

PRE4CLE | *a celebration of our fifth year*

high

About PRE4CLE

PRE4CLE is Cleveland's plan to expand access to high-quality preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds in Cleveland. PRE4CLE connects parents to high-quality public and private preschool programs, connects preschool providers to tools and resources to increase their quality and serve more children, and provides strategic leadership to accelerate the availability of high-quality preschool in Cleveland.

PRE4CLE was developed by a steering committee of more than 50 community leaders in 2014 to fulfill a core goal of *Cleveland's Plan for Transforming Schools*. PRE4CLE is grounded in research, built from best practices, and created specifically to serve Cleveland's children. PRE4CLE officially began its work in March of 2014, guided by The Cleveland Early Childhood Compact, a public-private leadership body. This fourth annual report of PRE4CLE reflects accomplishments as of June 2019.

DEFINITION OF HIGH-QUALITY: PRE4CLE defines high-quality preschool programs as those that have a rating of 3 to 5 stars in Ohio's Step Up To Quality rating system. Step Up To Quality recognizes and promotes early learning programs that meet research-based quality standards that lead to improved outcomes for children.

NOTE ABOUT DATA: All data from this report reflect progress as of June 2019. Data were gathered from several sources, to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for providing their time and expertise. In particular, we thank Case Western Reserve University, through the Jack, Joseph, & Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, which worked with PRE4CLE to analyze the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment data as well as data on high-quality preschool sites and child enrollment. We also thank our high-quality providers for willingly sharing their data with Starting Point.

Dear friends and stakeholders, anniversaries are a time for reflection, taking stock of what's been accomplished, and looking ahead to what's next. At PRE4CLE, we are excited to celebrate our 5th anniversary this year and reflect on the many victories that we have accomplished together during these five years, as well as the new goals and challenges that lie ahead as we strive toward the expansion of high-quality preschool for all of Cleveland's children.

From the beginning, PRE4CLE's focus has been on supporting our youngest students to enter kindergarten fully prepared to succeed. **Five years in, nearly 70 percent of children who spend a year in a PRE4CLE classroom are starting kindergarten with the skills they need to succeed!** Research tells us that those children are significantly more likely to reach reading and math proficiency throughout their school career, graduate from high school, and go on to have higher levels of post-secondary and career attainment.

Since PRE4CLE began in 2014, 24 of 34 Cleveland neighborhoods have increased the number of kids enrolled in high-quality preschools and **the number of high-quality preschool seats in the city has increased by 2,300,** helping to ensure that children throughout Cleveland have access to high-quality preschool near their home.

Why is quality so important to us? Because research shows that having elements such as degreed teachers, smaller class sizes and lower teacher-to-student ratios, a research-based curriculum, and robust family engagement make all the difference for reaching our kindergarten readiness goals.

That's why we're so excited that we have increased enrollment in high-quality preschool by 72 percent since 2014! Overall, **more than 19,000 children have received a high-quality preschool education since PRE4CLE began.**

So many partners have been critical to these successes, but as we turn the corner to a new phase of our work, we want to especially highlight the amazing families, preschool teachers, and preschool administrators who do the most important work of caring for our preschool students every day. They embraced this mission with open arms, and their efforts have made these victories possible.



We also want to thank our many funders, community partners, supporters, staff, and members of the Cleveland Early Childhood Compact. We truly could not have a more committed, supportive, and energized team putting the wind at our back.

In the pages that follow, you will find more details on the "State of Preschool" in Cleveland, PRE4CLE's progress toward meeting our goals, and a sneak preview of the new challenges that PRE4CLE will tackle during the next five years.

We hope that you will reach out to us with ideas, questions, and feedback as we work to ensure that every child in Cleveland has the strong start they need to succeed.

Sincerely,

Eric Gordon :: Co-Chair, Cleveland Early Childhood Compact and CEO, Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Marcia Egbert :: Co-Chair, Cleveland Early Childhood Compact and Senior Program Officer for Human Services, The George Gund Foundation

Katie Kelly :: Executive Director, PRE4CLE



25,000
*families reached
through our
enrollment campaign*

\$57 million
*in new state funding
for local early learning
programs*

179
*high-quality
preschool
programs*

HERE'S A BIG HIGH FIVE!

19,000
*kids served
in high-quality
preschool
over five years*

72% increase
*in high-quality
preschool enrollment
since 2014*

IT ALL ADDS UP TO SUCCESS! As the number of high-quality preschools continues to grow, more and more children in Cleveland are able to experience the excitement and joy of learning. They're given the chance to grow socially and develop emotionally. And they're prepared to walk into kindergarten ready to conquer the world.

Here's to five years of giving our smallest students a strong start!



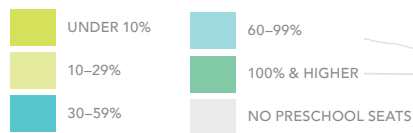




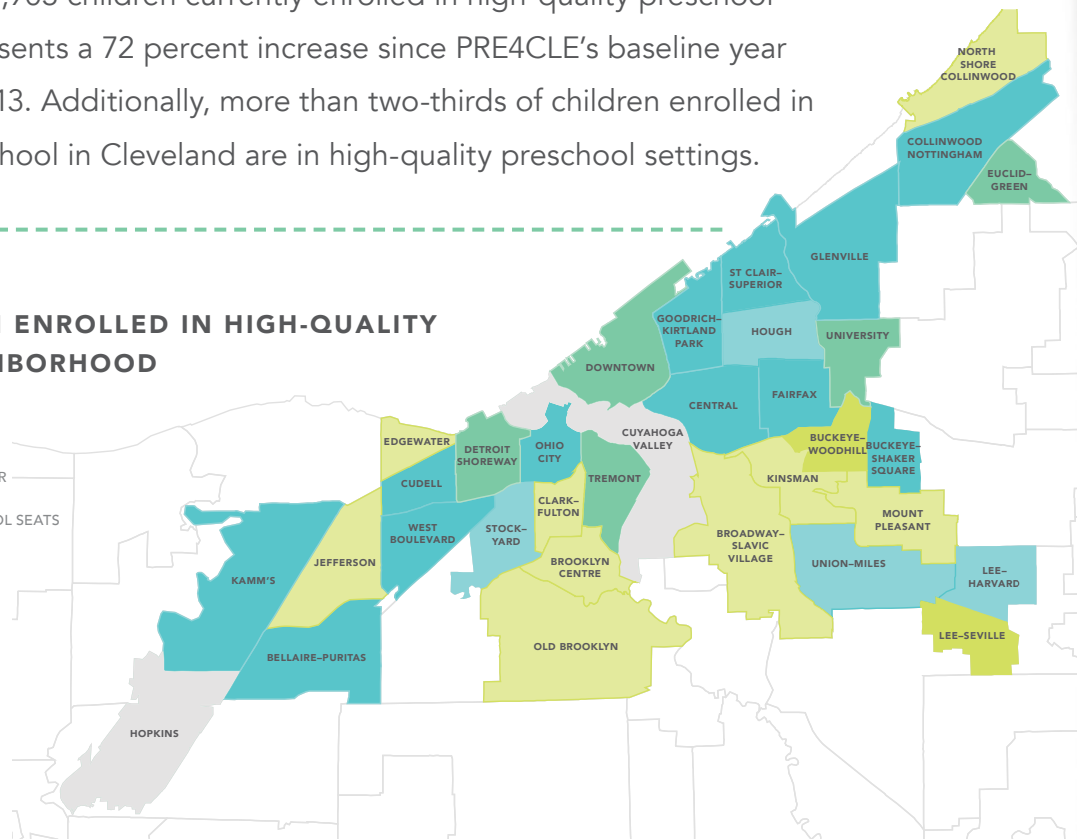
State of Preschool

The 4,903 children currently enrolled in high-quality preschool represents a 72 percent increase since PRE4CLE's baseline year of 2013. Additionally, more than two-thirds of children enrolled in preschool in Cleveland are in high-quality preschool settings.

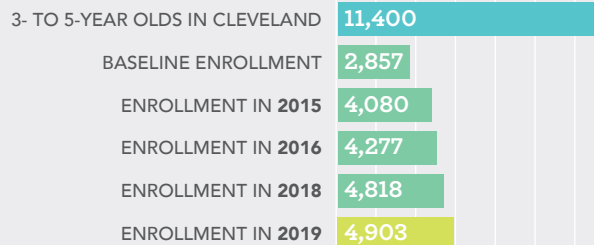
PERCENT OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN HIGH-QUALITY PRESCHOOLS BY NEIGHBORHOOD



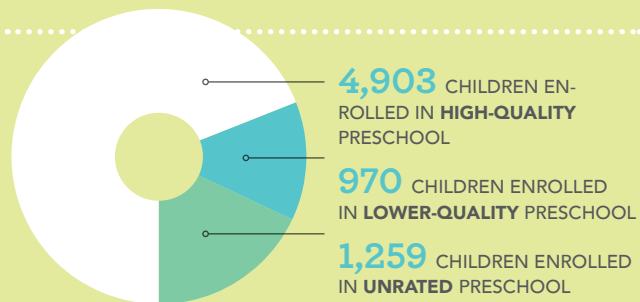
Note: Population data based on the US Census Bureau, Census 2010 and 2012-2016 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. Data on children enrolled are from Starting Point.



4,903 3- TO 5-YEAR-OLDS ENROLLED IN HIGH-QUALITY PRESCHOOL



7,132 3- TO 5-YEAR-OLDS ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL IN CLEVELAND



Note: High-quality preschools include those rated 3, 4, or 5 stars in Ohio's Step Up To Quality 5-star rating system. All CMSD seats pending rating are assumed to be high-quality, as defined in the original PRE4CLE Plan. Lower-quality preschools are those that have 1- and 2-star ratings.

5

Cleveland
neighborhoods
with the biggest
enrollment increase
since 2014

- 1 DOWNTOWN
- 2 EUCLID-GREEN
- 3 STOCKYARD
- 4 DETROIT
SHOREWAY
- 5 GOODRICH-
KIRTLAND PARK



Enrollment Benchmark

Our goal is to have 45% of Cleveland's children enrolled in high-quality preschool by June 2019 and 50% by June 2020. Though we fell slightly short of this year's benchmark, the current enrollment in high-quality preschool represents a 72% increase since PRE4CLE began.

43%

of preschool-aged children are enrolled in high-quality preschool as of June 2019.

An estimated **19,000 children** have been served in high-quality preschool since PRE4CLE began.*

5 OUTREACH STRATEGIES PRE4CLE is working to ensure that families understand the importance of high-quality preschool and have the tools they need to find and enroll in the right high-quality preschool for their child.

Over the past five years, PRE4CLE reached 25,000 families through its year-round outreach campaign.

PRE4CLE Preschool Palooza and Preschool Open Houses

connect parents directly with high-quality preschool providers through family-focused events.



Partnerships with more than 40 Community Organizations

help PRE4CLE staff connect with families through trusted institutions and distribute our materials throughout Cleveland.

Tables at Community Events

put PRE4CLE staff in Cleveland neighborhoods to meet hundreds of Cleveland families where they are.



Phone Conversations and Referrals

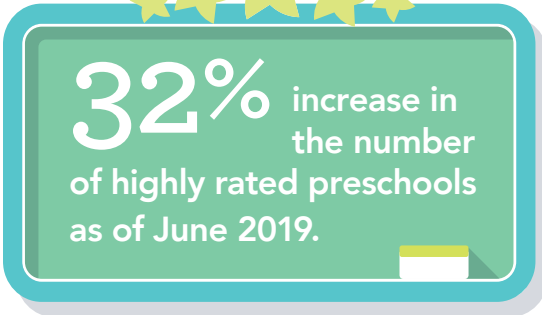
ensure Cleveland families find the right high-quality preschool to meet their needs. These efforts have resulted in hundreds of children enrolling in high-quality preschool.

A Coordinated, Multi-Media Marketing Campaign

across TV, radio, social media, and digital advertising has resulted in millions of impressions to help spread the word about the importance of high-quality preschool.



*This estimate is calculated using the sum of 4 years of June enrollment data, less 20% to account for the average number of 3-year-olds served per year, plus all of 2019 June Enrollment data. 3-year-olds were excluded from the first 3 years of data to ensure they were not double-counted. We assume 3-year-olds were captured in the following year's enrollment data when they were 4. We believe this to be a conservative estimate of the number of kids served in high-quality preschool between 2015 and 2019 in the City of Cleveland.



Provider Benchmark

Our goal was to increase the number of Step Up To Quality highly rated preschool programs by 20% between July 2018 and June 2020. **We are happy to report we have already exceeded this goal!**

WHAT IT TAKES TO BECOME A HIGH-QUALITY PRESCHOOL

The 173 highly rated preschool providers in Cleveland have worked hard to receive their 3-, 4-, and 5-star Step Up To Quality ratings. Their teachers and staff have participated in hundreds of hours of professional development and training, and the programs have invested in a research-based curriculum and the supplies needed to implement it.

PRE4CLE, through our lead agency Starting Point, supports this work by providing technical assistance and professional development tailored to each program's needs and by working with providers every step of the way to achieve their quality goals.

All this work on the part of Cleveland's preschool providers has paid off. Today, more families have access



PRE4CLE Providers meet additional standards above and beyond what Step Up To Quality requires.

118 Providers have gone above and beyond the requirements for the state's high-quality ratings to become PRE4CLE Providers. These preschools have maintained a lower student-teacher class ratio and hired staff with higher education levels.



65% increase in high-quality
preschool seats since
PRE4CLE began.

to high-quality preschool than ever before. In fact, since PRE4CLE began, there has been a 65% increase in the number of high-quality preschool seats available across the city.

PUBLIC PARTNERS IN PRE4CLE'S SUCCESS

Since 2014, PRE4CLE has partnered closely with the State of Ohio and Cuyahoga County's Invest in Children to reach our goals for increasing the number of high-quality preschool programs in Cleveland. These important government partners provide resources for professional development, teacher scholarships, child care subsidies, and many other supports to improve program quality.



5

ways to know
a preschool is
high-quality

ENVIRONMENTS

that are fun, welcoming,
safe and caring

STAFF AND TEACHERS

who are well-trained
and professional

RESEARCH-BASED CURRICULUM

and feedback about
your child's learning

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

to prepare children
for kindergarten

CREATIVE AND IMAGINATIVE PLAY

to inspire a lifelong love
of learning

High Fives from PRE4CLE Providers

In celebration of our fifth birthday, we asked some of our providers to prepare their own “Top 5” lists. Each of these providers has been a part of PRE4CLE’s major initiatives over the past five years.

A Jubilee Academy used PRE4CLE’s Accelerated Quality Improvement Model to support training and professional development and purchase supplies needed to rapidly receive a high-quality Step Up To Quality rating.

OWNER CHALFONTE SMITH ON 5 WAYS QUALITY PRESCHOOLS MAKE CLEVELAND BETTER

- 1 Provide a safe place for children to grow and learn;**
- 2 Help children have better-developed language and social skills when they get to kindergarten;**
- 3 Provide the future leaders of Cleveland with the tools and fundamentals needed to be successful;**
- 4 Allow families to engage in their child’s lives in a way no other program can;**
- 5 Show that Cleveland wants to make a difference for our children’s future.**



Salvation Army Ohio City used PRE4CLE’s Classroom Startup Grants to purchase materials and cover additional start-up costs to open new preschool classrooms in their high-quality preschool site.

5 WAYS PARENTS BENEFIT BY ENROLLING THEIR CHILD IN PRESCHOOL FROM DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION MARITZA LINARES

- 1 Ensures that parents can feel secure while they are working;**
- 2 Enables parents to work or attend school or training ;**
- 3 Gives parents access to additional social services;**
- 4 Engages parents with other parents who have similar challenges;**
- 5 Supports parents with children who have special needs.**

The Music Settlement is a legacy UPK provider that uses the county funds to continuously improve and increase their quality and provide scholarships to families to attend their high-quality preschool.

5 REASONS A QUALITY PRESCHOOL IS WORTH IT BY CENTER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD CHAIR KAREN HEITLINGER

1 Offers a supportive community of parents; 2 Provides critical home-school connections; 3 Provides a high-quality education; 4 Sets children up for school and social success throughout life; 5 Helps children develop independence and problem solving skills.

Marion Sterling, like many preschools across Cleveland, provides services to children with special needs, giving more children access to the supports they need to be successful in school.

EDUCATOR LYNDA ZBINEVEC ON 5 WAYS TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1 Nurture children's curiosity; 2 Provide safe environments for children and their families; 3 Set a positive example and motivate children; 4 Use children's strengths to help build their areas of growth; 5 Provide resources to help meet all of the family's needs.

Corinna Bryant is a family child care home provider who gives children a high-quality early education experience in her home, helping families access the type of care they need.

CORINNA'S TOP 5 GOALS FOR EVERY STUDENT

1 Foster a love of reading; 2 Teach basic concept skills such as colors, numbers, counting and alphabet recognition; 3 Encourage the development of fine and gross motor skills; 4 Teach self-help skills; 5 Develop social and emotional skills such as sharing and waiting your turn.



5

ways kids
demonstrate
kindergarten
readiness



EARLY
LITERACY SKILLS



EARLY
MATH SKILLS



POSITIVE
INTERACTIONS
WITH TEACHERS
AND PEERS



ABILITY TO SUCCEED
IN A CLASSROOM
ENVIRONMENT



ENTHUSIASM
FOR LEARNING



Kindergarten Readiness Benchmarks

65% of PRE4CLE students are

Demonstrating or Approaching School Readiness with

29% Demonstrating School Readiness.

49% of PRE4CLE students are

On Track in Language and Literacy.

PRE4CLE had two Kindergarten Readiness benchmarks for the fall of 2018. Our first goal was that 65% of children who attended a PRE4CLE Preschool were in the Demonstrating or Approaching School Readiness bands of performance on Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA), from the baseline of 60% in 2015, with at least 25% in the Demonstrating School Readiness band. Our second goal was that 50% of children who attended a PRE4CLE Preschool were On Track on the Language and Literacy subscale of the KRA, from the baseline of 45% in 2015. Children in PRE4CLE classrooms are making gains on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. In fact, **we are exceeding our benchmark for percentage of children Demonstrating School Readiness by nearly four percentage points!**

WHAT IS THE KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT?

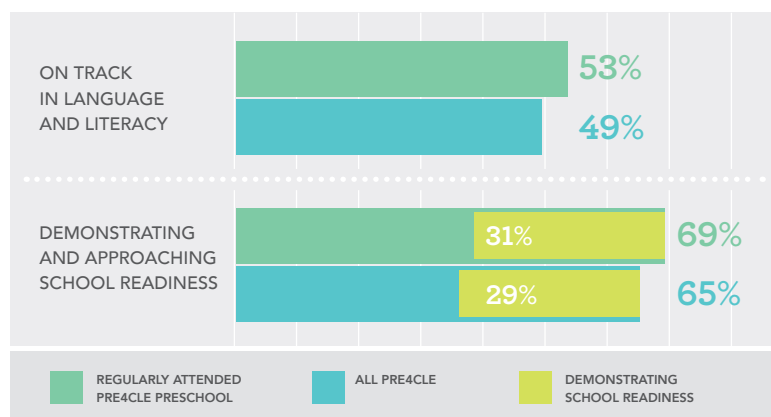
The Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) is administered by a child's teacher in the fall of their kindergarten year. The assessment is administered in three ways: selecting an answer to a question the teacher asks, performing a requested task, or being observed by the teacher during school and at recess.

The KRA uses a variety of developmentally appropriate tasks to assess four areas of a student's development and learning: language and literacy, mathematics, social skills, and physical development and well-being. Each child receives a score for each area, as well as an overall score.

The overall score is the total of the scores in each of the four areas and is divided into three bands of performance: Demonstrating Readiness, Approaching Readiness, and Emerging Readiness. The Language and Literacy assessment also divides its score into two levels: On Track and Not On Track.



More Time in a PRE4CLE Classroom Increases Kindergarten Readiness



Children in PRE4CLE classrooms are gaining the skills and knowledge they need to be ready for kindergarten, but children who regularly attend a high-quality preschool perform even better. These results show the importance of enrolling children in high-quality preschool early and encouraging good attendance once they are enrolled.

NEW KINDERGARTEN READINESS BENCHMARKS

Since previous benchmarks expired in the fall of 2018, the following new benchmarks will measure our success toward improving kindergarten readiness in Cleveland over the next year.



67% of children who attended a PRE4CLE Preschool are in the Demonstrating or Approaching School Readiness bands of performance on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, with at least 30% in the Demonstrating School Readiness band, by 2020.

52% of children who attended a PRE4CLE Preschool are On Track on the Language and Literacy subscale of the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment by 2020.

NOTE: In this analysis, we focused on children who attended PRE4CLE sites in the City of Cleveland in 2017–2018 and attended CMSD for kindergarten beginning in the fall of 2018 (N=1,258). Children who regularly attended PRE4CLE are defined as those who attended at least one day for eight or more months (N=1,063). These children were given the KRA upon their entry to kindergarten in the fall of 2018. The total sample of children in CMSD kindergarten classrooms who took the KRA in the fall of 2018 is N=2,738.



5

advocacy victories in five years

INCREASING STATE FUNDING FOR PRESCHOOL :: During the past five years, PRE4CLE led advocacy efforts to increase state funding for high-quality child care programs that serve Ohio's low-income families. **PRE4CLE's advocacy leadership resulted in more than \$57 million in new state funding for Cuyahoga County's child care programs!**

INCLUDING 3-YEAR-OLDS IN OHIO'S EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM :: In 2017, PRE4CLE successfully advocated to state lawmakers to allow 3-year-olds to participate in the Early Childhood Education program, adding 3,500 more kids to the program statewide.

EXPANDING CUYAHOGA COUNTY'S UPK PROGRAM :: In 2015, PRE4CLE joined with public and private leaders to advocate for the expansion of Cuyahoga County's Universal Pre-K (UPK) program, giving more than 6,000 additional children access to UPK in Cleveland since the 2015 expansion.

SAVING OHIO'S KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT :: In 2018, PRE4CLE led an effort to prevent the elimination of the statewide Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, a key tool for measuring the impact of Ohio's early education programs.

PUTTING CLEVELAND ON THE MAP FOR EARLY EDUCATION :: PRE4CLE's efforts have been recognized nationally as groundbreaking by the HuffPost, Education Week, PBS NewsHour and the Obama White House.

Five things we can't wait to do!

As we reflect on our last five years of success, we also look eagerly to our future. Over the next year, we will revisit the PRE4CLE Plan and refresh our strategies to ensure we continue to meet our goals. Here's a sneak peek of what's ahead for PRE4CLE:

1 **HELPING ALL PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS REACH HIGH-QUALITY BY 2025**

We are excited to partner with the State of Ohio on one of their big goals: having all state-funded early childhood programs highly rated (three or more stars) by 2025. PRE4CLE's lead agency Starting Point is partnering with preschool providers across Cleveland to meet that challenge by offering professional development, technical assistance, and other types of critical support.

2 **SAYING YES TO KINDERGARTEN READINESS**

Launched in 2019, Say Yes Cleveland is a new local organization that provides support services to Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) students from preschool through 12th grade and scholarships covering the cost of college or post-secondary tuition, after federal and state grants, to every eligible CMSD graduate. The first benchmark on the Say Yes pathway to post-secondary completion is kindergarten readiness, and PRE4CLE is proud to be leading the effort, in partnership with Say Yes Cleveland, to be the first Say Yes city to make early childhood supports from birth through age five a core part of the Say Yes strategy.

3 **HELPING TEACHERS THRIVE** Teachers are the most important element of quality in a preschool classroom, but public funding for preschool does not support adequate compensation for many

preschool teachers. PRE4CLE is partnering with Cuyahoga County to better understand how our community can strengthen the supports in place to attract and retain a strong early educator workforce.

4 **SUPPORTING HIGH-QUALITY PRESCHOOL FACILITIES**

In the next five years, we will be working to increase the capacity of early care and education facilities in Cleveland through new development and renovation of existing buildings for new high-quality preschools in targeted neighborhoods and to support existing high-quality programs to renovate their facilities.

5 **FACING RACIAL INEQUITY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD**

In 2018, our partners at Groundwork Ohio created the Ohio Early Childhood Race and Rural Equity Report to help us understand how race and location matters to the policies, institutions, and systems that shape the future for our children and families. In April 2019, we hosted the Cuyahoga County Early Childhood Race and Rural Equity Forum, bringing together more than 100 community members to review the report's findings and to discuss what we can do to address racial inequity. Over the next five years, we will continue this conversation, beginning with a look at our own organization, and then working to support the early childhood community on the same path.



5 important partners who share in our work

- {1} Parents and Families
- {2} Teachers and Preschool Staff
- {3} Community Organizations
- {4} Funders
- {5} The Cleveland Early Childhood Compact

PRE4CLE Providers

BELLAIRE-PURITAS

Artemus Ward
Puritas Head Start
Robinson G. Jones

BROADWAY-SLAVIC VILLAGE

Brightside Academy
Mound
Villa Head Start
Warner Girls' Leadership Academy
Willow

BROOKLYN CENTRE

Corinna Bryant
Denison
Maribel Guerra

BUCKEYE-SHAKER SQUARE

Buckeye Head Start
Fundamentals Early Childhood
Development Academy
Sunbeam

BUCKEYE-WOODHILL

Harvey Rice
Little Village Home Child Care

CENTRAL

Bingham Early Learning Center
Day Care for Future Scholars
Dike School of the Arts
The Early Childhood Center
at Arbor Park
Friendly Inn Settlement
George Washington Carver
King Kennedy Head Start
Marion Sterling
Outhwaite Head Start
William Patrick Day Head Start

CLARK-FULTON

Market Square Horizon Education Center
Walton

COLLINWOOD-NOTTINGHAM

Apples of Gold Child Care
East Clark
Hanna Gibbons
Intergenerational Day Care
Kenneth W. Clement Boys'
Leadership Academy

CUDELL

Marion Seltzer
Willard Child Development Center

DETROIT SHOREWAY

Gordon Square Early Learning Center
H. Barbara Booker
Joseph Gallagher
St. Augustine Manor
Child Enrichment Center
Waverly

DOWNTOWN

Cleveland Fed Kids
Developing Character

EUCLID-GREEN

Carl B. Stokes Head Start
Euclid Park

FAIRFAX

Bolton
St. Adalbert

GLENVILLE

Apples of Gold Child Care II
Brightside Academy-Glenville
Franklin D. Roosevelt
Glenville Early Learning Center
Iowa-Maple
Mary M. Bethune
Murtis Taylor at Kathryn R. Tyler Center
Patrick Henry
Stonebrook Montessori
Wade Early Learning Center

GOODRICH-KIRTLAND PARK

Case

HOUGH

Daniel E. Morgan
Lexington Bell Early Childhood Center
Mary B. Martin
Wade Park

JEFFERSON

Garfield
Wilson's Home Daycare

KAMM'S

Clara E. Westropp
Douglas MacArthur
Newton D. Baker
Riverside
Riverside Head Start
Triskett Station Horizon Education Center
Valley View Boys' Leadership Academy
West Park Discovery World

KINSMAN

Anton Grdina
Rainbow Terrace Head Start

LEE-HARVARD

Adlai Stevenson
Charles W. Eliot
Louis Stokes Head Start

MOUNT PLEASANT

Andrew J. Rickoff
Brightside Academy
Murtis Taylor Child Enrichment Program

NORTH SHORE COLLINWOOD

A Jubilee Academy
Memorial
Oliver Perry
Salvation Army Grovewood

OHIO CITY

Lakeview Terrace Head Start
Orchard Hale STEM
Paul Dunbar
Urban Community School

OLD BROOKLYN

Benjamin Franklin
Charles Mooney
Old Brooklyn Horizon Education Center
Weekare Day Care
William Cullen Bryant
William Rainey Harper

ST.CLAIR-SUPERIOR

St. Phillip Neri Head Start
St. Thomas Aquinas Head Start
Willson

STOCKYARD

Brightside Academy
Clark
Salvation Army Ohio City
Thomas Jefferson

TREMONT

Buhrer
Horizon Learning Center
Luis Munoz Marin
Merrick House
Scranton
Tremont Montessori

UNION-MILES

Chapelside Academy
Charles Dickens
Miles
Miles Park
Nathan Hale
Robert Jamison
Union Miles Head Start

UNIVERSITY

The Music Settlement

WEST BOULEVARD

Almira
Louis Agassiz
St. Ignatius Head Start
Wilbur Wright

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Partner Organizations

The work of PRE4CLE is supported by many organizations in the Cleveland community that are not represented on the Cleveland Early Childhood Compact. Without these additional partners, we would not be able to meet our goals. We are extremely grateful to these organizations and the Cleveland community for championing high-quality early childhood education.

2018–2019 PRE4CLE Funders

PRE4CLE is grateful for the
generous support of our funders:

The Abington Foundation
The Bruening Foundation
The Char and Chuck Fowler
Family Foundation
The Cleveland Foundation
The Cleveland Metropolitan
School District
Cuyahoga County
The George Gund Foundation
The Hershey Foundation
The Higley Fund
The O'Neill Brothers Foundation
PNC Foundation
The Reinberger Foundation
The Thomas H. White Foundation

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PRE4CLE would like to acknowledge
the Educational Service Center of
Northeast Ohio and Starting Point for
their significant leadership as PRE4CLE
lead agencies, as well as in-kind support
for PRE4CLE operations and programs.



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