

Experience the
PROMISE

August 20, 2025

preschool
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
PROMISE

Welcome to the
EXPERIENCE
the **PROMISE**
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ *Luncheon!*

On behalf of the entire Preschool Promise team, I want to extend a warm welcome and heartfelt thanks for joining us for this unique look at the work Preschool Promise is doing in Montgomery County. Your presence and participation mean so much to us.

The hands-on experience you just completed was designed to give you a glimpse into the daily realities of those who are directly impacted by access – or lack of access – to high-quality, affordable Preschool and child care. You’ve had the opportunity to walk in the shoes of one player, but the work of Preschool Promise involves a web of interconnected lives. That’s why, as you gather around your tables for lunch, we invite you to explore additional scenarios representing other vital stakeholders in this community.

These scenarios are not hypothetical. They are built from real conversations, classroom experiences and the problem-solving efforts our team navigates alongside families and educators every day.

As you talk at your table, we encourage you to share what stood out to you as we work together to support our youngest children. We believe that when we invest in young children, everyone wins.

Thank you again for being here, for your curiosity, your insights and your continued support. Together, we are making the Promise a reality.

With gratitude,

Robyn

Robyn Lightcap
Executive Director



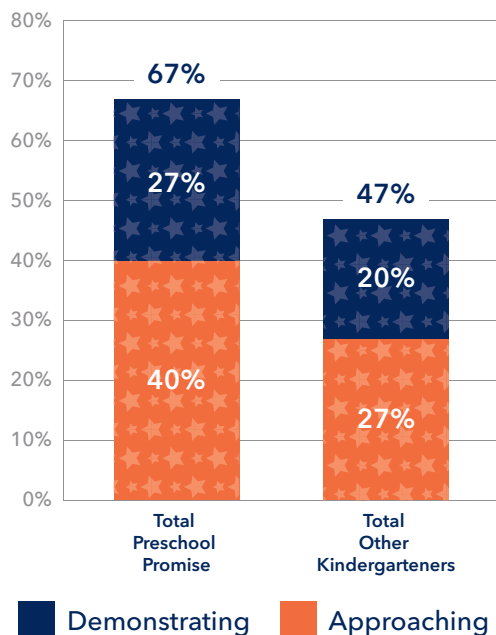
The Reach of **OUR PROMISE**

3,700+
CHILDREN

125+
SITES

325+
CLASSROOMS

Preschool Promise children are more ready for Kindergarten as determined by Ohio's 2024 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment



OUR STRATEGIES

- ✓ *Enroll Families*
- ✓ *Improve Quality*
- ✓ *Partner with Families*

Assist Families

919 CHILDREN RECEIVED
\$2.4 million
IN TUITION ASSISTANCE



2,400 BOOKS DELIVERED MONTHLY

2,400 KINDERGARTEN READINESS PLAY KITS
DELIVERED QUARTERLY

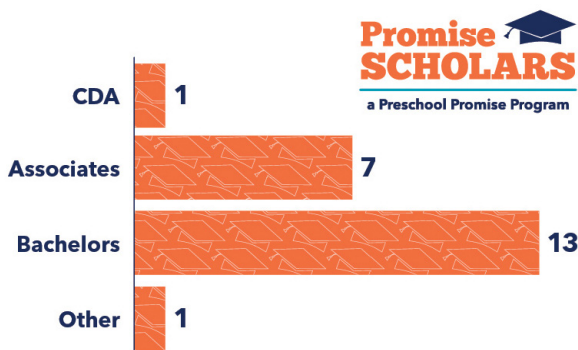
Improve Quality of Preschool

230
TEACHERS
EARNED
\$152,000
IN STIPENDS
FOR YEAR LONG
TRAINING

**Black Boy
BRILLIANCE**
a Preschool Promise Program

440
VOLUNTEER
HOURS
AT SITES

2024-25 GRADUATES BY DEGREE



22
Teachers completed a credential in Early
Childhood Education this school year

97
Total graduates since beginning of program

98% OF PRESCHOOL PROMISE
SITES HAVE EARNED A GOLD RATING



Educate the Community

Our Ready to Read program with Omega CDC brings all of the strategies to the Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood.



IN PARTNERSHIP



PRESCHOOL PROMISE HAS PLACED
over 10,000 books
INTO OUR LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES
WITHIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.



This year, we launched Be Ready by 5. In partnership with 20 other local organizations the program provides families with additional resources and support for their children's health and learning with focus on:

- Pregnancy Support
- Parent and Family Connections
- Development Milestones
- Health, Wellness and Safety
- High-Quality Child Care and Preschool



The eligibility screener is now live; we are working on Phase 1 of a common application.



MORE THAN NUMBERS

With passionate people and purposeful programs, Preschool Promise continues to expand its reach and deepen its impact. Thank you for partnering with us to achieve our vision that every child in Montgomery County is ready for success in Kindergarten and beyond.

the **PARENT/CHILD** *Experience One*

The Situation

- A single mother has a 4-year-old son.
- She earns \$16/hour.
- She is juggling unpredictable work shifts and side gigs.
- This mother receives publicly funded child care.

The Challenges

- Locating a Preschool near public transportation that accommodates the mother's work hours and is affordable.
- The mother was informed at morning drop-off that their publicly funded child care benefits have ended, and they must reapply/rectify with the job center.
- They will be billed the private pay tuition rate until it is reinstated, which is a \$300 increase per week!
- Son's behavior challenges in class have been observed; the mother is worried he will be kicked out.

The Opportunities

Preschool Promise collaborates to assist families in navigating other application processes, such as publicly funded child care, and determining which of our 125 partner providers will fulfill the needs of the family. The team aids families in understanding the wide variety of programs in their area that might best suit their needs, such as schedule, curriculum and services available.

Preschool Promise can also help locate a Preschool near public transportation, to accommodate a parent's work hours and be affordable with the public assistance and the tuition assistance received from Preschool Promise.

NOTES

the **PARENT/CHILD** *Experience Two*

The Situation

- A father moves to Montgomery County after becoming the primary parent of a school-age son and a 4-year-old daughter, and is overwhelmed on where to start.
- The Preschooler is exhibiting developmental delays and behaviors that may require evaluation for services.
- The father's literacy skills are challenged by reading with children.

The Challenges

- The Preschooler is kicked out of a family child care due to the center's inability to meet the child's needs.
- Dad is being encouraged to read more with the child at home, but he does not have strong literacy skills himself.
- Dad is stuck between picking up extra hours at work and attending parent-child learning workshops that would benefit his child.
- The family received a 30-day notice to vacate their home. This disruption affects routines the family's well-being.

The Opportunities

Preschool Promise collaborates with over 20 organizations in Montgomery County to connect families to resources that help prepare children aged 0-5 for success in Kindergarten and beyond. We help families make literacy a part of everyday life by mailing around 2,400 books monthly, complete with open-ended questions to encourage conversation. Quarterly Play Kits encourage meaningful play, learning and reading—all from the home. These experiences support Kindergarten readiness, strengthen adult-child bonds and connect learning at home with what happens in the classroom.

NOTES

the **TEACHER** *Experience*

The Situation

- A Preschool teacher with 15+ years of experience is concerned that their education and resources are not meeting the needs of the Preschoolers and their families.
- There is uncertainty about whether they can continue to do quality work.

The Challenges

- A child with chronic absenteeism may lose voucher funding and fall behind in Kindergarten readiness.
- Professional development opportunities are held in the evenings, following a full day of teaching, and the teacher has no child care for their own children at home.
- The behavioral challenges of a student leave the teacher feeling defeated for not having the answers – they are aware that it is taking time away from the rest of the class.
- Supply budget cuts are also impacting the classroom and the students' ability to learn.
- Family engagement requirements have low parental involvement and/or the ability to attend due to limited resources.

The Opportunities

Preschool Promise provides over 10 year-long Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) for teachers and administrators. The data shows children have higher readiness for Kindergarten if they are in a classroom with a teacher participating in PLCs. This year's offerings include math, dialogic reading, science, leadership and social-emotional learning. Teachers collaborate with fellow participants, sharing ideas and resources and receive on-site coaching once a month. Preschool Promise pays teachers stipends for attending.

NOTES

the **ADMINISTRATOR** *Experience*

The Situation

- A Preschool director struggles to keep a high-quality rating amidst a large turnover of teachers.
- Familiar faces and routines in the classroom help create the consistency for children to build close bonds, making your center feel like a community.
- It is important factors like this that increase attendance and the Kindergarten readiness of students.

The Challenges

- The director's lead teacher submits a two-week notice, leaving for an office job with better pay and benefits. The average wage for a Preschool teacher is \$13/hour.
- A teacher has been accepted into an accreditation program that will increase their qualifications, but requires time away from the classroom to complete.
- The Preschool receives a parent complaint about how a teacher has been treating their child with special needs.
- The Preschool receives notice that a major source of funding will be reduced next year. Without it, tuition will have to go up, and many of the school's families cannot afford to pay more.

The Opportunities

The Preschool Promise Scholars Program helps early child care educators in our partner programs earn credentials and degrees. We can provide financial aid to cover tuition and even assist with out-of-pocket expenses. Scholars work at least 15 hours per week at a partner center, and Preschool Promise provides substitute teachers if/when the Scholar needs to be out of the classroom for school. Nearly 100 teachers have completed their schooling and/or accreditation through this program.

NOTES

the **BUSINESS OWNER** *Experience*

The Situation

An employer is managing a team with employee availability challenges, especially when dedicated employees start missing shifts because of child care issues. The employer wishes there were better solutions for parents, knowing that the lack of reliable, affordable early child care makes everything harder – for the business and the staff.

The Challenges

- Hard-working, dependable employees are missing shifts due to issues related to child care.
- Because of recurring absences due to a lack of affordable child care options, the employer considers offering a stipend, but worries about the extra expenses and administrative burden.
- Work shift times rarely align with available child care hours of operation. Families need before/after school care, second shift and overnight shift options that are medal-rated.
- The employee absences and retention problems are affecting business efficiency. The business's clientele is noticing and is also affected.

The Opportunities

Some Preschool Promise providers offer second and third shift child care – and our Preschool Promise team help families find child care that meet their needs. Over the past year, Preschool Promise has partnered closely with the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce to make connections with business leaders to discuss the importance of child care. Child care is critical for business success because it supports the workforce by reducing absenteeism and improving productivity.

NOTES

THANK YOU



to our Amazing Sponsors





If you appreciate the work Preschool Promise is doing in our community, scan here to make a secure donation.



Thank you for your generous support of Preschool Promise!



preschool
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PROMISE

because the first 5 years matter

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