

The Educare Model and Learning Network

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Ounce of Prevention Fund

January 2013

Georgia Budget and Policy Institute

*Education and Workforce: Solutions that Move
Georgia Forward*

Educare: A Brief History



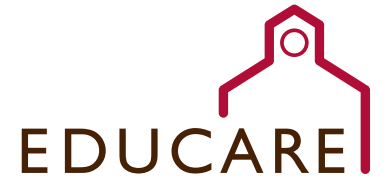
- Opened in 2000 on Chicago's south side
- Not originally conceived as a national model
- Focuses on delivering evidenced-based practices to young children at-risk to ensure school readiness & narrow the achievement gap
- Braids funding streams, e.g., Head Start/Early Head Start, Child Care, State PreK
- "Dials Up the Quality"
- Demonstrated results from rigorous Educare Implementation Study
- National foundation funders: Buffett, Kellogg, Gates, Harris, Pritzker, Kaiser, Wellspring
- Organic growth
- A network is born



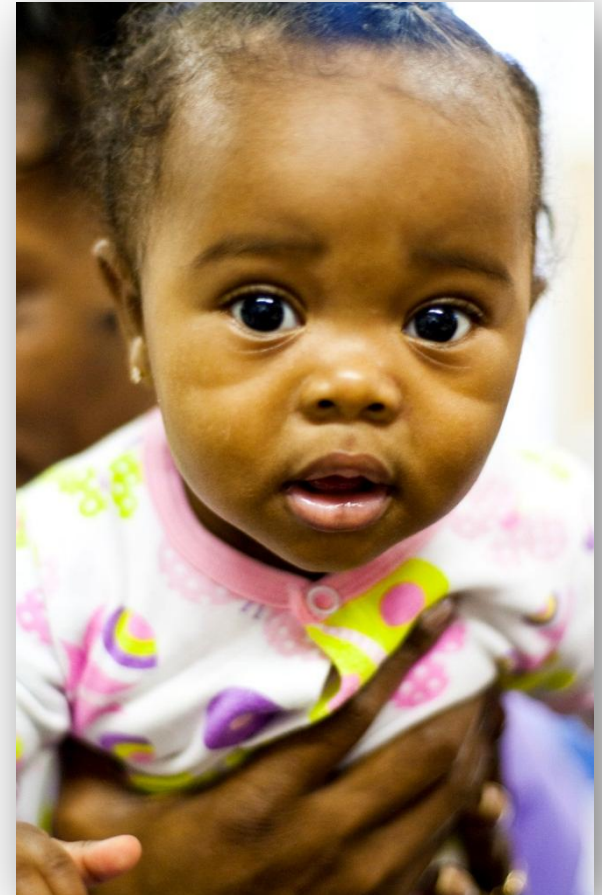


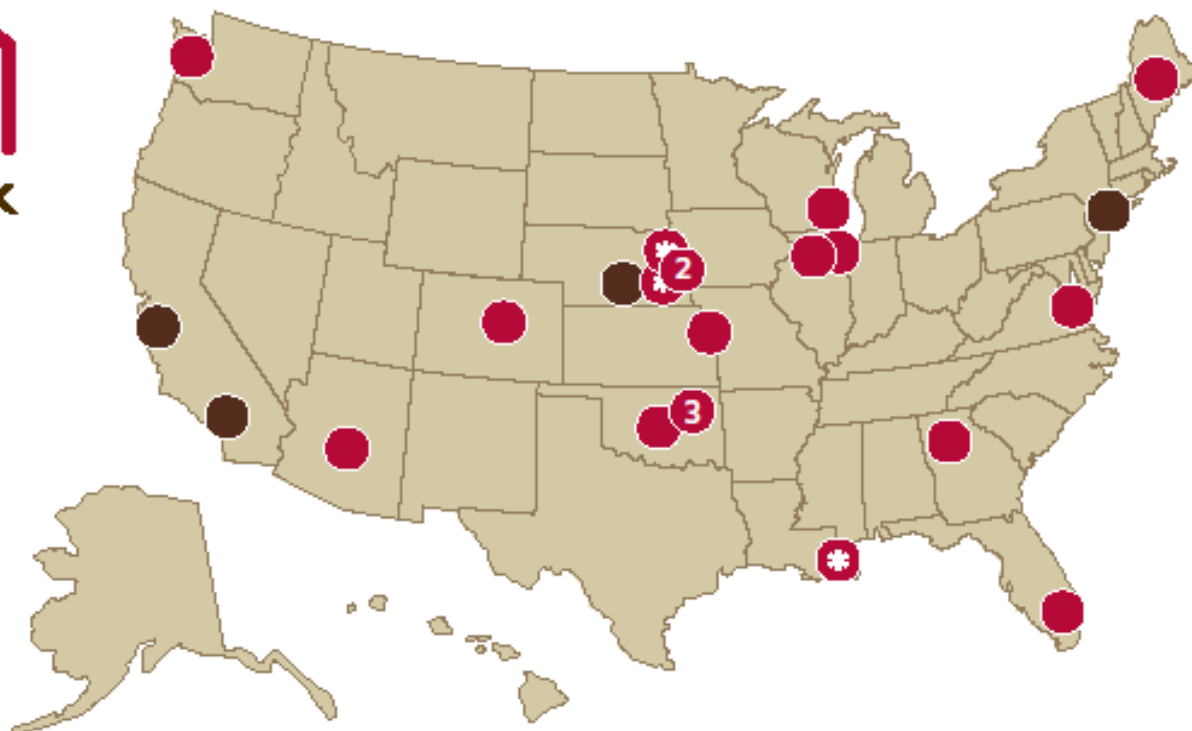
Chicago

What is Educare?



- School Level
 - Partnership
 - Program
 - Place
 - Platform for Policy Change
- Educare Learning Network





Operational Schools

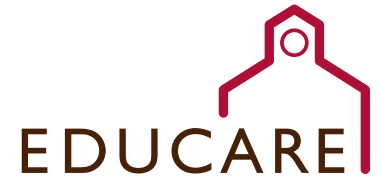
- Chicago
- Omaha at Kellom
- Omaha at Indian Hill
- Milwaukee
- Tulsa at Kendall-Whittier
- Tulsa at Hawthorne
- Tulsa at MacArthur
- Denver
- Miami-Dade
- Oklahoma City
- Seattle
- Kansas City, KS
- Central Maine (Waterville)
- Arizona (Phoenix)

- Washington, DC
 - West DuPage, IL
 - Atlanta
 - Lincoln, NE*
 - New Orleans*
 - Winnebago, NE*
- * Under construction

Schools Under Development

- Silicon Valley (San Jose)
- Los Angeles
- New York City
- Kearney, NE

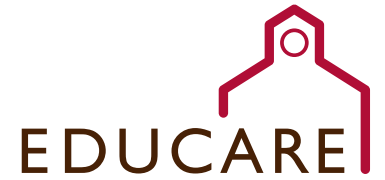
The Educare Learning Network



- A network of 20 operational or “under construction” schools implementing the Educare model and approach
- A forum for Educare leadership and staff to receive
 - program, administrative, research, and policy implementation assistance
 - training & peer learning support
 - joint problem-solving focused on continuous quality improvement of the Educare model



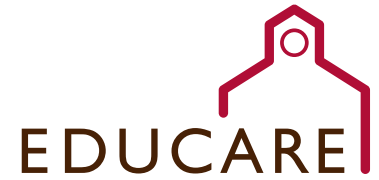
What is Educare? A Partnership



- Provider (Head Start/Early Head Start)
- Anchor philanthropist
- Public School District
- Community partners
- Government officials
- Families
- Children
- Staff



What is Educare? A Program



A research based early childhood model that focuses on ensuring school readiness in children most at risk for academic failure

- Dosage and Duration (e.g. 0-5; focus on service intensity and duration)
- Effective Educational Practices and Well Qualified Staff
- Embedded Professional Development
- Family Engagement & Leadership





Omaha at Kellom

Omaha at Indian Hill





Milwaukee



Denver



Miami-Dade



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Oklahoma City

Tulsa



Kendall-Whittier



Hawthorne



MacArthur



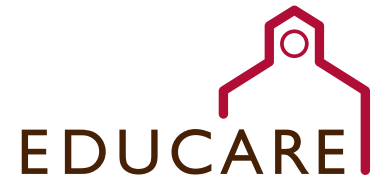
Central Maine



Kansas City



Seattle



Arizona

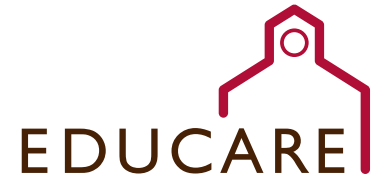


Washington, DC



West DuPage

What is Educare? A Platform for Policy Change

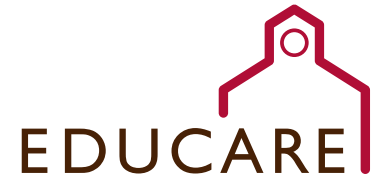


Expand access to high quality early learning to young children at risk by extending best practices and working to advance policy change and increased investments

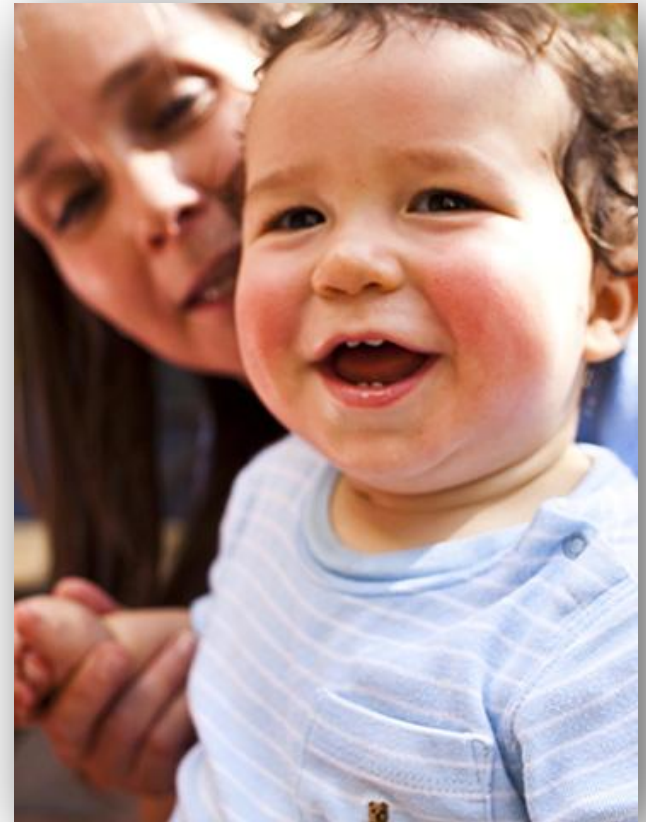
- Work with state advocates and others to coordinate and leverage policy change at national, state and local levels
- Design & implement strategies to extend quality “beyond the walls”



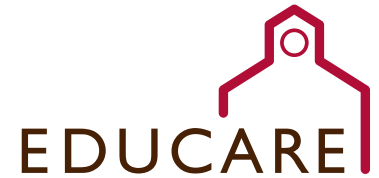
What Educare aims to do



- Use our **evidence, expertise,** and dynamic **partnerships** to:
 - **Eliminate the persistent achievement gap** for our nation's most at-risk young children.
 - Ensure all children and families, have **access to effective early learning opportunities**
 - Establish the first five years will be an integral **part of the nation's education system**

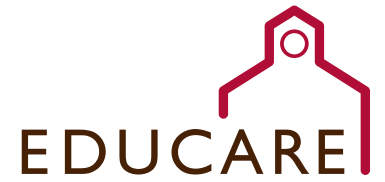


The Educare Approach



- **Dosage and Duration**
(e.g. 0-5; focus on service intensity and duration)
- **Effective Educational Practices and Well Qualified Staff**
- **Embedded Professional Development**
- **Family Engagement & Leadership**

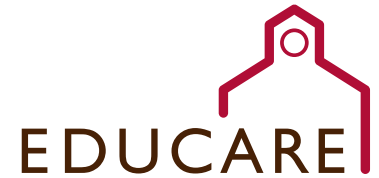




Demonstrating
Results:

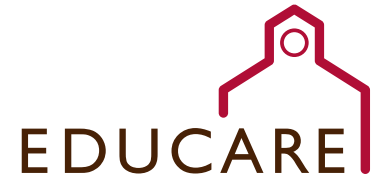
Educare Data
Highlights

Demonstrating Results: Two Key Studies' Findings

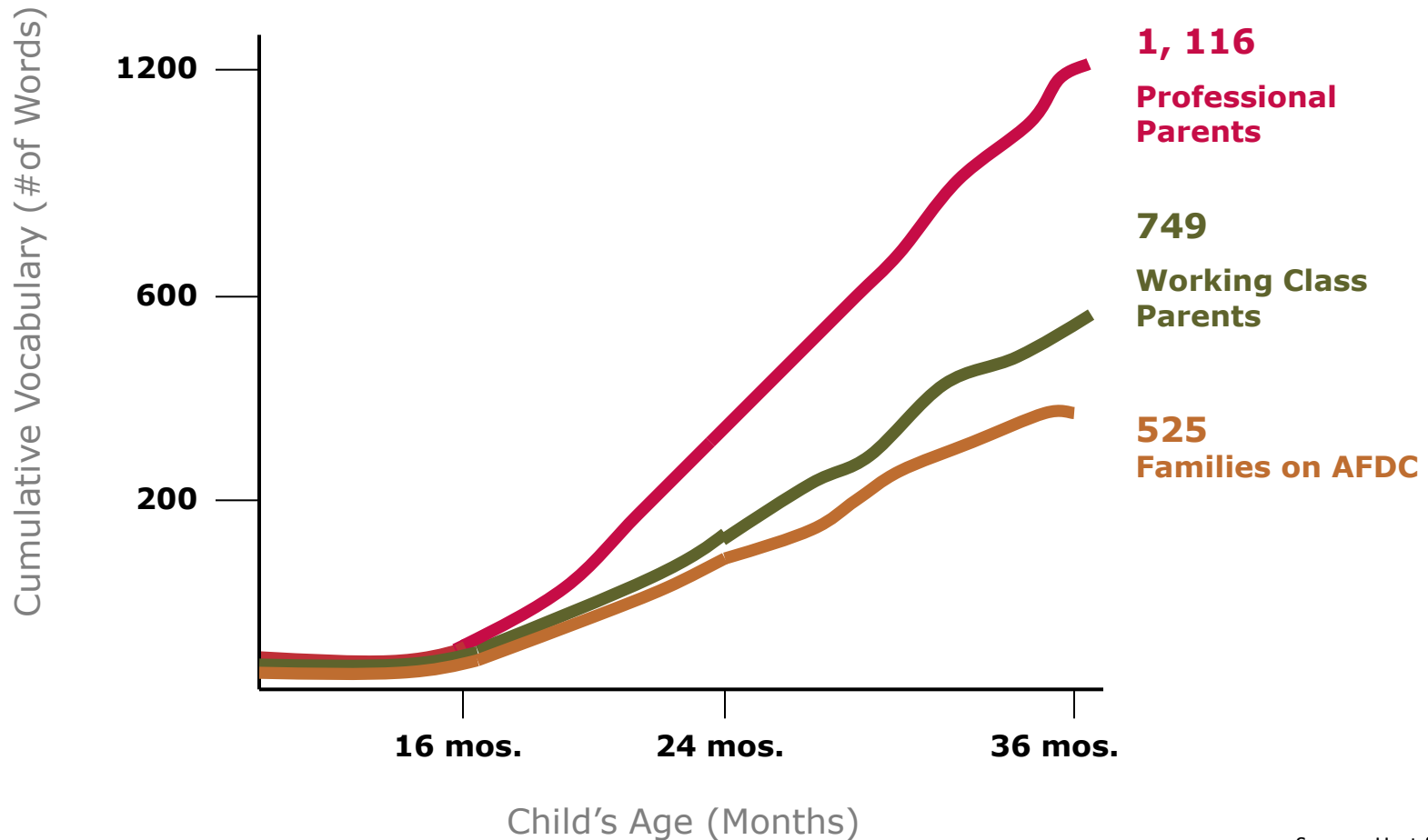


- Educare Implementation Study (2011-12 School Year)
 - 12 Educare Schools
 - 1,500 parents,(70% enrollment)
 - 1,800 children received one or more assessments
- The Chicago Follow-Up Study
 - Elementary school performance of children who have matriculated from Educare of Chicago and Educare of Omaha at Kellom
 - 230 children in 8 cohorts, one cohort added each fall, with oldest Chicago cohort now in 7th grade
 - Comparison group of Chicago Public Schools students from the same schools and classrooms

The achievement gap starts well before Kindergarten

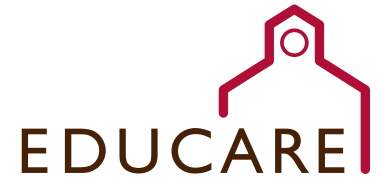


Disparities in early vocabulary development



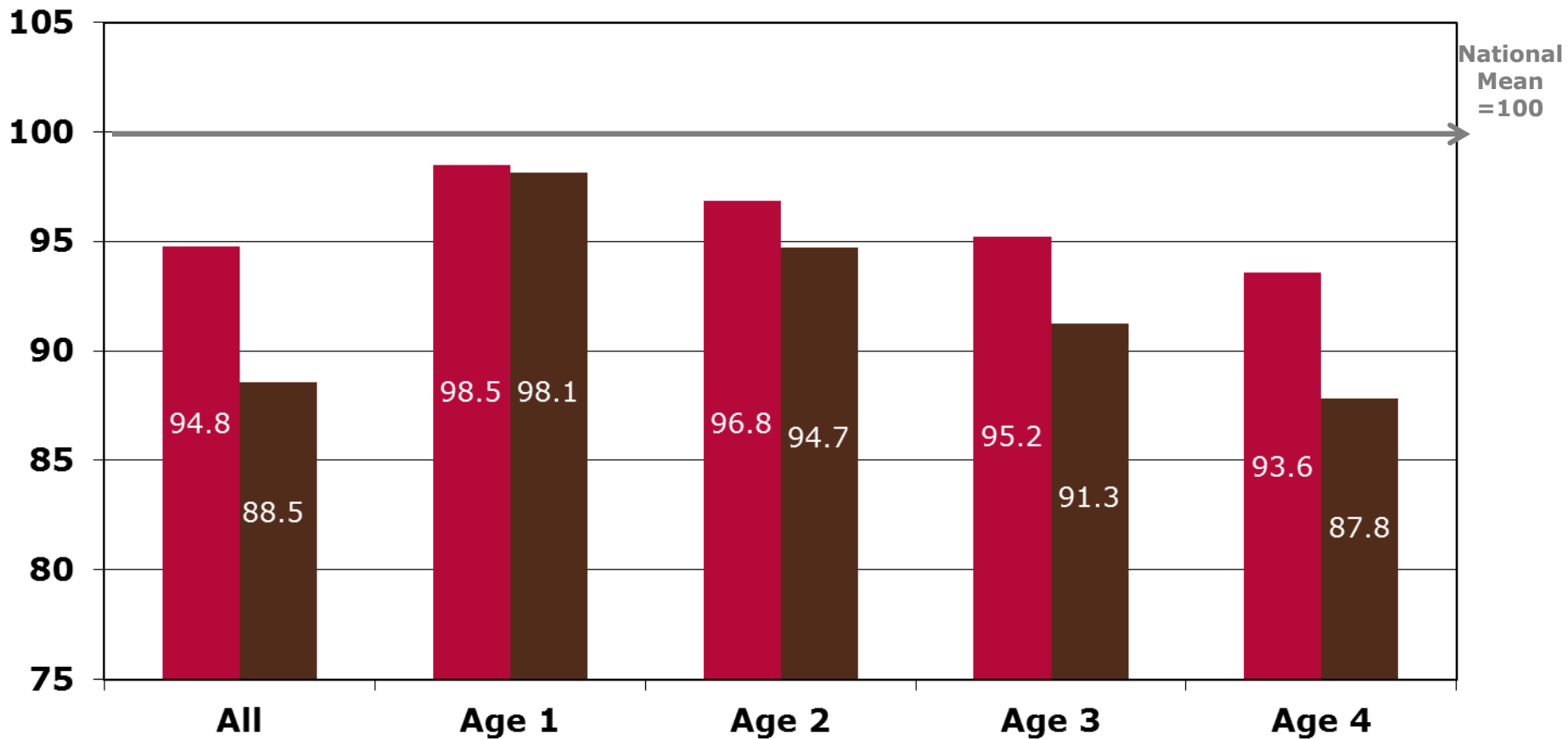
School Readiness: Early Entry Matters

Educare children emerge prepared for Kindergarten



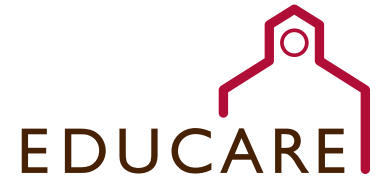
■ English (n=749)

■ Dual Language Learners (n=387)



English Bracken scores of kindergarten-bound children, by age of entry into Educare (all sites), 2007-11

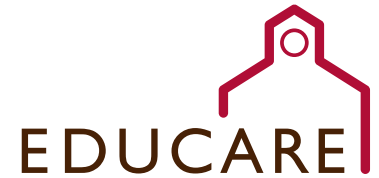
What Will I See and Hear in an Educare Classroom?



- Happy, exploring, and confident children interacting with professional, engaged, enthusiastic and instructionally-effective staff.
- Language being developed through language modeling, conversations, questioning, repetition and extension, self and parallel talk, and the use of a variety of words and phrases
- Numeracy, problems solving skills, and scientific exploration with content-based materials through conversation, open-ended questions, and the use of different manipulatives
- Social, emotional, and executive functioning skills being taught intentionally and being formed through relationship building with teachers and peers
- Children engaged in play with materials, environments, and their peers, as well as in activities and experiences that teachers have designed with *intentionality*.

You will be able to identify, see, and hear, children developing their concept understanding through their play and activities.

Sustaining the gains: What happens in elementary school?



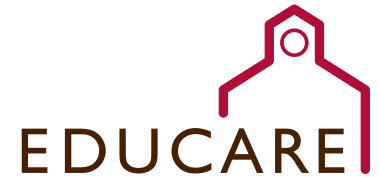
Vocabulary: In Chicago, data indicates that the vocabulary gains that children achieve at Educare are sustained—and even grow slightly—by third grade.

Grade retention: Nearly 100% of Educare children are successfully promoted from one grade to the next in elementary school, with less than 1% retained in grade.

Social and emotional skills: Students exhibit self-management skills, goal-directed behavior and decision-making skills—all of which help them to be successful students.

Sustained parental involvement: 75% of Educare parents in the study are rated by elementary school teachers as being actively involved in their child's schooling.

Families



Earlier is better for families, too!

Families are supporting their child's learning and development

"I try to extend his vocabulary whether it's constantly naming different items or helping with the pronunciation of words or teaching him some of the tricks I know too - for math or trying to sound the word out and things like that."

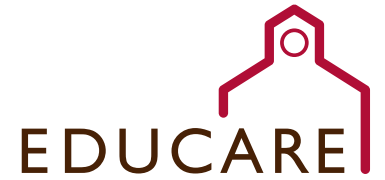
Families are more likely to advocate for their child and communicate with teachers

"She was always, like in their folders she was always saying this is what we're doing, this is what's possibly going to be on the test, you know, the standardized tests. This is where you need to focus more with [my child]."

Parent is reflective about her/his parenting and its impact on the child

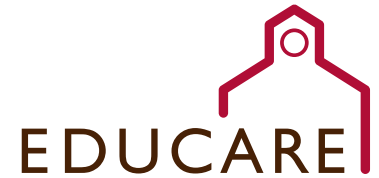
"She's getting older, you know. And I just pretty much have to educate myself on watching the things I say around her. I find myself paying more attention to her. Just trying to reach her, you know."

Practices to Extend Program Quality: Examples from the Network



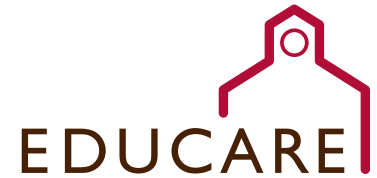
- **Educare Omaha** houses a resource room and training center that provides training, technological resources and curriculum materials for other early childhood providers.
- **Educare Milwaukee** extends selected Educare core features to a private early childhood program in the community.
- **Educare Tulsa** operates a health clinic on-site to provide community health services and partners with the University of Oklahoma to enhance workforce development.
- **Educare Miami** hosts a website, “Ask the Expert,” for practitioners to communicate with experts in the field as well participating in a local radio show that features interviews with early childhood experts on EC administration.
- **Educare Central Maine** serves as a demonstration site for state leaders to promote legislative and administrative changes that will impact all agencies’ ability to provide comprehensive, effective programs.

Policies and Investments to Scale the Availability of Quality



- Financing to support:
 - Comprehensive, integrated services from birth
 - Staff & strategies to strengthen family engagement
 - Structures for professional development
- Policies and Regulations to facilitate:
 - Braiding and leveraging multiple funding streams
 - Teacher efficacy and quality assurance

Policies and Investments to Scale the Availability of Quality



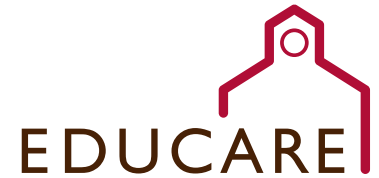
Dosage and Duration

- Funding and Prioritizing funding to serve children most at risk starting at from birth
- Providing full day/full year services and allow off-hour care and care for while parents attend school
- Require developmentally appropriate licensing standards for teacher: child ratios/class sizes and continuity of care

Effective Educational Practices and Well Qualified Staff

- Fund and require B.A. and M.A. Level teachers with specialized early childhood training
- Require evidenced-based curriculum
- Fund data systems that collect meaningful data and promote k-12 data alignment
- Support teacher efficacy by establishing program components to effectively use child assessment data (i.e. embedded coaching)to inform their practice in classroom

Policies and Investments to Scale the Availability of Quality



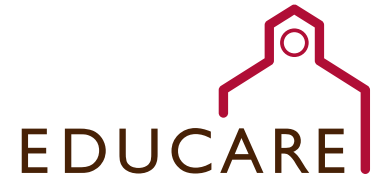
Professional Development

- Set aside proportion of funding for ongoing training
- Provide funding to incent educational attainment (scholarships, salary based incentives) and expertise in 0-3

Intensive Family Engagement

- Provide state funding & enact policies that promote family support staff and activities
- Ensure standards that promote successful collaboration and family transition to K-12 system

Thank You



For more information on the Educare Learning Network, the Buffett Early Childhood Fund and the Ounce of Prevention Fund please visit the following websites:

- www.educareschools.org
- www.buffettearly.org
- www.ounceofprevention.org



Q & A