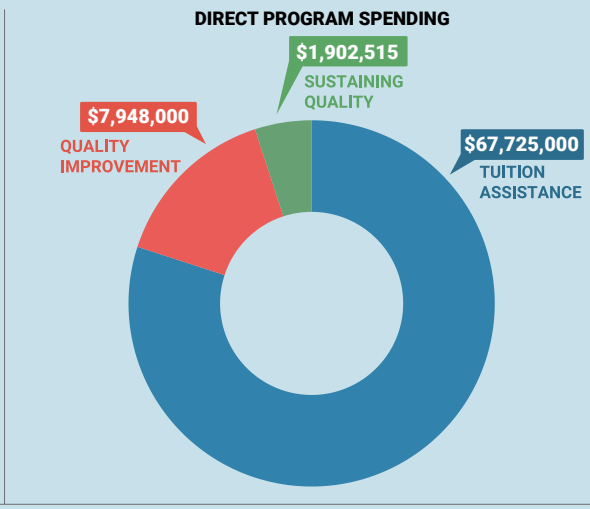


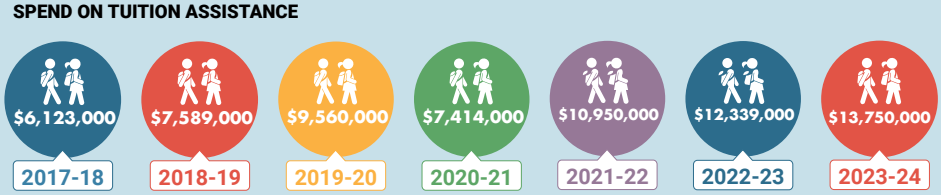
SUSTAINING QUALITY

SUSTAINING QUALITY

324
TEACHER PROMISE GRANTS AWARDED

93
STAFF SUPPORT FUND SITES





EQUITY POLICY

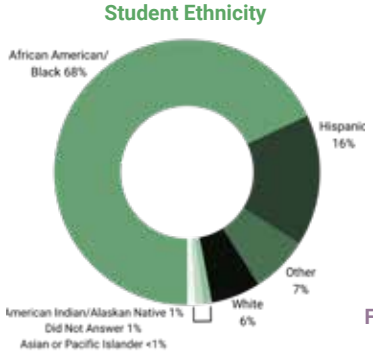
The Power of Unwavering Equity

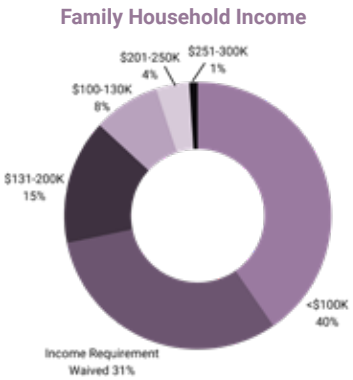
At Cincinnati Preschool Promise, equity is not just a goal—it's a powerfully shared responsibility that we all bear as a community. We define equity as the collective effort to address the opportunity gaps within our society, which directly impact our children's ability to reach their full potential. In our mission to expand access to high-quality preschool, we are committed to confronting the lasting effects of bias, prejudice, and discrimination that have created—and continue to create—barriers to opportunity and success. Our equity-centered approach focuses on equity in three areas:

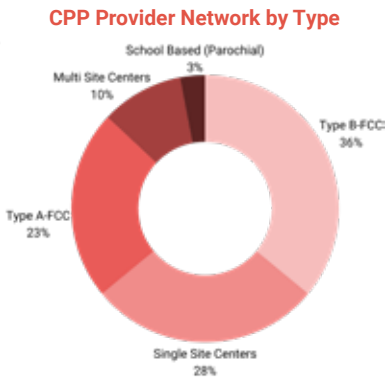
1. Representational equity as the proportional participation in Cincinnati Preschool Promise's programs, including children, families, and educators;
2. Resource equity as the distribution of Cincinnati Preschool Promise resources and spending in order to close equity gaps; and
3. Equity-mindedness as the demonstration of an awareness of and willingness to address equity issues among Cincinnati Preschool Promise leaders and staff.

We are committed to following the steps outlined in our Equity Policy adopted in 2019:

- Allocating the organization's financial, material, and human capital equitably;
- Eliminating, where possible, policies and practice that perpetuate these inequities;
- Ensuring that new CPP initiatives, policies, or procedures do not exacerbate inequities;
- Identify, develop, and apply policies and practices that have demonstrably made a positive difference for teachers and providers from historically disadvantaged backgrounds; and
- Support building relationships among providers, in order to break down historic barriers and uplift the sector.



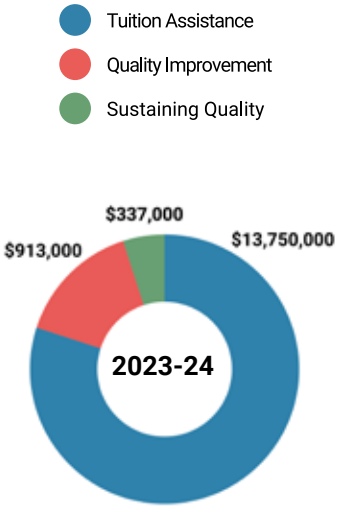


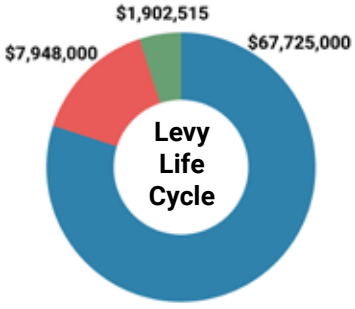


FISCAL SNAPSHOT

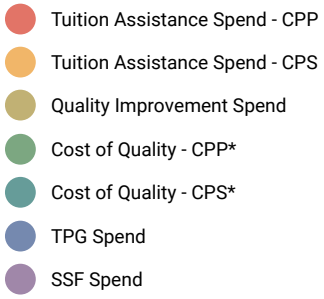
The Power of Investments

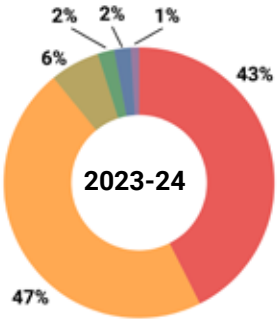
Direct Program Spending

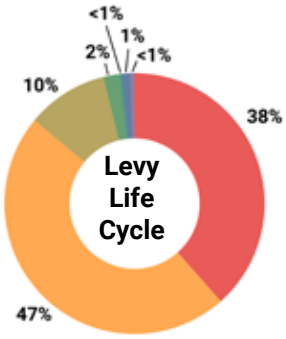




Direct Spending by Program







The Cincinnati Preschool Promise represents a local commitment to our children and families to address a need that has not been met in any other way. Year over year, CPP has increased exponent the number of children we serve to reach almost 41% of the eligible population. The First Five Years Fund reports that Ohio State-Funded Pre-K supports only 7% of the 3-and4-year olds in the state. For the full fact sheet on who early learning state and federal funds serve in Ohio, visit www.ffyf.org

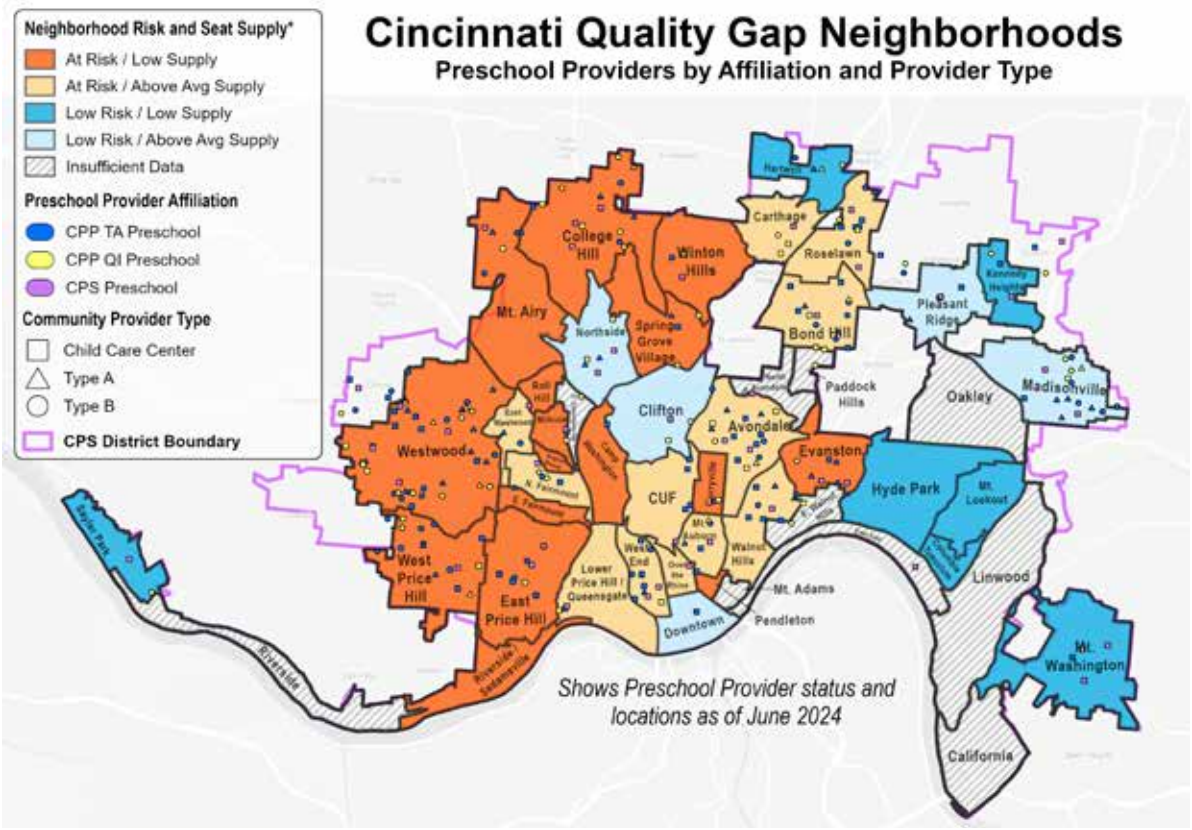
First Five Years Fund

72%
of the CPP budget is spent directly on mission delivery

PROVIDER NETWORK

Cincinnati Quality Gap Neighborhoods

In December 2022, CPP's Evaluator, INNOVATIONS in Community Research and Program Evaluation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center updated the quality gap neighborhood distinctions that CPP had used since 2016. The results of their analysis are reflected below. Quality Gap Neighborhoods do not have sufficient high-quality preschool seats for the children living in the neighborhood. It is important to note that many preschools cannot continuously operate at full capacity because of early education staffing shortages locally, regionally, and nationally.



High Quality (3-5 Star Rated) Preschool Seat Supply

Neighborhoods Flagged as Low Supply if:

Seat Deficit is 100 Seats or Greater
OR
Seat-to-Child Ration is Less than City-Wide Rate (3 Seats per 5 Children)

Neighborhood Risk Indicators

1. Median Family Income
2. Percent of Children Living in Single Parent Households
3. Percent of Adults (25 Years or Older) With High School Diploma or Higher
4. Unemployment Rate
5. Violent and Property Crime

Data Sources: American Community Survey(ACS) 2021 5-Year Estimates, Cincinnati Preschool Promise, Cincinnati Public Schools, ODJFS Inspection Reports, 4C for Children. Map Layer: 2020 Cincinnati Statistical Neighborhood Approximations (SNA), Cincinnati Area Geographic Information System (CAGIS).

PROVIDER NETWORK

- # 123 Apple Tree
- 24 Hour Child Care From The Heart
- 3T Learning Academy LLC 11
- A A Mother's Love 24HR Childcare
- A Place 2 Grow Childcare
- ABC DayCare
- Alouette Learning Center
- Alphabet Junction, Inc
- Amari James Academy of Early Learning - Roselawn Campus
- Angela F. Lyshe-Thierry
- Aunt Tracy's Center of Care
- Awesome Wonders Childcare Services & Nursery School LLC
- B Baby Girl Development Center LLC
- Barbara Dotts
- Beautiful Beginnings Childcare
- Bee Brilliant Childcare
- Best Early Development Center LLC
- Bethel Christian Academy, Inc.
- Big Adventures Learning Center Corp
- Bobren's Tiny Tots Co.
- Bright Futures Home Daycare
- Busy Bee Toddler Care and Learning Center
- C C.A.R.E Home Childcare
- CAA - Discovering Minds Learning Center
- CAA - Life Learning Center
- CAA - Millvale
- CAA - Ted Berry
- Calvary Kids Learning Center, LLC
- Carmelia Montgomery/ SugarmamdaycareLLC
- CCDC Family Childcare LLC
- Chalies Howard
- Champion Childcare
- Changing Faces Enrichment Center
- Cherish Your Children Childcare
- Children of Hope Learning Center
- Children of the Future
- Childtime Children's Center
- Cloud's Loving Touch Child Care
- Constance Constant Care #2
- Constant Care Learning Center
- Corban Learning Center
- Corrinda Ibrahim
- Corryville Catholic
- CoStars Early Education Center Westwood
- Cozy Care Nursery School & Childcare
- Creative Environment For Youths LLC
- Creative Hearts
- CWFF Child Development Center
- Cynthia Kahr
- D D's Darling Daycare
- Daddy's Daycare - Linn Street
- Denise Thompson
- Divine Daycare Center Inc.
- Donna Davis
- Dornetta Williams
- Dotty's Day Care LLC
- E Elevated Minds Academy Incorporated
- Elite Early Learning Center
- Elizabeth Smith
- Empower Learn Create, Inc.
- Erica Parks
- Essential Learning Academy
- Exploring Excellence Learning Center Corp
- F Faith Love Hope Childcare
- Frances Moore
- Funsize Imagination Childcare LLC
- Future Achievers Academy
- G Generation Hope Childcare and Preschool
- Gingerbread House Childcare LLC
- God's Little Angels Learning Center LLC
- Grannie's House Early Learning Center
- Gray's Creative Learning Daycare
- H Happy Feet Child Development
- Happy Hearts & Bright Minds Child Care Center
- Heavenly Playground Daycare
- Holy Family School
- I Imaginations at Work
- Immanuel Child Development Center
- Inspired Kids Learning Center LLC
- InVision Child Care
- J Jacqueline Hall-Beckett
- Jacqueline's Loving Hearts
- Janet Rolley
- Jewels Under The Heaven Child Care

Top CPP Enrollment Neighborhoods

Westwood
Bond Hill
East Price Hill
West Price Hill
Avondale

PROVIDER NETWORK

Joyce's Kiddie Korner
Just 4 Kids 2 Learning Center
Just 4 Kidz Academy
K Kalei Night & Daycare
KB Karing for Babies Childcare
Kendra Pugh
Keneice's Loving Arms Child Care LLC
Kennedy Heights Montessori
Kiara Jenkins
Kiddy Kare Learning Center
Kids Fun Zone Childcare
Kids Home Away From Home Childcare
Kids Play 513 LLC
Kidsville Childcare and Development North LLC
Kidz R Us Childcare & Enrichment Center
Kila's Angels Learning Academy
Kimberly Cubit
Kimberly Satcher
Kims Kiddie Care
Kings & Queens Unlimited LLC
KJM Childcare
Krayola Kidz Klub
L Land of Love Childcare
Latoya Dixon
Latoya's Daycare LLC
Learning & Lollipops Early Childhood Education Center
Learning Grove - CityLink
Learning Grove - East Walnut Hills
Learning Grove - Future Environments
Learning Grove - Price Hill
Learning Grove - Schiff I
Learning Grove - Schiff II
Learning Grove - William Mallory Early Learning Center
Leonna Larkins
Leyla House Learning Center
Lil Royalties Learning Palace
Linda Blankney
Lisa Cox-Wade
Little Dreamers Childcare
Little Footprints Learning Center
Little Kings and Queens Learning Center LLC
Little Leaders Academy
Little Learners Childcare LLC
Little Promises (Operated by Cincinnati Urban Promise)
Little Steps Daycare Center LLC
Little Treasures Under Ms Chris' Care
Love and Grow Education Service LLC
Loving Kindness Education & Learning Center
Loyalty Kids Learning Center LLC
Lynn's Loving Hands Family Childcare and Preschool
M Major Dreamers Montessori
Maria Bradley
Marshette Riggs-Smith
Mary's Little Lambs Learning Center
Maya Redman
Mimi's Learning Center llc
Mini Miracles Learning Center
Monica Thomas
Morgan Phillips
Mt. Washington Baptist Day Care & Preschool
My 2nd Home Childcare
Mylestones Early Learning and Development
N Nanna's House
Nanny's Multi Level Learning Centers, INC.
Nature w/ Nurture Preschool & Day School, LLC
Next Generation Early Learning Center
Nicole Burns
North Bend Learning Center
Nurse Julie's Daycare
P Palace of Joy 2 Learning Center
Palace of Joy Daycare, LLC
Peggy Glasper
Play4Hours
Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Preschool
Poohbears Playhouse
Q Que's Angels
R Rabiah Shakir
Rainbow Room Preschool Learning Center
Raising Children Child Care LLC
Ready Set Learning Center
Red Brick Childcare LLC
Regina Buchannon

66
Year 1
2017-2018
CPP Network
Providers

235
Year 7
2023-2024
CPP Network
Providers

Provider Types

- **140** Family Child Care Programs
- **88** Centers
- **7** parochial schools

PROVIDER NETWORK

Robyn Perkins
Romero Academy at Resurrection Family Services, LLC
S Saint William School
Samantha Jackson
Sharhonda Johnson
Sherry Johnson
Shining Stars Learning Center of Cincinnati
Simpy's Playhouse and Learning Center
Sister/Sister Childcare
Solomon's Childcare (Owner - Sheila Solomon)
Sonya Woods
St. Boniface Preschool
St. Francis de Sales School
St. Joseph
St. Lawrence Preschool
Susan Lemons
Sweetie Pie's Learning Center
T Tanya's Educational Child Care
Teefah's Learning Center
Tender Tots Daycare
The BeeHive Child Care
The Children's Home
The Learning Playhouse
The Little Daisy House LLC
The Little Tree House of Knowledge
The Miracle Seeds
The Salvation Army Learning Center
The Willow Tree House Daycare LLC
These Precious Hands Child Development Ctr.
Tiny Steps Development Center Inc
Tonya Harris
Tonya Moore
TOTally Kids Learning Center
Tracy Savage
U UC - Arlitt
V Velma's Daycare
Venessa Brogden
Vicky's Tender Heart Childcare
Vonda Cathey
W Water Lily Learning Center, LLC
Wesley Education Center
Westwood United Methodist Church
Where The Sidewalk Ends Academy
Winton Hills Educational Center
Y YMCA - Christ Child
YMCA - Gamble Nippert
YMCA - Valley
Yolanda Champion
Young Scholars Academy
Your Learning Treehouse LLC
Youthland Academy of Beekman
Youthland Academy of Cheviot
Youthland Academy of Pleasant Ridge
Youthland Academy of Price Hill
Z Zion Temple Christian Academy

3,609
Preschool Seat licensure capacity in the CPP Provider Network. Ongoing support & resources needed for all to be high-quality

STRATEGIC PLAN
2022-2025

Every family has a successful preschool experience.	1. Increase enrollment to reach 35% of eligible preschoolers. 2. Develop a plan that ensures the special needs of every child are met. 3. Provide support and opportunities for parent education.
High-quality drives all preschool endeavors.	1. Fund and put into place teacher recruitment and retention programs. 2. Create a plan to support programs that operate outside traditional hours. 3. Develop a community partnership plan to support students and families.
Meet changing needs through maximum financial flexibility.	1. Execute the master agreement that promotes our critical mission. 2. Develop a joint board approved process for strategic implementation. 3. Develop a landscape assessment of funding sources.

2024 MILESTONES

This year CPP Tuition Assistance supported 41% of eligible preschool-aged children in the Cincinnati Public School District boundary, exceeding our goal to reach 35% of preschoolers. This includes children at CPP Community Providers and Cincinnati Public Schools Preschools.

CPP has invested $1.6M in supporting teacher recruitment, retention, and wage initiatives to support equity in the early childhood profession and high-quality preschools.

In March 2024, CPP and CPS celebrated the renewal and update of the 2016 Master Agreement for preschool expansion. It incorporates learnings from the last seven years and solidifies the partnership between the Cincinnati Preschool Promise and Cincinnati Public Schools to expand equitable access to early education, including an explicit agreement to work together on future voter-approved ballot initiatives like the 2016 and 2020 levies.

STATE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Challenges & Opportunities

CPP's progress in achieving all of its 2022-2025 strategic goals compels us to look forward to more innovative ways to address the biggest challenges in early childhood education. The question remains, how can CPP use the Power of the Promise to ensure meaningful, equitable, impact for children, families, and the community in Cincinnati? Consider the following challenges.

Our partners amplify the Power of Preschool. Your experiences and expertise can help us continue to identify opportunities to make a difference in the educational journey of our youngest learners. Check out our website at www.cincy-promise.oeg for some of the many ways to get involved.

Early Childhood Education

CPP serves only 3 & 4 year olds, but the foundation for lifelong learning is built from birth to age 5. The distinctions by age between infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, as well as the terms child care or preschool should not be used to divide the field of early education. Within CPP's community-based Provider Network, both terms are used. All providers are required to be licensed and a part of Ohio's Quality Rating and Improvement System to be a part of the CPP Network. This ensures a commitment to Developmentally Appropriate Practice, strong educator training, and evidence-based strategies that lead to positive outcomes for children. Funding for only part of the continuum often creates unintended disparities in the system. Preschool expansion should not come at the expense of infant and toddler care. While the public school systems designed originally for school-aged children and community-based systems are different, they can be compatible. Ohio has taken the first steps to bring key initiatives from the Department of Jobs & Family Services and the Department of Education together to create an early learning ecosystem that better serves children and families.

How can CPP contribute to creating a cohesive early education environment that invests substantially in all children from birth to school-age?

Ohio Local Preschool Initiatives

There are current or emerging local preschool initiatives in Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Lorain, and Toledo. Representatives from each location convene quarterly to brainstorm ideas and share best practices. While each initiative is distinct in its origins, funding sources, children served, geographic reach, operations, and governance, we share a unifying commitment to make quality early education for Ohio's children.

STATE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Challenges & Opportunities

Literacy & Academic Progress

Readiness for kindergarten and third-grade reading proficiency are viewed as important milestones in a child's academic success. Overall, scores on Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) have declined since the pandemic. The percentage of CPP students who show up to kindergarten ready to learn has not returned to 2019-2020 rate of 78%. CPP Tuition Assistance. On Ohio's KRA-R, 62% of CPP preschoolers showed up ready to learn. CPP TA participation increased the odds of Demonstrating readiness by 30.5% and the odds of being On track in language and literacy by 53.8% when statistically controlling for other predictors.

The first cohort of CPP TA participants from 2017-2018 to reach 3rd grade showed promising results, exceeding the districtwide proficiency rate, as well as that of students with similar economic challenges. Preliminary analysis of subsequent student cohorts and 2022-2023 scores have shown varying sustained progress in first, second, and third grades, compared to the national norm, but measurable growth at each grade level from fall to spring. We are proud of these outcomes but know more than just academic or literacy scores, preparing a child for a lifetime of success means that they are developmentally on track and achieving important milestones. This requires a focus on physical development, cognitive development, and social-emotional learning. Ensuring our children receive a solid foundation in early learning is becoming more challenging. Today's preschoolers may be entering an early learning environment for the first time, given the constraints of the pandemic limited access when they were infants and toddlers. The focus on social-emotional learning and the caring relationships at the foundation of high-quality preschools are compromised by workforce shortages, family mobility, and the financial strain many feel as pandemic relief funds are exhausted.

We see a growing need for special education services and specialized support to ensure children start strong and continue to progress. Ongoing support is needed to increase the odds that CPP children thrive, progress academically and developmentally, and achieve critical milestones as they move throughout their academic careers and transition into the workforce.

How does CPP help support each student's needs so that they are developmentally on track, sustain progress, and meet important grade-level milestones?

STATE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Challenges & Opportunities

Balancing Supply & Demand

The demand for high-quality preschool seats is influenced by many family-based factors beyond affordability including siblings' needs, parental work schedules, family mobility, transportation, and alignment with family values. Authentic engagement of families is essential to encourage selection, enrollment, and consistent attendance in preschool. We have learned that automation and technology are needed tools, but preschool enrollment is not transactional. Intentional outreach, building relationships, and fostering trust bring families to preschool, increasing the demand for a learning opportunity that meets the needs of each child. Creating a greater family demand for preschool cannot outpace the availability. CPP was designed to increase the limited supply of high-quality preschool seats and expand the number of families who access those seats. Strategic investments of millions of dollars in Quality Improvement and the hard work of Community Providers have resulted in significant increases in the high-quality preschool options and overall seats in the City. While seat supply is determined by licensure status, the actual availability of preschool seats changes frequently. Factors that decrease available seats include teacher workforce shortages, changing child-to-adult ratio requirements, absences of enrolled students, waitlist student response time, and family needs for care of non-preschool siblings at the same site. These are factors that CPP can do little to influence but have a direct impact on the ability to advance our mission. CPP can contribute to the continuous process of maintaining a quality environment that cannot be supported solely by tuition revenue. Ongoing public, private, and philanthropic partnerships are needed to maintain the gains in high-quality seats.

How does CPP invest its human and financial capital to increase both the supply and demand for early childhood education?

STATE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Challenges & Opportunities

Funding-based System

Early childhood settings, operations, and administration are often shaped by the source of funding, rather than by the needs of families, educator recommendations, or evidence-based research on the best outcomes for children. Local, state, and federal funding is needed to make early education affordable. The ECE system mix of family child care programs, centers, non-profit educational organizations, parochial schools, and public schools is needed to meet the growing and varied needs of children and families. The stringent eligibility and procedural requirements to access each setting often frustrate families and educators. Access is not equitable when it comes with overwhelming system-driven challenges that discourage participation. Simplification and collaboration are needed to come close to serving the majority of Cincinnati's children.

How can CPP implement policies and practices that reduce administrative hurdles and public funding limitations to prioritize the best interests of children?

Children's Funding Project

The Children's Funding Project supports voter-approved initiatives dedicated exclusively to children and youth services via a ballot measure. CPP is one of more than 50 children's funds across the country, supported by local or state funding streams, that generate more than $1.5 billion every year for infants, toddlers, children, and youth. Children's funds are public, meaning they are accountable to the people who live and work in the community. Voter-approved children's funds often include accountability and transparency measures so they help to build public support and awareness for children's issues. Voters have never failed to reauthorize a children's fund and they routinely become more popular over time. CPP's strategic partnership with the Children's Funding Project helps us discover the full impact of dedicated, voter-approved funding and see the potential for continuing the transformative work for children and families in Cincinnati.

CHILDREN'$ FUNDING PROJECT

STATE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Challenges & Opportunities

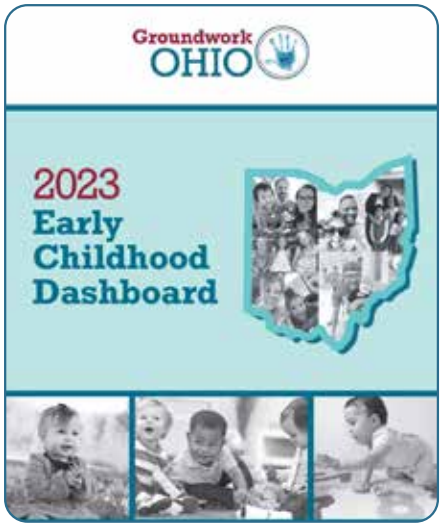
Public Policy & Advocacy

The pandemic brought renewed national and statewide attention to early childhood education. As the urgency fades, action is needed to sustain momentum for policy and system changes. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is at the forefront of driving change. Building on 50 years of experience from Head Start and Early Head Start Programs, new rules bring a comprehensive early education strategy. The core components prioritize child safety, addressing barriers to enrollment and attendance, enhanced services for expectant families, a renewed community assessment process, a diverse and well-qualified workforce, competitive staff wages, high-quality employee benefits, a culture of wellness that empowers staff, and integrated mental health supports for children, families, and staff. Likewise, Ohio's Bold Beginning Initiative makes unprecedented investments in children and families to support expanding existing programs and invest in new, promising practices. Legislative policies and appropriations aspire to make early learning accessible, affordable, and available for all children and families, in line with CPP's vision. CPP works to raise awareness of policies based on the experience of stakeholders, while being mindful that we are not positioned for traditional lobbying or advocacy.

How can CPP keep our stakeholders informed, leverage the momentum for change, and support the advocacy-focused organizations that are leading the way?

Groundwork Ohio

Groundwork Ohio is a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy, research and advocacy organization. CPP supports the vision to make Ohio the best place to be a young child so that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential. Our strategic partnership with Groundwork Ohio is based on alignment with their mission to champion high-quality early learning and healthy development strategies from the prenatal period to age five, that lay a strong foundation for Ohio kids, families, and communities. Groundwork's policy priorities of early learning & child care, healthcare access & quality, early childhood trauma prevention, and economic stability bring a system-level approach that is needed for CPP to fulfill our mission.



STATE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Challenges & Opportunities

Data Limitations

Research consistently shows that high-quality education yields immediate and long-term benefits, especially for children facing economic challenges. However, there is little consensus in Early Childhood Education on data collection processes, proof points, success measures, and methodologies for analysis. CPP strives for consistency in measuring progress, while remaining open to change when it aligns with our mission. We recognize that data requests made to our families and network of community providers are often burdensome and put additional strain on those we are meant to support. CPP also faces the challenge of balancing the costs of data collection and evaluation with the need to prioritize implementation.

How can CPP prioritize data collection and analysis to effectively share information with stakeholders to inform strategies and drive system change?

Zaentz Professional Learning Academy at the Harvard Graduate School of Education

CPP is part of the professional learning community facilitated by the Zaentz Professional Learning Academy. We joined our partners in an intensive learning journey, Using Data to Improve Quality In Early Education Setting." Over four days, we reflected on our progress toward implementing a strategic data-use plan, identified roadblocks to implementation of data-related strategies, and discussed potential solutions.

"Ultimately, the success of ECE in 2024 will depend on the collective efforts of educators, policymakers, families, and advocates to adapt, innovate, and advocate for policies that prioritize the well-being and development of all young children. The year ahead promises a dynamic and unpredictable ride for ECE. By staying informed, engaged, and committed to advocating for quality early education for all, we can navigate the crossroads of progress and challenges and ensure that every child has a foundation for a bright future."

From: "Ideas & Innovation in Early Childhood Education," Teddy Kokoros

PARTNERS & DONORS

We appreciate our strategic partners who support our educational efforts, programming, mission, and vision. You continue to make a difference in the lives of Cincinnati preschoolers!

Adspsoure
All-In Cincinnati Coalition
African American Chamber
AFSCME- American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees
American Legacy Theatre
Beech Acres Parenting Center
Best Point Education & Behavioral Health
Black Child Development Institute Ohio
Central Clinic Behavioral Health
CET, Public Media Connect
Child Care Choices
Children's Funding Project
Cincinnati NAACP
Cincinnati Parent Empowerment Network
Cincinnati Recreation Commission
Cincinnati State Technical & Community College
Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency
Cintexx
City of Cincinnati
Consortium for Resilient Young Children
CoStars Early Childhood Services
Cradle Cincinnati
Dress for Success
Early Start Columbus
Ellequate
Future Ready 5
Great Start for Great Futures
Greater Cincinnati Foundation
GreenLight Fund Cincinnati
Guardian Savings Bank
Hamilton County Job and Family Services
Human Services Chamber of Hamilton County
Interact for Health
It's Commonly Jazz
Invest in Children Cuyahoga County/UPK
Joseph Berning Printing

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Project LIFT
Queen City Book Bank
Radio One
Refined Vision Digital Media, LLC
Santa Maria Community Services
Southwest Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children
Success By 6
The CEO Project
The Cincinnati Herald
The Literacy Lab
The Village Preschool in Anderson
The Voice of Your Customer
Tigerseye Creative
Union Savings Bank
United Way of Greater Cincinnati
University of Cincinnati, School of Education
University of Cincinnati, Lindner College of Business, Urban Impact Studio
Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio
US Bank
Women's Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
YWCA of Greater Cincinnati

PROMISE TEAM

Chara Fisher Jackson
Executive Director & CEO

Kenetra Mathis
Deputy Director

Héctor Polanco
Finance Director

Tanya Del Valle
Senior Administrative Assistant

Brittnii Pina
Director of Quality Education

Florence Malone-Crump
Director of Community Engagement

Amber Mitchell
Outreach & Enrollment Parent Specialist

Anyssa Selkirk
Program & Evaluation Manager

Lindsey DiBlasi
Provider Specialist

Sydney Yisrael
TA Provider Coordinator

Laura Carr
Communications Consultant

There is a place for you on the Promise Team. Join us in the following roles.

Outreach & Engagement Champion: Attend community events, festivals, and fairs to share information and express your excitement about CPP. A customized outreach kit is ready for you.

Social Media Influencer: Like, share, post, and your own video testimonial to CPP's social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, X, YouTube, and Tik Tok

Community Connector: Share CPP with your clients, constituents, and membership organizations by inviting a CPP speaker to address the group or display info on-site. CPP is seeking new partnerships with faith-based organizations and young professionals.

YOUR POWER & THE PROMISE

The Power of Contagious Collaboration

CPP Plus Promise Partner: CPP relies on the generosity of private donations to support our innovative CPP Plus initiatives. All contributions are tax-deductible and can be designated to honor the donor's will. Gifts for these initiatives are crucial to continuing these successful activities that make a difference for children, families, and educators.

$4 buys The Night Before Preschool book for a child, encouraging their excitment about the year ahead and the joy of reading.

$27 provides monthly postcards with tips on developmental milestones to keep families engaged in the early learning experience.

$100 provides a Calm Corner Kit and Calmee The Caterpillar for a classroom, helping children learn how to regulate their emotions.

$200 help us recognize the Educator of the Month with a special gift and a wishlist item for their preschool classroom.

$700 funds one month of Musical Journey sessions with Linton Chamber Music's Peanut Butter & Jam.

$1,000 provides one in-person Coffee & Conversation session for preschool educators to come together to share best practices.

$5,000 supports our Back-to-Preschool Jam, bringing together children, families, educators, providers and neighbors for a day of educational planning to kick-off the new school year.

Whatever your interest, we have a place for YOU!

Make a Gift

Cincinnati preschool promise

Expanding Access to Quality Preschool

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