

2017-2019 Strategic Plan Overview



Livingston County
A partner of the
Early Childhood Investment Corporation

OUR VISION A great start for every child in Livingston County: safe, healthy and eager to succeed in school and life.

A GREAT START Matters in Livingston County

It matters to families. Being a parent has never been easy. However, the increasing social challenges in today's world, economic conditions and higher school expectations have left many families struggling. Families are and will always be a child's first teacher and paramount to a child's success.

It matters to educators and service providers. When children have a great start they are more likely to enter school ready to learn, reach education milestones along the way and are less dependent on social programs.

It matters to our local community and businesses. Children who have a great start are more likely to graduate from high school, go on to higher education, be gainfully employed and own their own homes.

How are children currently doing?

In Livingston County:

- Almost 10% of children age 0-5 live in poverty.
- More than 25% of children under age 6 are low income (below 200% poverty)
- 20% of children under 18 live in single parent families which increases the likelihood of living in poverty
- Among births in 2013, 24% of women did not get adequate prenatal care.
- Kindergarten data showed that 74% of children ranked proficient overall (score of 80% or higher)
- Proficiency rates for grade 4 students were 80% for reading and 60% for math in 2013

Our Key Focus Areas

Early care

Family Support

Parent Leadership

Physical Health

Social & Emotional Health

THERE ARE
11,435
CHILDREN
AGES 0-5
IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY



90%
OF A CHILD'S
BRAIN
DEVELOPS BEFORE
—AGE 5—

THERE ARE
APPROXIMATELY
2000
DAYS
BETWEEN BIRTH
—AND—
THE FIRST DAY OF
KINDERGARTEN



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

GOAL A Children and families have access to high quality early childhood services.	GOAL B Cross-sector services, supports and opportunities are coordinated & aligned to support school readiness.	GOAL C Services, supports and opportunities are responsive to evolving needs of children and families.	GOAL D Quality early learning experiences increase school readiness.	GOAL E There is community support of quality early learning experiences impacting school readiness.
Objective A-1 A family-friendly intake & eligibility process is in place for families to access and navigate. Strategy 1 Embed family-friendly practices & language in community partners & agencies.	Objective B-1 A system is in place for regular communication between cross-sector service providers at the local level. Strategy 1 Align and integrate shared trainings, events and networking opportunities across the entire cross-sector service system.	Objective C-1 Increase the amount of input from families regarding decisions about their child and services. Strategy 1 Strategies are designed to gather and use family input. Strategy 2 Great Start Livingston will create a consistent, feasible process to gather family input regarding overall needs and concerns via a variety of surveys.	Objective D-1 Early childhood programs meet quality guidelines. Strategy 1 Offer professional development and networking opportunities throughout the year for local early childhood providers. Strategy 2 Encourage more licensed child care providers to engage in the Quality Rating System.	Objective E-1 Community partners have a shared understanding of the importance of school readiness. Strategy 1 Establish a common school readiness message.
Objective A-2 Resources & supports are in place to address gaps in the 0-8 continuum. Strategy 1 Expand and leverage informal sources of support & services for children ages 0-8 to address the gaps. Strategy 2 Implement practices which enable non-eligible families to participate in alternative programs. Strategy 3 Pursue home visiting opportunities through local resources as well as state and federal funds.	Objective B-2 The early childhood and k-12 systems are aligned to support successful transitions to kindergarten. Strategy 1 Adopt policies & practices to support communication between early childhood providers and K-12 providers. Strategy 2 Implement a Community-Wide Kindergarten Transition Plan.	Strategy 3 Empower parents to provide input.		Objective E-2 Community members have a shared understanding of how developmental milestones impact school readiness. Strategy 1 Increase knowledge of developmental milestones and delays.

For more information contact

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