

January 31, 2024

Happy New Year!

Last Wednesday, we had over 80 administrators, local officials, funders and supporters attend our Annual Luncheon, where I was joined by Commissioner Debbie Lieberman, Mayor Mims and Board Chair Debbie Feldman in sharing the multiple ways Preschool Promise is putting children on the path to success.

You can access our **2022-2023 annual report** for more information on how Preschool Promise, our incredible partner providers, and Preschool Promise programs are making the most of the first five years.

Thank you all for being on this path with us!



Robyn Lightcap
Executive Director

We love our partners

We're kicking off 2024 with big plans and impactful work! In 2023, our partner providers increased in number to 122, with nearly 4,000 three- and four-year-olds attending these sites. We are particularly honored to have added an additional 11 Family child care providers.

Black Boy Brilliance in action



As of the end of December 2023, 920 people have attended a screening of the Black Boys documentary. With our goal of 1000 viewers in sight, we will be looking to schedule showings early in 2024.

Our Site Ambassadors continue to have a meaningful impact in the classrooms. The students at Dayton Children's Child Care Center are so excited when they see Ambassador Chris Raines (or Uncle Chris, as they have anointed him) arrive in the classroom, and their teacher, Mrs. Bell, has noticed an increase in conversations since his visits

began. Their desire to speak with him has increased peer-to-peer communications. Mr. Raines stays through lunch and storytime and tucks them in for their rest. For him, the work is a meaningful way for children to interact with a black man in their day-to-day lives, not just seeing athletes and celebrities on television.

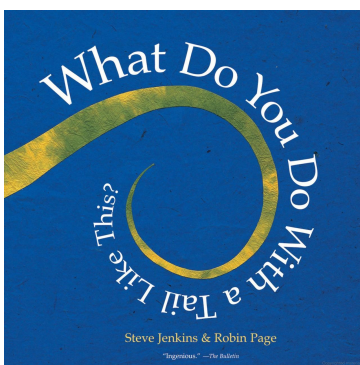
We are still accepting applications for Site Ambassadors, particularly those with 2nd shift availability. You can access the application [here](#).

Impact of Conscious Discipline research grant

Preschool Promise has been awarded a highly competitive \$4 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant will support our work to research the impact of **Conscious Discipline**, an evidence-based, trauma-informed method for improving students' social-emotional skills and classroom quality, all impacting outcomes for school readiness.



“We are proud to have won this intensely competitive grant that will put us in the vanguard of early education research relating to Conscious Discipline and its impact on classroom quality and student outcomes,” said Robyn Lightcap, Executive Director of Preschool Promise. “We are one of just 45 organizations and collaborators nationally to be chosen for this round of Education Innovation and Research grants. With the help of our amazing local early education partners and a highly respected evaluation team, we’re going to learn more about how to ensure all our young children start Kindergarten on track — not behind.”

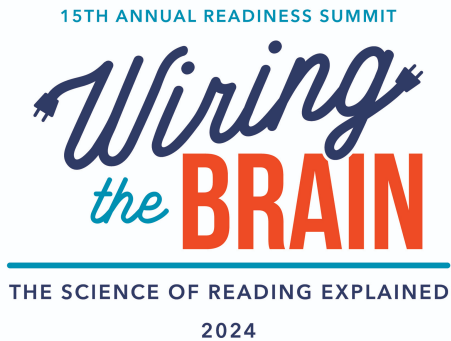


Our January Book-of-the-Month, *What Do You Do With A Tail Like That?*, is a non-fiction picture book that stirs the imaginations of readers young and old. Along with December and February’s titles, this book highlights opportunities to practice a Core 4 Skill. **Talking and Reading** involves exploring words that rhyme, name recognition and sharing thoughts out loud to help children build reading skills. The January Playkit gives kiddos opportunities to write their own stories and illustrate them too!

Did you know? **Dayton Metro Library** includes our Books-of-the-Month in their Dial-A-Story titles. Families can call 937-250-7500 to listen to a selection of stories read by library staff or a guest reader. Our Book-of-the-Month is always the final selection on the list.



Join us at the Readiness Summit



The 15th Annual Readiness Summit will take place at Sinclair College on Friday, March 1, beginning with breakfast at 7AM. This event is free, with advanced **registration** required. Keynote Speaker Susan Neuman is a lifetime award winner for research in literacy development and a member of the reading Hall of Fame. Following the morning session, attendees can choose from 12 Breakout Sessions. We look forward to seeing you there.

City of Dayton funding renewal

Tuesday, March 19th is primary day!

the current eight-year income tax (formerly known as Issue 9). Issue 6 revenue will be used to support public safety, high quality preschool education for all 3- and 4-year-old children in the City of Dayton, and investments in housing. You can find more information on the City's **website**.

Register to vote online by February 20 - here is information on how to do this:

<https://www.montgomery.boe.ohio.gov/registration/>

Thank you for your generous support of Preschool Promise!

