

Quality Childcare and Public Preschool Partnerships: Supporting Working Parents

Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare

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5 year old's brain = 90% of adult brain weight

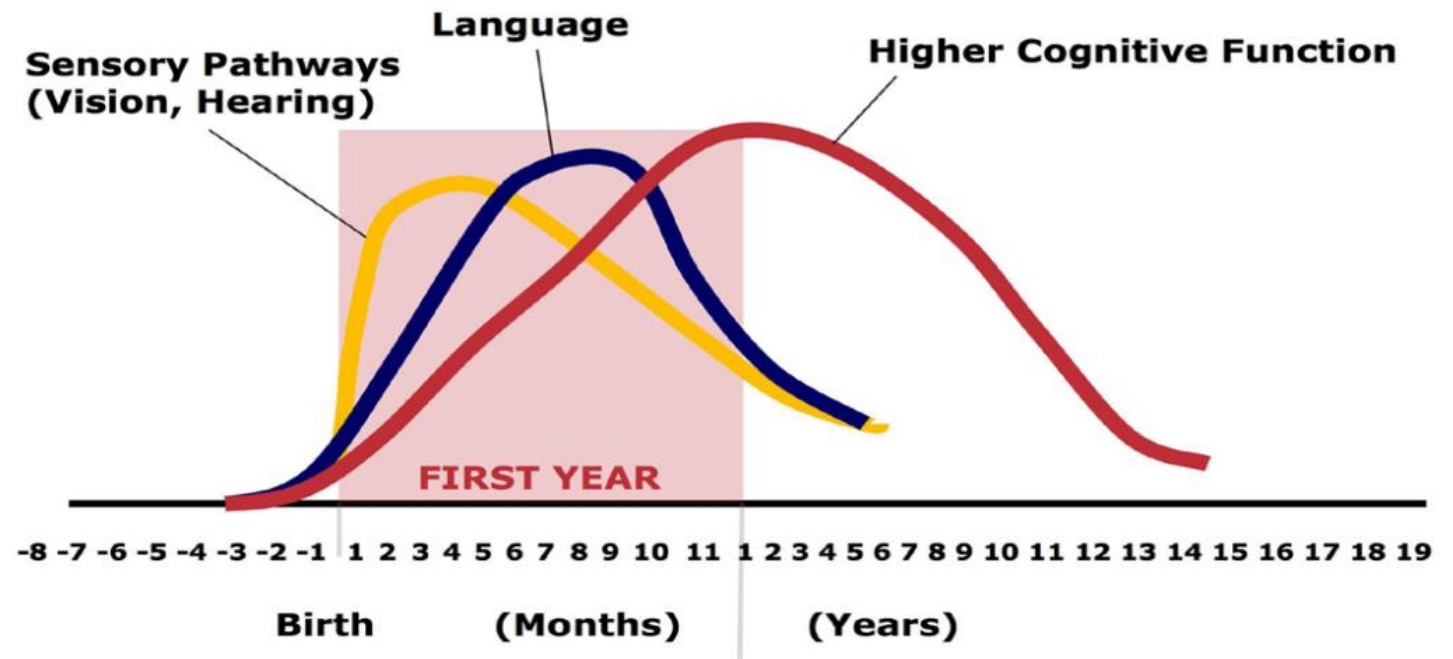


Center on the Developing Child
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

“... in the first few years of life, **700 new neural connections are formed every second.**” - Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University

Human Brain Development

Neural Connections for Different Functions Develop Sequentially



Source: C.A. Nelson (2000)

Kindergarten Readiness IMPACT

In 2019, 51.1% of children entering kindergarten were assessed as ready, leaving half of our state's children behind before they even start school.

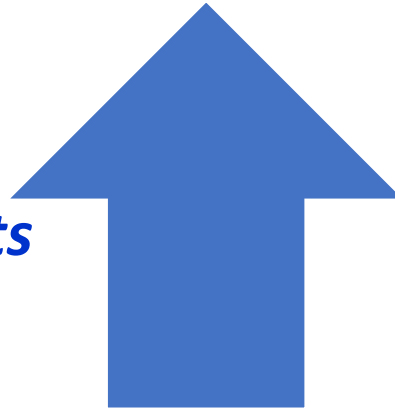
Children not reading on grade level by 3rd grade are 3 times more likely not to graduate, and K-readiness is a key benchmark for 3rd grade readiness and success.

NEED:

Full-day options
for working
parents



SOLUTION: *Kentucky
Preschool Partnership Grants*
funded from portion of
existing state-funded
preschool monies



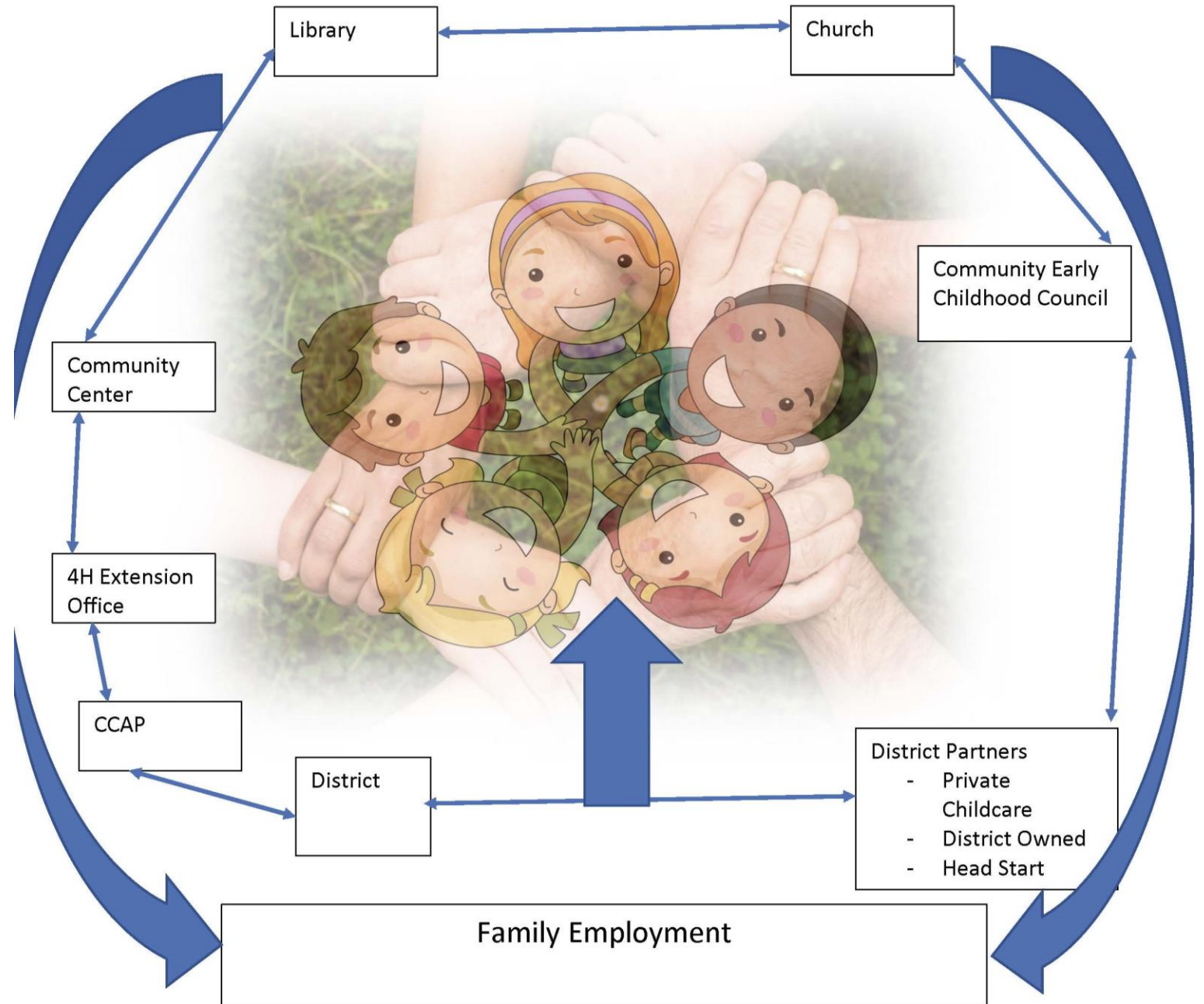
- 2016-17 pilot year total grant awardees: 69
- 2017-18 total grant awardees: 83
- 2018-20 total grant awardees: 52

Preschool Partnership Grant PURPOSE:

*To increase access to full-day
quality preschool
programming through
strengthening of
partnerships, especially for
child care assistance
program (CCAP) eligible
families.*

Holistic, systematic Approach

**One Size
Does Not
Fit All!**



... “receiving the same quality programming throughout the day” and serving increased number of CCAP children by “offering childcare options around preschool schedule to increase overall enrollment and meet childcare needs of those families”

“We work with many partners... We are grateful for the opportunity to have these grants and they have helped us to reach many more children (at least 100 per grant which totals about 300 children.) ... the model we are using where we also added social workers who work with our early childcare centers with students and families and assist with kindergarten transition. This has been a much-needed piece for early childhood as we are seeing many more children with more ACES (adverse childhood experiences) and mental health needs.”

Dr. Kara Davies

Principal, Clark County Preschool

- **Quality**
- **Alignment**
- **Access**
- **Full Day Programming**



President United Way of Kentucky

United Way
of Kentucky



To adequately support working families and their young children:

- Increase Child Care Assistance Program funding to support eligibility at 200% of FPL.
- Increase public preschool eligibility to 200% of FPL.
- Continue support for private-public preschool partnership incentive grants, distinct from public preschool funding.

Thank You for Your Time!

Any Questions?