



Strategy Areas

Target:

Increase percent of programs that are Parent Aware rated or accredited.

Decrease the number of programs closing that are Parent Aware rated or accredited.

Decrease the number of programs hesitant to participate in Parent Aware.

Advance and develop innovative ideas to educate, engage and empower parents and caregivers so they have the information and resources they need to

prepare their children for kindergarten.

Increase outreach and engagement activities in BIPOC and linguistically diverse communities.

Performance Measure:

HOW MUCH

Increase the percent of Parent Aware rated licensed family child care programs in the seven-county metro area from 19% to 25%.

Increase the percent of Parent Aware rated child care centers in the seven-county metro area from 55% to 60%.

Maintain or decrease the Parent Aware rated licensed family child care program closure rate at 3%.

Maintain or decrease the Parent Aware rated child care center closure rate at 1%.

Increase the number of quality trainings by 18 per year.

Increase the number of Think Small Institute enrollments from 2,300 to 20,000.

Achieve 83,000 parent engagement connections specific to quality early care and education.

HOW WELL

Effectively analyze data to reduce number of early education providers leaving Parent Aware and/or closing.

Effectively analyze data to increase the number of

early education providers participating in Parent Aware.

Authentically meeting needs of BIPOC and linguistically diverse communities.

DIFFERENCE MADE

More early education providers will earn a Parent Aware rating resulting in more opportunities for young children to receive the skills and knowledge to be ready for school and life.

Parents and caregivers have the information and resources to prepare their children for kindergarten and life.

Access to Early Care and Education

Result: Increase and retain the number of slots and jobs in licensed family child care and child care center programs in the seven-county metro area to meet the needs of families while fully optimizing all nancial assistance funds Think Small administers in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Target:

Controlling/managing/ reallocating administrative costs of Early Learning Scholarships to optimize available funding for children and families.

Educating eligible families on the most efficient use of funding supports to cover the costs of quality early care and education.

Identify other funding streams to braid with Minnesota’s Early Learning Scholarship funds, with a focus on supporting creation of Great Start Early Learning Scholarships.

Develop and implement strategies to ensure families have a variety of child care options that meet their needs.

Develop and implement strategies to support a diverse and qualified workforce.

Increase outreach and engagement activities in BIPOC and linguistically diverse communities.



Performance Measure:

HOW MUCH

Ensure 97% of Early Learning Scholarship dollars are spent each biennium in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

At least 75% of all children awarded an Early Learning Scholarship in Hennepin and Ramsey counties will come from a priority category.

No waitlist for children on the Child Care Assistance Program or Early Learning Scholarship waitlist in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Add 230 child care center jobs to the child care workforce in the seven-county metro each year.

Add 100 licensed family child care to the child care workforce in the seven-county metro each year.

Add 1,620 child care center slots in the seven-county metro each year.

Add 1,080 licensed family child care slots in the seven-county metro each year.

Achieve 28,000 parent engagement connections specific to access to early care and education.

Ensuring 75% of outreach efforts support BIPOC families in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

HOW WELL

Regularly assess opportunities to support families with spending their Early Learning Scholarship dollars and maintaining enrollment at a quality early care and education program.

Ensure our efforts are focused on children and families

with the largest opportunity gaps, with a particular focus on BIPOC and linguistically diverse communities.

Regularly monitor and analyze program closures and openings and leverage policy efforts to ensure all children have access to quality child care.

DIFFERENCE MADE

An increased number and percent of income eligible children (85% of State Median Income (SMI) or below) in seven-county metro area will enter kindergarten with at least one year of quality early care and education programming.

Parents and caregivers have the information and resources to prepare their children for kindergarten and life.

