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,

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 (e.g. 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 Collaboration Directory 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 four other editions, and it is our goal that the fifth 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 2020 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 2020 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 Networks
Established in 1998

Areas Served
Adams County

Target Population
Pregnant women and children birth-to-five

Collaboration Address
330 Vermont
Quincy, IL

Collaboration Contact
Anita Hanke
217.222.8440
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
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. Adams County Community Collaboration promoting and strengthening the health and well-being of families and caregivers with children prenatal to 5.

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
The Adams County AOK Network has cross sector representation, including early learning, family support, healthcare, faith-based and human services. Network members have increased their awareness and understanding of community services and resources to better support families’ needs. Partners have identified transportation issues related to our healthy weight initiative and have provided our data to the Department of Transportation. Bi-monthly Lunch and Learns are provided by and offered to Network partners and community stakeholders, increasing their knowledge on identified priority issues.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Promote health and well-being
Addison Early Childhood Collaborative
Established in 2012

Areas Served
Addison, IL

Target Population
Birth-to-five

Collaboration Address
222 N. Kennedy Drive
Addison, IL 60601

Collaboration Contact
Mary Haley
630.392.9353
haleym@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

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

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.

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 the DuPage Foundation, Addison School District 4, and the Grand Victoria Foundation. Metropolitan Family Services is our fiscal sponsor.

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
The Alliance for Early Childhood
Established in 1989

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
Board of Directors, made up of approximately 45–55 At Large and School Representatives from our Member Schools and Organizations. Funding comes from a variety of sources, including the Annual Appeal in the spring, private foundations, grants, sponsorship, educator program revenue, and Member School Dues.

Collaboration Accomplishments
Launched Let’s Play! Ongoing Community Program for 2019–2020

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increasing quality of early learning programs
- Experiential learning with families

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
Altgeld-Riverdale Early Learning Coalition
Established in 2012

Areas Served
Riverdale (Chicago Community Area 54)

Target Population
Pre-Birth to 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.bpichicago.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.

Vision
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, including 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
Areas Served
CCSD93 Communities of Carol Stream, Bloomingdale and Hanover Park

Target Population
Families with children, birth to 5 years of age, 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 and services for our community’s families with children age birth to 5. Together we are the Birth to 5 Community Coalition.

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. In addition to the support of CCSD93, the Coalition benefits from the continued financial support of the DuPage Foundation’s Bright and Early DuPage Grant.

The CCSD93 ECC serves as the home for the CCSD93 Birth to 5 Community Coalition. Monthly meetings of the Coalition’s Leadership Team, which includes representation of CCSD93, community agencies and parents, drive the content of the quarterly meetings to which all Coalition partners are invited. Furthermore, the Coalition’s strategic plan sets the direction for all Coalition work.

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
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 Coordinated Intake 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 as increased 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
Mission
The mission of the Council is to coordinate a comprehensive family-centered system of support for these families.

Vision
The Champaign County Local Interagency Council for Early Intervention (CCLIC) is a community collaboration that recognizes the role of the family as the primary influence in promoting a child’s development, and strives to coordinate a comprehensive, family-centered system of support for families with young children. The Council works to identify children birth to age 6 with or at risk of physical, social/emotional, and/or developmental needs.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
The CCLIC is overseen by Child and Family Connections #16 (CFC) which is the State of Illinois entry point for Early Intervention (EI) services. Easterseals of Central Illinois manages the grant for CFC #16. Grants are funded through the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Family and Community Services (DFCS) contracts Child and Family Connections (CFC) for its Early Intervention (EI) program. CFC #16 is comprised of a Program Manager who oversees approximately 15 Service Coordinators, 2 office staff, 2 LIC Coordinators, and a Parent Liaison.

Collaboration Accomplishments
The Council has developed collaborative practices among various agencies across the board through Cradle2Career. The Council is currently collaborating with the Maternal and Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting group to move towards coordinated intake and hosting community screenings once a month.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
- Implement collaborative screenings
**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

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**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.

**Vision**
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 Consortium is in the process of implementing a non funded, non staffed coordinated intake referral system.

**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 whichever home visiting program fits their needs best.

**Primary Activities & Strategies**
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings
Cicero: All Our Kids Early Childhood Network/Early Childhood Committee
Established in 1999

Areas Served
Cicero

Target Population
Pregnant women and children birth to 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
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
- Develop comprehensive referrals
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. With community input, we re-designed our program services model and sharpened our vision.
2. We continued to provide screening and referrals and to deliver robust family supports to a large number of families.
3. Our professional development offerings included training in the areas of early childhood mental health and equity in the early childhood classroom.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
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.

Collaboration Address
1777 E. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901

Collaboration Contact
815.937.5935
K3Coordinatedintake@auntmarthas.org

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, increasing Kindergarten readiness, and helping 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
DeKalb Coordinated Intake Collaborative
Established in 2017

Areas Served
DeKalb County

Target Population
Families with children 0-5

Collaboration Address
155 N 3rd St
DeKalb, IL 60115

Collaboration Contact
Earl Kloppmann
Program Manager
630.808.9066
ekloppma@childrenshomeandaid.org

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

Mission
The mission of the DeKalb Coordinated Intake Collaborative is to engage families of young children 0-5 in intensive, long-term home visiting services and to do this through a single point of entry to avoid duplication of services and to encourage quick enrollment in services.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
DeKalb Coordinated Intake currently employs one Coordinated Intake worker on a part-time basis, but as of February 2020 will have a full time coordinator in the position. 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 Collaboration Institute 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
Mission
All DeKalb County children have equitable opportunities to be prepared for school and life success.

Vision
To increase the number of DeKalb County children ready for Kindergarten in the following impact areas:
A. Access to early learning opportunities
B. Parent and community partner education, support, and resources
C. Health and wellness of children

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
The KRC 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 PreK and K, alignment of services for transition of children from Birth into K, and a new Family Council. The KRC itself is volunteers 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
1. An aligned system between PreK and K-5 worlds is a work in progress.
2. Basics DeKalb County community saturation in progress and gathering momentum.
3. Drafted a strategic plan and worked on committee structure, communication lines, and adding stakeholders.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Serve priority populations
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)
- Increase public awareness of importance of early learning
Areas Served
DuPage County

Target Population
Children Birth to 5

Collaboration Address
2055 Army Trail Road
Addison, IL 60101

Collaboration Contact
FaKelia Guyton, MA
630.580.3125
fakelia.guyton@ywcachicago.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
Businesses
Government
Families/Community Members

Mission
In DuPage County all children have a strong foundation, ready for a bright future.

Vision
DECC is a collective impact model utilizing Results-based Accountability (RBA) for strategic planning. RBA is a process that helps communities more effectively address the significant social issues affecting children, youth, and families. The model is based upon the premise that communities can achieve transformative results when they make local system and community conditions the intentional targets of their change initiatives, when they pursue the effective implementation of their efforts, and when they build a community engagement infrastructure that supports real-time learning and action across diverse stakeholders and sectors. The RBA process culminated with the four results-based areas to prioritize: 1) Quality; 2) Access; 3) Parent Supports, and 4) Equity.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
Governance: DECC Steering Committee consists of 11 community leaders from multiple sectors representative of systems that young children and their families interact with daily.
Staff: 1 FT Director
Funding: With the generous support of DuPage Foundation’s Bright & Early Initiative, DECC is the hub for six local early childhood collaborations in Addison, Bensenville, Bloomingdale/Carol Stream, Glenbard, Wheaton/Warrenville and Willowbrook.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. The number of children enrolled in publicly funded Early Childhood programs increased by 24%. That is an increase of 396 seats for a total of 2,031 seats.
2. Our partners through coordinated community planning received an increase of 479 grant-awarded seats. That is an increase up from 1,080 seats to 1,559 seats.
3. Outreach efforts this year reached a total of 1,632 children screened for special needs and Early Intervention. And of those screened, 580 were referred to the early intervention program.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
Mission
To advocate for and coordinate comprehensive community-based supports for young children and their caregivers that promote equity and honor strengths and diversity.

Vision
All young children and their caregivers have healthy relationships, safe environments, and high-quality learning experiences in order to reach their full potential. Focus areas include:
- Professional Development
- Collaborative Screening and Placement
- Child, Family, and Community Engagement
- High-Quality Learning Experiences

Core values include:
- Address Equity & Disparity
- Honor Diversity
- High-Quality Services
- Support Whole Child Development

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
Although the Governance is still in the initial stages of development, the charter of the ECA identifies a Steering Committee, Parent Council, and General Membership. Currently, there are no full-time staff members or funding sources.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. Completion of the Early Development Instrument (EDI)
2. Charter outlining governance structure
3. Endorsed by nearly 30 organizations/individuals from various sectors

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

Mission
We are 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 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. Re-designed survey and sent to 662 Lake County providers to gain information to better serve early childhood providers and systems in Lake County.
2. Provided Tips-For-Teachers workshops throughout the year – What Is Your Legacy; Gardening with Children; Identifying and Assisting Children of Homeless Families
3. Legislative Tour – Promoting Quality Care and Education at three diverse programs.

Primary Activities & Strategies
• Increase quality of early learning programs

Areas Served
Lake County services and care providers, children and families

Target Population
Birth through 8 years

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
The Early Childhood Coalition is a dynamic collaboration that identifies needs and cultivates resources to enhance services and supports to young children and families.

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

The Early Childhood Coalition (ECC) is an independent 501(c)3. Leadership and decision-making are provided by the ECC board of directors. Board positions include: Past President, President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Members are invited to serve on committees: Program, Community Outreach, Communications/Membership, and Innovation.

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.

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Increase children’s attendance in early learning programs
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
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
Early Learning Council
Established in 2020

Areas Served
Knox, Warren, Henderson, Mercer Counties of Illinois

Target Population
High-Risk Families with Children 0-8 years

Collaboration Contact
Rhonda Hillyer
309.345.0101 Ext 1038
rhillyer@roe33.net

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
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)

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
**East St. Louis, MIECHV Collaboration**

**Established in 2018**

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**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

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

**Governance, Staffing, and Funding**
Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV), Gia Moore, Coordinator and Rachel Linzy, Coordinated Intake Worker. Funded by MIECHV. We are a comprehensive behavior health center.

**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
Elgin Partnership for Early Learning
Established in 2012

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

Target Population
Prenatal-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

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

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

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 is the 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. Served over 1500 children, parents and grandparents in 2 park sites with Talk, Play, Read, Do and Write activities for school readiness with bilingual teachers

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
**Mission**

We are a cradle to career collective impact initiative of over 40 partner organizations, including the City, school districts, and a wide range of nonprofits, that has placed a high priority on early childhood. Evanston Cradle to Career (EC2C) partners commit to acknowledge, confront, and eradicate the racial, social, and other systemic inequities, within their organizations and in the community, that undermine access and opportunity for Evanston’s youth, particularly youth of color, to achieve their potential.

**Governance, Staffing, and Funding**

All EC2C partners financially contribute to the collaborative on a sliding fee scale to ensure a strong investment in the collaboration. As such, partners are the final arbiters of EC2C decision-making. An Operations Team of 12 representatives of our partner organizations guides routine operations. An HR Team of 4 representatives of partner organizations supervises the Executive Director. A 12 member team of community members, Advocates for Action, serves as the arm of the organization into the community, provides guidance around EC2C activities, and manages a Community Building Grants Program. Staff includes an Executive Director, Director of Research and Evaluation, Community Engagement Manager, and part-time Communications and Office Managers.

**Collaboration Accomplishments**

- 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.
- 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.
- 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)
Areas Served
Marquardt D15, Queen Bee 16, Glen Ellyn D41, CCSD 89, Lombard SD 44

Target Population
Families with children prenatal through 5 years

Collaboration Address
22W600 Butterfield Rd
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Collaboration Contact
Jeanine Woltman
224.588.4012
jwoltman@casedupage.org

Communications
Facebook: http://bit.ly/geccfacebook,
Twitter: @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
The Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative in partnership with the community, works to increase access and awareness to quality learning experiences for all children birth to five and their families.

Vision
Empowering Glenbard Children and Families to reach their greatest potential.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
Governance: CASE, and CASE Board of Directors
Staffing: 1 Coordinator
Funding: Bright and Early Grant (DuPage Foundation)
ISBE PI Grant

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. This year, every district in our collaborative offers preschool to children in their communities. Some through PFA, some through Head Start Partnerships. In addition, many have increased spots available and added resources such as parent and family support.

2. We hoped for a 30% increase, but actually have a 60% increase. Specifically in the ISBE Prevention Initiative model, slots available in GlenbardPAT (program out of the GlenbardECC) alone has increased to 144 children served. In addition, families are served in their home languages, have transportation to more programs, and are connecting with needed resources.

3. Due to the added funding of GPAT and maximizing resources parent education groups now:
   • Vary in group times
   • More group locations
   • Transportation available
   • Interpreters for home language
   • Increase number and expertise of presenters
   • Increase in number of families participating

Primary Activities & Strategies
• Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
• Serve priority populations
• Implement collaborative screenings
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. ELP is the anchoring early learning collaborative of the emerging cradle-to-career collective impact effort known as East Side Aligned.

Greater East St. Louis
Early Learning Partnership
Established in 2009

Areas Served
East St. Louis School District which includes the communities of East St. Louis, Washington Park and parts of Alorton, Centerville and Fairmont City

Target Population
Families with Children Ages Prenatal to Five

Affiliation
East Side Aligned

Collaboration Contact
Alex Stallings, co-chair astallings@ketc.org
Community Engagement Manager for Early Education, Nine Network 314-512-9138

Janice Moenster, co-chair jmoenste@childrenshomeandaid.org
Director Early Childhood Services, Children’s Home & Aid 1-800-467-9200, Ext 335

Communications
www.facebook.com/GESLELP/

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

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. ELP is entering Round 2 of EDI work with Erikson Institute

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings
**Grundy Partnership for Children**  
Established in 2009

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**Areas Served**  
Grundy County

**Target Population**  
General children, but primarily birth-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

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**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

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 consensus between Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting, Illinois State Board of Education, All Our Kids, Child & Family Connections, Ounce of Prevention, and Coordinated Intake.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake

Areas Served
Cicero

Target Population
Pregnant, Children 0-3

Collaboration Address
1500 s 59th Ct.
Cicero, IL 60804

Collaboration Contact
Guadalupe Contreras
773.441.8234
guadalupe.contreras@family-focus.org

Communications
www.igrowillinois.org

Partners & Participants
ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
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
Two coordinated intake staff
Five supervisors
3.5 doulas
13 Parent Educators (Home Visiting)

Collaboration Accomplishments
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
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. Kane County AOK Networks hosts a monthly multi-sector collaboration meeting of individual agencies to address current issues and work on policies that will improve the lives of young children and their families. Membership is continuing to rapidly grow and many connections have been made in joint effort to help community members.
2. The Kane County AOK Network is initiating the Kane County Trauma-Informed Community movement and collaborating with partners to spread awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Science, hosts workforce development activities, and implement/support trauma-informed practices throughout Kane County.
3. Now that the Kane County AOK Network has successfully increased developmental screenings, we are working toward implementing a robust information and referral system that will make family services much more accessible and close the feedback loop between referring and receiving agencies.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Early childhood trauma and support
Kane County
Home Visit Collaborative (KCHVC)
Established in 2000

Areas Served
Kane County

Target Population
At risk families with children prenatal to three years old

Collaboration Address
1240 N. Highland Ave
Aurora, IL 60506

Collaboration Contact
Aracelli Mendez
homevisitation@countyofkane.org
630.208.5150

Communications
www.kanehomevisits.org

Partners & Participants
ECE providers (child care, home visiting)
Health providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)
Community organizations
Faith-based
Government
Families/Community Members
CFC, Mental Health Counseling, FCM, Domestic Violence Shelters, WIC

Purpose
To assure effective system of referral and linkage for families with young children in partnership with home visit and referring agencies in Kane County.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
Collaborative members meet at least three times a year to oversee operations, capacity, and communications. Decisions are made by consensus of agency partners of the KCHVC collaborative. The Kane County Health Department provides backbone support. Since 2012 MIECHV has funded the health department to provide the coordinated intake portion of the KCHVC collaborative.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. Successfully engaged primary care providers to refer families to home visitation in a sustained manner
2. Engaged the collaborative members in reviewing, reporting, and improving caseload capacity county wide
3. Engage the community and community partners through outreach, training, social media, and website

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
Kindergarten Readiness Goal Team: Champaign Urbana Cradle to Career (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
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 (QLP). 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)

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
Astrid Suarez
asuarez@enlacechicago.org
773.542.9233

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
Areas Served
Macon County and surrounding counties

Target Population
Prenatal and at risk parenting families of children 0-5 years of age.

Collaboration Address
1221 E Condit St
Decatur, IL 62521

Collaboration Contact
Yocelyng Stark
217.423.6988 Ext. 1332
ystark@maconchd.org

Communications
www.igrowmaconcounty.org,
Facebook: igrowmaconcounty

Partners & Participants
ECE providers
Social service providers
Education (ROE, LEA, school districts)

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

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
We are not funded and have no formal governance however we are currently 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 Coordinated Intake person.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. Add Governance Structures and Accountability
2. Defined Member Roles/Responsibility, especially trust and transparency
3. Leadership – worked on meeting structures and processes

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
Mission

McHenry County All Our Kids Networks (AOK) is a community-based collaboration committed to enhancing a high-quality, well-coordinated, easily-accessible system of services and supports that promote the positive growth and development of expecting parents and families with children from birth to age five.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

AOK works with local families and local community leaders to address local needs in our community. Our Network is a comprehensive group that works collaboratively to make the most of existing resources in our communities to promote the mental and physical well-being of families and young children. The Network is led by one part-time, Department of Human Services funded, Local Interagency Council (LIC) Coordinator that is working within the AOK framework and principles. The LIC Coordinator works at Child and Family Connections 25 at Options and Advocacy for McHenry County.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. McHenry County Developmental Screening Program utilizing the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ & ASQ- SE) – provided comprehensive training and public awareness activities, increased early identification of developmental delays, and ensured greater access for children to receive regular “learning checkups,” as well as referrals for follow-up, if needed. This screening is occurring in approximately 20+ daycares and preschools in the county. We continue to provide technical support and encourage other providers to participate in early screening and referral.

2. Shared Referral Form – addresses families unable to access services in the community and that community partners are often unaware of services and how to refer families. The Shared Referral Form was developed to streamline the referral process and make it easier for families to access services. There is continued addition of community organizations to the form with 10 organizations currently listed. Families have benefited from accessing the services in our community.

3. Continued public awareness activities through annual People In Need Forum in McHenry County – presentations to local providers and families on topics such as the importance of early screening and creating an Early Childhood Resource section in their annual resource booklet.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase quality of early learning programs
- Increase awareness of current community resources
McLean County: All Our Kids
Early Childhood Networks
Established in 1999

Areas Served
McLean County Illinois

Target Population
Pregnant women & their partners, families with children under age five

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

Vision
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 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. 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. Sent 11 health and human service providers (both for-profit and non-profit) to 2-day PSI Perinatal Mood Disorders professional development, increasing the number of providers in our community who know more about supporting and treating perinatal mood disorders (PMD). Held a community forum on perinatal mood disorders, attended by a physician, medical office managers, nurses, human service providers, home visitors, parents, mothers experiencing PMD, mental health providers, etc.
2. Trained 2,000+ community members, health and human service providers, business professionals, educators, etc., in Mental Health First Aid and Youth Mental Health First Aid.
3. Recruited and supported two AmeriCorps Members who have worked with the AOK Network on mental health issues.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Coordinated intake
- Implement collaborative screenings
- Align birth to third grade (B-3 framework)
Mission
North Lawndale Early Learning Collaborative’s 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 consensus and made as a collective.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. Partnered with community health center to message early learning programs and enrollment process on patient’s visit summary
2. Collaborative shared consensus with getting outdoor playful learning installed across the community
3. Collaboration has evolved into a resource pipeline for diverse stakeholders that provide direct services in which ultimately supports the community residents and parents that attend

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
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. Our values include 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. Partnered with Family Focus to provide home visiting services for families with children ages birth–3 years old.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Implement collaborative screenings
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
Funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Rock Island County AOK Network is staffed by one full-time coordinator. All network Partners have an equal voice in decision making.

Collaboration Accomplishments
The Rock Island County AOK Network has cross sector representation, including early learning, family support, health care, faith-based and human services.

1. Network members have increased their awareness and understanding of community services and resources to better support families’ needs.
2. Partners have identified food access issues related to our healthy childhood initiative and are working on creating a food-mapping resource for our community showing available food pantries’ locations and stock as well as farmer’s markets and community garden locations.
3. The Rock Island County AOK Network has also implemented the Learning through Play initiative throughout our community in partnership with area agencies.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Serve priority populations
- Learning Through Play Initiative
- Food Access Mapping
**Mission**

Sauk Valley STARS Early Childhood Coalition is a collaboration of early childhood providers in Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties who partner with families as they access and use community resources.

**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’s leadership structure is lead by co-chairs. Decision making is done by consensus. There is no dedicated funding for the collaboration. The coalition has developed a comprehensive MOU designed to promote coordination and collaboration in the provision of services to all children and their families, and to strengthen and build relationships among the agencies and programs serving young children and their families.

The Coalition's membership meets bi-monthly to plan and coordinate activities, share information and resources, plan joint professional development activities, prevent a duplication of services, and provide continuity of care for children and families.

**Collaboration Accomplishments**

1. Developed a system to share resources between partners, including ideas and materials for family engagement
2. Coordination and development of shared professional development opportunities
3. Increasing messaging about the importance of developmental screenings and early childhood programs through public education and community outreach activities; and improved coordination and collaboration between agencies and programs for recruitment and enrollment of eligible children and families

**Primary Activities & Strategies**

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs, particularly from priority populations
- Increase community awareness of and enrollment in early childhood and family support programs
- Increase family engagement in early learning programs
Southeast Chicago: All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks
Established in 2017

Areas Served
Roseland, Pullman, and Riverdale

Target Population
Pregnant women and children birth-to-five

Collaboration Address
11 E. Adams St,
Chicago, IL 60603

Collaboration Contact
Talia Carter
773.407.5543
TCarter2@sga-youth.org

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 Southeast Chicago AOK Network’s backbone organization is SGA Youth and Family Services. A full-time coordinator facilitates monthly Network meetings. Funding for the initiative is provided through the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. Initiated new AOK Network convening over 40 community partners serving families in Roseland, Pullman and the Riverdale neighborhood of Chicago.
2. Providing awareness and increasing knowledge of how to support families experiencing trauma and children with delays in social emotional development through service provider trainings and an annual EC Mental Health Conference.
3. Increasing service providers’ knowledge of services and resources in the community to promote comprehensive referrals so families’ needs are met through provider resource presentations and resource fairs.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Serve priority populations
- EC Mental Health Awareness
- Information and Referral Initiative

Communications
www.aoknetworks.org/illinois

Partners & Participants
ECE providers
Social service providers
Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R)
Other public services (housing, police, libraries)
Community organizations
Families/Community Members
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 / children ages birth-five

- **Collaboration Address**
  - 700 Logan College Dr. Carterville, IL 62918

- **Collaboration Contact**
  - Lori Longueville
  - 1.800.548.5563, southernillinoiscoalition@gmail.com

- **Communications**
  - [www.southernillinoiscoalition.org](http://www.southernillinoiscoalition.org)
  - [www.sifamilies.org](http://www.sifamilies.org)
  - [www.facebook.com/sicoalitionchildrenandfamilies/](http://www.facebook.com/sicoalitionchildrenandfamilies/)
  - [www.facebook.com/SIReadyFreddy/](http://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 and 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 8500 children ages birth through five years of age documented as screened for developmental delays
2. Kindergarten transition initiatives now in 5 school districts
3. New partnership with IEA/ Partnership for Resiliency adding early childhood component to Resilient SI initiative

**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, Chicago.

Target Population
Expectant mothers and children birth to five.

Collaboration Address
1701 W. 63rd St.
Chicago, IL 60636

Collaboration Contact
Sintia I. Morales
773.918.7909
smorales@childrenshomeandaid.org

Communications
www.childrenshomeandaid.org/
www.facebook.com/childrenshomeandaid

Partners & Participants
ECE providers
Health providers
Social service providers
Community organizations
Families/Community Members

Mission
The Southside Early Learning Network (SELN) is a collaborative that supports and improves outcomes for expectant moms and children birth to five in the Englewood, West Englewood, and Greater Grand Crossing 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
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 systems are created in which the school districts, community-based early childhood programs, and community agencies are serving families and children

Governance, Staffing, and Funding
Governed by an Executive Committee
Staff – FT Director, 2 FT Family Engagement Specialist, 1 PT 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

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Coordinated intake
Mission

Our new early learning collaboration strives to engage community stakeholders to work together as one to assure that all children (prenatal to age 8) and their families – regardless of race, ethnicity, language, or income – have access to the resources, services, and education they need so that they are healthy and ready to learn. The Partnership’s targeted area follows the St. Charles CUSD 303’s boundaries which includes over 4,000 children aged 5 and under. The Partnership is currently coordinated by a Child and Family Educator at Fox Ridge Early Childhood Center along with the help of a Leadership Team (currently a parent and representatives from CUSD 303, the St. Charles Public Library, and Family Focus DuPage).

We know that by learning from and engaging families and other stakeholders from throughout our community we can, together, develop an integrated system of support for all so children are healthy and ready to learn.

Governance, Staffing, and Funding

The Partnership is working to develop an inclusive and sustainable collaboration governance structure including defining membership roles and responsibilities using a collaborative research-action learning process with area institutions and community stakeholders. This process will lead to increased buy-in and support from key St. Charles institutions (e.g. CUSD 303) and new, informed stakeholders who join the collaboration, and ongoing opportunities for parents and families to inform, support, and lead the collaboration.

The Leadership Team is looking to secure funding to hire a dedicated staff person for the Partnership. Having a dedicated staff is essential for the often-difficult task of finding and engaging vulnerable/priority population families. Staffing will also greatly accelerate work on establishing governance and visioning. Our aim is to build a strong foundation, moving as quickly as possible to joint actions that lead to better outcomes for children and families.

Collaboration Accomplishments

1. Established the Partnership leadership team
2. Embarked on listening and learning campaign with diverse stakeholders to learn about perspectives on early learning, the community, and share about the Partnership.
3. Held introductory meetings regarding the Partnership with a few key stakeholders in the community including the Mayor of St. Charles, Superintendent of St. Charles CUSD 303, and Director of the St. Charles Library

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Build an early learning collaboration moving as quickly as possible to joint actions that lead to better outcomes for young children and their families.
Stephenson County: All Our Kids
Early Childhood Network
Established in 2000

Areas Served
Stephenson and Caroll Counties

Target Population
High-risk families with children 0–8 years.

Collaboration Address
10 W. Linden
Freeport, IL 61032

Collaboration Contact
Dana Keim
815.599.8404
dana.keim@aeroicn.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
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
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
Mission
Multi-sector alliance networking to impact the success of children birth to age six through policy formulation, environmental changes, and direct services.

Vision
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 by raising awareness about resources available to parents, caregivers, and early childhood providers. 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.

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
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 leading the implementation of the Integrated Referral and Intake System (IRIS) AOK pilot in Tazewell, Peoria & Woodford (TPW) Counties. 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. 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. To address root causes, Tazewell AOK began a partnership with the Home Visitor Network (HVN). A workshop series was developed focusing on 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. 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.

Primary Activities & Strategies

- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Streamline intake, referral, and service acceptance among partners
Areas Served
Wabash/Edwards Counties

Target Population
Pregnant mothers and children birth to five

Collaboration Address
130 W 7th St
Mount Carmel, IL 62863

Collaboration Contact
Mariah Barber
618.263.3873 ext 118
mbarber@wabashhealth.org

Communications
www.wabashhealth.org
www.facebook.com/AOKWabashEdwards
Wabash/Edwards AOK Network Resource App (Apple App Store and Google Play Store)
www.aoknetworks.org/illinois/

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
- 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/Edwards AOK Network Resource App. that may be downloaded through Apple Store and/or Google Play.

Primary Activities & Strategies
- Increase enrollment of children in early learning programs
- Serve priority populations
- Oral Health
WeGo Together for Kids
Established in 2016

Areas Served
West Chicago

Target Population
Families with children 0-18 years old

Collaboration Address
312 E. Forest Ave.
West Chicago, IL 60185

Collaboration Contact
Kathy Niedorowski
331.223.9070
niedorowskik@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 address the health, safety, and well-being of students and families through a collaborative, coordinated and comprehensive approach for West Chicago schools and 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.

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 facilitates 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
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)
**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. Provided Play to Learn events that focused on the importance of play in the health of the developing brain.
2. Conducted a large scale provider training that focused on increasing quality and providing professional development among early childhood service providers called the Early Childhood Symposium.
3. Increased enrollment of high need priority populations through our PEG and PI grants.
4. Increased the local messaging of the importance of universal developmental screenings through the developmental screening marketing campaign.

**Primary Activities & Strategies**

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

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 provides 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
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

Winnebago County Health Department, the state certified, nationally accredited local health department, is governed by the Winnebago County Board of Health. WCHD employs an average of 90 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

Established partnerships with DHS, local FQHC, United Way and DCFS. Instituted quarterly home visitor meetings and trainings to encourage connections, promote knowledge sharing and encourage professional development. Attended many community collaborative meetings to encourage systems development and create connections. 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
Prenatal to 5 years of age

Affiliation
DuPage Regional Early Childhood Collaboration

Collaboration Address
16W631 91st.
Willowbrook, IL 60527

Collaboration Contact
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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 has been funded through the generosity of the DuPage Foundation’s Bright & Early Initiative.

Collaboration Accomplishments
1. Based on the work of the Community Outreach Specialist, CCSD 180 has decided to support financially and expand the role to full time and that includes much needed children’s mental health services.
2. Collaboration worked to expand the Community Action Team, which promotes wellness among families and an improved environment for all children living in the Willowbrook corner. This work has fostered community leadership.
3. Through the work of the collaboration and community data the collaboration was able to secure 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.

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