



preschool PROMISE

Quarterly Highlights July 2020

We're innovating in response to COVID-19!

COVID-19 has upended Preschools and child care programs everywhere. **Virtually all are struggling to stay in the black** under new mandatory health and safety requirements. **When temporary State help ends, many programs may not be able to remain in business.**

Most Montgomery County programs are open. **But even though many families haven't yet re-enrolled their child, about 85% of programs are filled to the new, severely reduced capacity and have waiting lists. They can care for only about 50% of the number of children they enrolled prior to the pandemic.** Meanwhile, new child-to-adult ratios require a similar number of staff. Costs are up — revenue is down significantly!

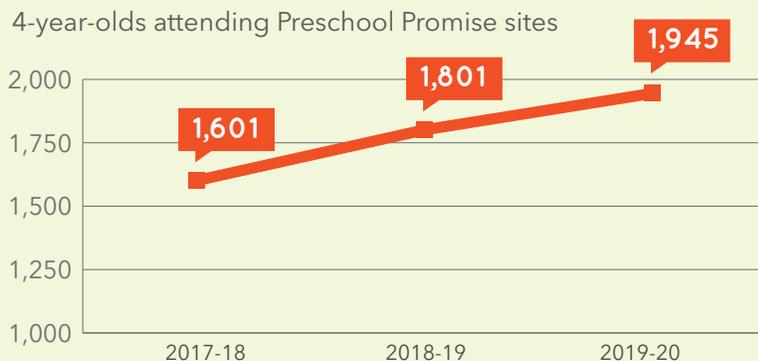
In addition, **many programs are struggling to keep staff because their employees have health concerns** for themselves and their families. If a staff member or child tests

positive for COVID-19 — a real threat given the virus' constant presence — they will have to close the affected classroom, representing another financial loss.

To help programs analyze their business options, **we are providing free consulting services** from Gail Johnson, a Minority Business Consultant with the Greater Dayton Chamber of Commerce. We also are working with Marcus Goodwin, a Toledo entrepreneur who operates a shared services program **to help providers stretch their resources.**

It's impossible to know what the new school year will bring, as more families consider sending their children back to Preschool and child care. We'll keep you posted. But many in the industry are exceedingly concerned about their viability under the pandemic rules.

COVID-19 will dramatically impact enrollment



350 families have enrolled for 2020-21 – down 50% from this time in 2019.

* In 2019-20, Preschool Promise expanded from Dayton and Kettering to Jefferson Twp., Mad River and Trotwood-Madison school districts.

f/PreschoolPromiseMC

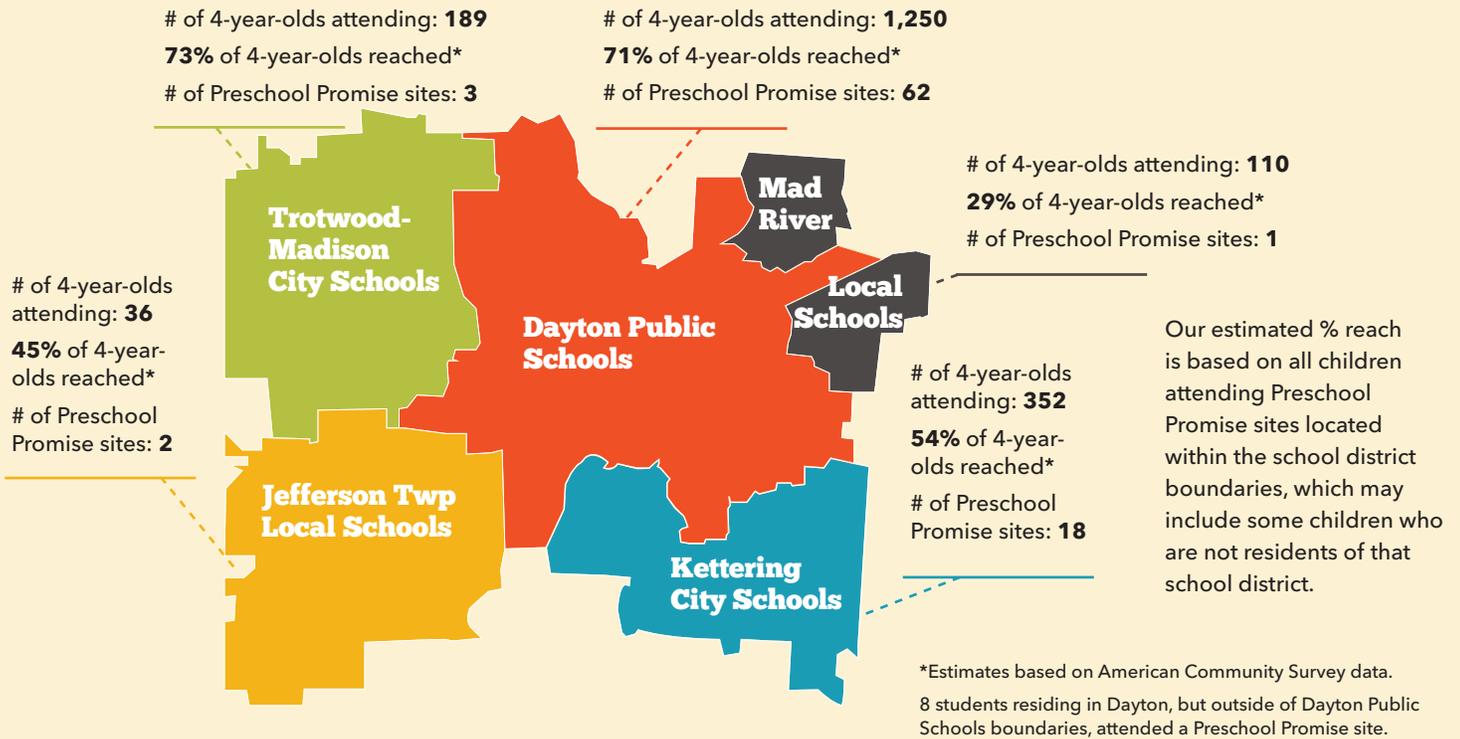
t/PPromiseMC

i/PPromiseMC

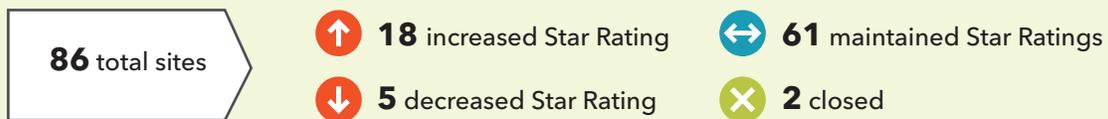


We want to reach all young learners

4-year-olds attending Preschool Promise sites in the 2019-20 school year



2019-20 Preschool Promise sites: Star Rating status



Star Rating status for ALL Montgomery County child care providers

Total licensed child care sites (centers and homes)	310	
Total child care sites with PFCC contracts	261	
Total PFCC sites currently Star-Rated	237	91%
Total PFCC sites expected to be Star-Rated by 9/1/2020	247	95%

Prior to the pandemic, Ohio had mandated that all early learning programs that accept Publicly Funded Child Care earn at least a 1-Star rating under its *Step Up to Quality* initiative by July 1, 2020. That deadline has been postponed until September 1, 2020. As programs deal with costly COVID-19 challenges, we must continue helping them earn and keep their Star Ratings. These distinctions allow programs to tap State dollars, bringing major funding to our community for high-need families.

Thanks to Montgomery County's decade-long investment, nearly all of our PFCC child care providers are Star-Rated — an amazing accomplishment. But their work is not done. All providers accepting PFCC must earn at least a more demanding 3-Star Rating by July 1, 2025.

Montgomery County continues to fund Preschool Promise to assist child care providers to improve their Star Ratings, even those not yet eligible for Preschool Promise. We partner with 4C for Children to give essential coaching to programs so they can move up the Star-Rating ladder.

How we're doing on the 3 pillars of the Preschool Promise

EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY:

- Our **enrollment outreach** has been **severely limited** due to COVID-19 and the cancellation of community events.
- Our **social media presence** has been a bright spot — engagement has exploded.
- **We reached out to 400 Dayton families** in a phone-a-thon, answering questions about child care and pandemic resources.
- **We joined the Juneteenth Celebration.**
- **We participated in Black Dads Matter.**
- With Learn to Earn, **we hosted a virtual elected officials update** in response to COVID-19.
- **We joined a roundtable discussion about child care** hosted by the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.

EXPANDING QUALITY:

- **More than 160 teachers** participated in our virtual Understanding Trauma trainings.
- **24 coaches** have joined a summer-long Professional Learning Community to get ready to use **Swivl™** this Fall. A small robot “swivels” and videotapes teachers’ interactions with students, allowing coaches to observe from a distance.
- **140 teachers are participating in 22 summer PD opportunities**, including Being a Culturally Responsive Teacher, Creating Boy-Friendly Classrooms, Developmentally Appropriate Practice, CLASS™ Curriculum and Conscious Discipline, and Understanding Trauma.
- **Total professional development registration tops 300**, with some teachers taking more than one training.
- This quarter **teachers received stipends of almost \$150,000** for participating in trainings outside of the workday.

- **We distributed almost \$375,000 in Quality Stipend Dollars** for centers to use during the pandemic.
- **100 teachers received a total of nearly \$80,000 in Teacher Promise Stipends** for having a 90% or better attendance rate.
- **We welcomed Debra Brathwaite**, a Dayton Foundation Del Mar Encore Fellow who has extensive executive experience in education, to our team. She is leading work to create an education pathway for child care professionals.
- With early childhood organizations across the state, **we hosted 8 webinars** with experts on ever-changing pandemic regulations. Hundreds of child care professionals tuned in.

ASSISTING FAMILIES

- Thanks to funding from COVID-19 Response Fund, led by the Dayton Foundation and United Way, **we provided tuition assistance to more than 100 families** whose children attended pandemic child care centers.
- We paid year-end **\$100 Star Attendance bonuses** to the families of over 500 children.
- **We helped 200 families enroll** in the online Kindergarten readiness program [Waterford Upstart](#), designed to help catch up children who missed Preschool because of the pandemic.
- **We mailed activity boxes** to Preschool Promise families to help them keep their child learning during the pandemic.
- **We held digital recesses** during COVID-19, leading families and children in fun activities.
- In place of our in-person Blast-off to Kindergarten event, **200 families joined in a virtual celebration** showcasing the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery.
- **Parent Ambassadors have met virtually** during the pandemic to discuss ways to support Preschool Promise families and recruit new families.

Thank you for your generous support of Preschool Promise!

