



Early Childhood Organizations

There are three key facts about early childhood education that, when taken together, make it clear how important this area is to society:

1. 90% of a child's brain develops in the first three years of life.
2. A child in full-time day care from six weeks of age until kindergarten will spend more time in that setting than in first through twelfth grade.
3. In all three states in our region, early childhood education workers have a minimum education requirement of only a high school diploma.

It is critical that we invest to help children and youth get a successful start in life. Children who participate in high-quality early education learn better and are more successful in school and life.

The organizations profiled here exist to provide children with a solid beginning. Each has been reviewed by The Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) in the recent past.

Children, Inc.

The mission of Children, Inc. is to provide developmental experiences for children in a variety of settings, partner with families to extend these developmental experiences into the home and collaborate with the community to create opportunities that strengthen all families. Children, Inc. serves 3,500 children daily through nine child-care centers, a network of 90 family child-care homes, before- and after-school and summer care programs, and Every Child Succeeds program. The organization also maintains a statewide advocacy network, provides training to early childhood professionals, holds an

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What can you do?

This is a small sample of early childhood organizations GCF has recently supported. If you would like to contribute to one or more of these organizations or want more information please contact a member of our Giving Strategies Group at (513) 241-2880.



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annual two-day conference on brain development and is one of the most respected and largest providers of early childhood education in Northern Kentucky. www.childreninc.org

The Children's Home of Cincinnati

Established in 1864, The Children's Home of Cincinnati (CHC) offers services to children from prenatal to twenty-one in four distinct areas: Adoption, Early Childhood, Education and Mental Health. The mission of The Children's Home of Cincinnati is to improve the lives of children and their families facing social, behavioral, and learning challenges through individualized services of superior quality. Touching the lives of 4,000 people each year, CHC's wide array of services address adoptive children and families, new parents in need of guidance and support, children with special educational needs, and children with complex mental health issues. Programs are conducted on site and in home, school and community settings and are designed to promote the healthy development of children and their families.

CHC also serves as the lead agency for the **Consortium for Resilient Young Children** (CRYC), a collaborative effort to promote children's social and emotional development through consultation, coaching and training services. CRYC works to increase the professional capacity of child-care staff and increase resiliency in children, ultimately ensuring children are entering kindergarten ready to succeed. Consortium partners include: Cincinnati Early Learning Centers, 4C for Children, Cincinnati Public Schools, Children, Inc., Central Clinic and Talbert House. www.thechildrenshomecinti.org

Cincinnati Early Learning Centers

Established in 1981, Cincinnati Early Learning Centers, Inc. (CELC) is a nationally accredited, respected early childhood education provider. Its mission is to develop and operate model professional early childhood programs that meet the diverse needs of the children and families in the communities it serves. CELC currently manages six child-care centers serving children ages three months through 11 years. Annually, CELC serves approximately 500 children, the majority being infants, toddlers and preschool-age children. Approximately 68% of the families served by the organization are considered to be economically disadvantaged.

Comprehensive Community Child Care (4C)

Comprehensive Community Child Care was founded in 1972 and operates under the name 4C. Its mission is to improve the quality, availability and affordability of early child care and education throughout its 13-county region of Greater Cincinnati. 4C provides resource and referral services to parents and employers by maintaining a database of more than 1,500 child-care options in its service delivery area, as well as training and technical assistance to care providers. www.4C-cinci.org

Every Child Succeeds

Every Child Succeeds (ECS) was formed in 1999 out of a collaborative effort between Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency/Head Start, and United Way of Greater Cincinnati to promote healthy families through access to health care, enhanced child development and parent education and support. Today, the partners include 15 area community-based service providers. The mission of ECS is to offer first-time mothers and their families support to ensure an

optimal start for their children. ECS matches highly-skilled nurses, social workers, and paraprofessionals with at-risk, women who are pregnant for the first time, or first-time mothers who have at least one of four primary risk factors: single; low-income, under age 18; or late or no prenatal care.

Since 1999, ECS has served a total of 8,250 families and provided over 154,000 home visits. ECS uses a number of evaluations and inventories to measure program outcomes. The results include lower infant mortality and child abuse rates among ECS mothers, and high rates of normal child development, maternal employment and use of regular health care. www.everychildsucceeds.org

Success by 6®

Success by 6® is a partnership of individuals and organizations that share a common vision: “By age 6, all children in our region are optimally safe, healthy and prepared to succeed.” Serving as an intermediary organization in the community, SUCCESS BY 6® works on a systemic level to ensure that all children develop the emotional, social, cognitive and physical capacities and skills they need to achieve well-being and enter school ready to learn. United Way of Greater Cincinnati provides leadership for the SUCCESS BY 6® initiative serving this region. www.uwgc.org

YMCA of Greater Cincinnati

The YMCA of Greater Cincinnati has been in existence for more than 150 years and currently serves more than 431,000 people in a nine-county area through 21 branches. Programs include traditional YMCA programs as well as specialized services that are offered in partnership with other organizations. The YMCA is also the largest provider of childcare in the area with 85 day care centers. www.cincinnatiymca.org