

Cornerstone for Early School Success: Head Start from 2Gen to AI

CGLR Partner Webinars

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Jennifer Grassham
Vice President of Grants
JF Maddox Foundation



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National Head Start Association

Head Start: The Origins



-In 1964, new research on **causes of poverty and impacts** of education led to a new project...**Project Head Start**

-Focused on providing preschool children of low-income families with a comprehensive program to meet their **emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs**.

-**Culturally responsive** to the communities, and communities had to be invested (**maximum feasible participation**).

-Federal to Local structure due to **civil rights** realities in state governments



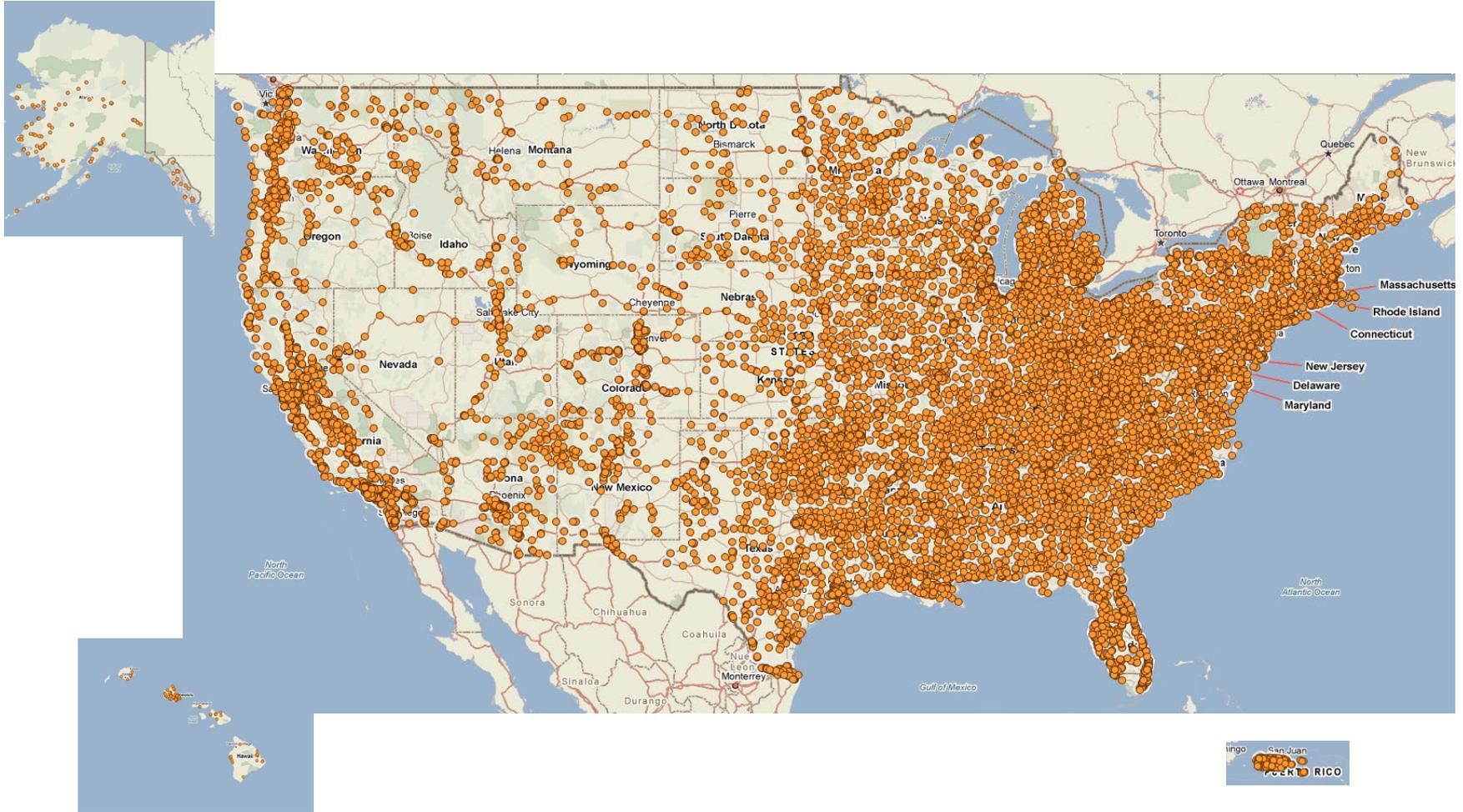
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Foundations of the Head Start Model

- Federal to local funding structure
- Birth to five model
- Performance standards
- Focus on the most vulnerable families and children first
- Comprehensive services
- Developmentally appropriate curriculum and instruction
- Parent/family engagement
- Shared governance
- Culture of understanding and respect

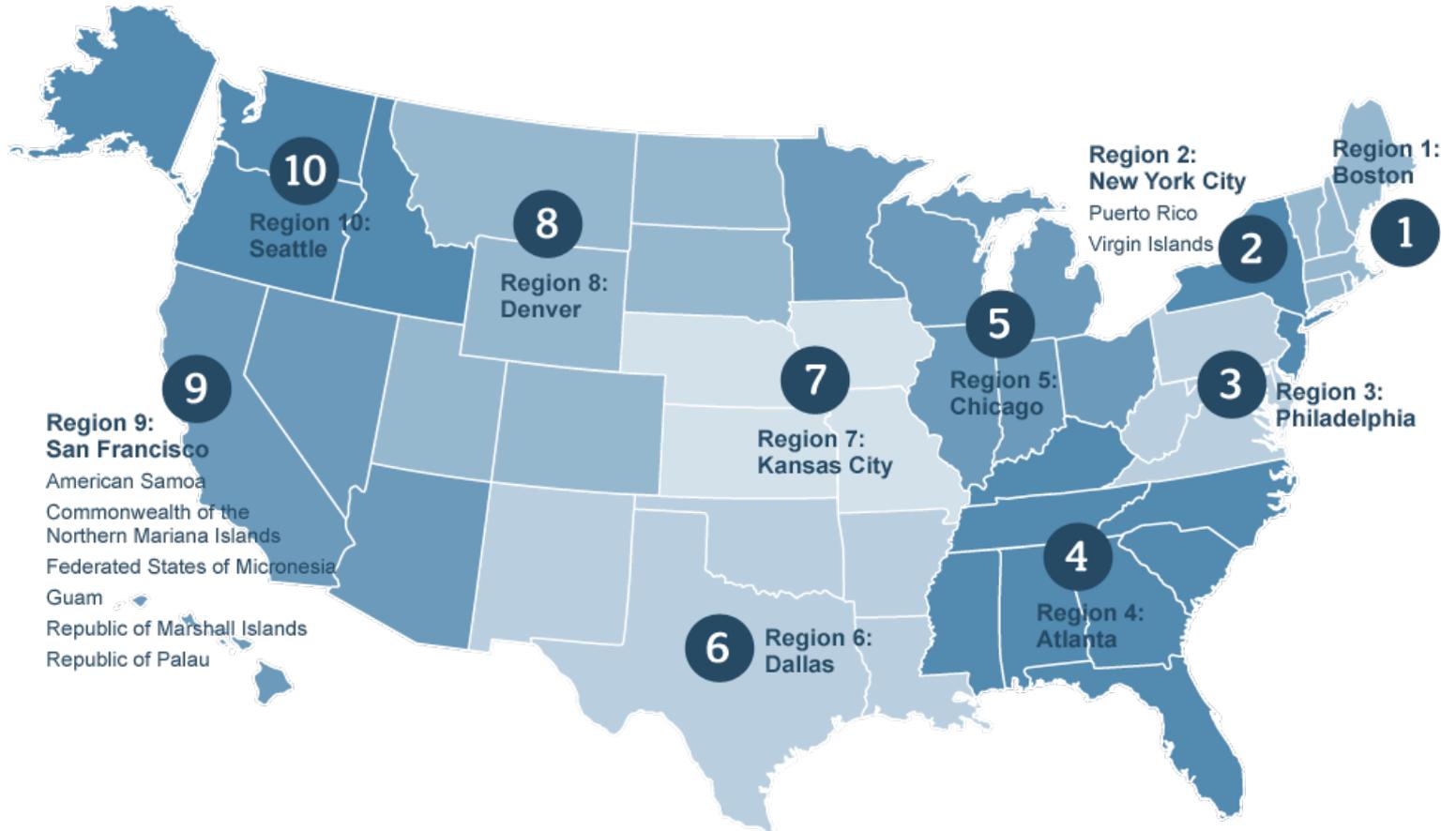


Head Start is Everywhere



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Note: Regions 11 and 12 represent American Indian/Alaska Native Head Start and Migrant/Seasonal Head Start and are not confined to a specific geographic region

A 2Gen Approach to Workforce Innovation

- Today, approximately 20% of the Head Start workforce are Head Start parents
- Community Partnerships have been an essential part of workforce advancement
 - Albina Head Start's Healthcare Administration Certification
 - YMCA of the East Bay's Head Start Apprenticeship Program



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Gladys R. Montes

Vice President, United Way Center for
Excellence in Early Education
United Way Miami-Dade



Mary E. Walachy

Executive Director
Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation



The United Way Center for Excellence in Early Education's vision is that all children will have access to the highest quality early care and education, so they can have the best possible start in school and in life. Our mission is to elevate the quality of early care and education in Miami-Dade and beyond.



“Alone we do so little. Together we can do so much.”



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Educate Demonstrate Advocate



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Educate

Training Facility

Available to the Early Childhood Community

Training Program

Early Care and Education Best Practices

Four Key Areas of Educare:

Data Utilization

High Quality Teaching Practices

Intensive Family Engagement

Embedded Professional Development

Key Element of Educare Miami

Continuity of care and Primary Caregiving

Transition to bilingualism

An inquiry based program

STEM program for Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Capacity Building Program for Program Administrators



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Demonstrate

Demonstration School, Educare Miami

- 120 children
- Mixed income model
- Local evaluation partner
- Documenting Children's Experiences



Advocate

- Visit from legislators
- Public Policy Annual Agenda
- Educare Public Policy Workgroup



Early Head Start Child Care Partnership

- 2014 & 2017
- 520 children
- 10 Child Care Partners
- 5 Family Child Care Homes



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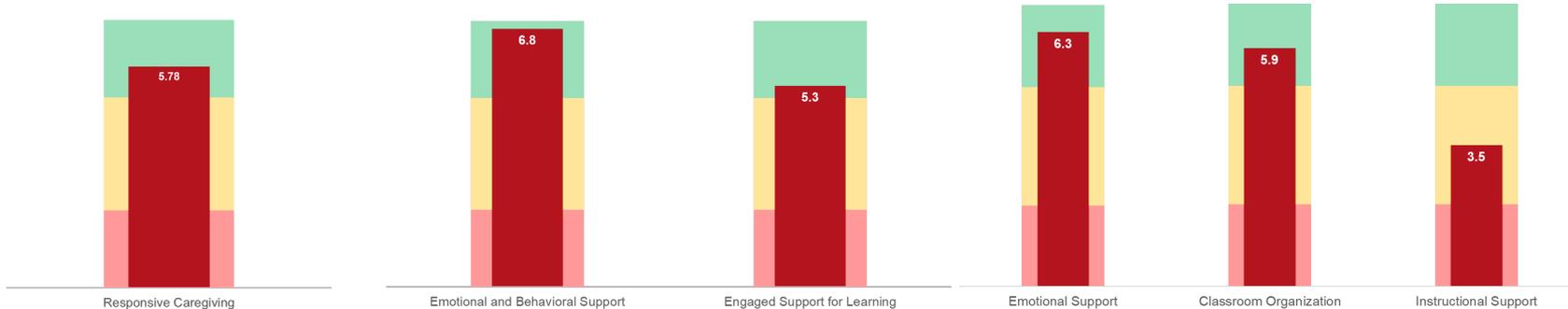
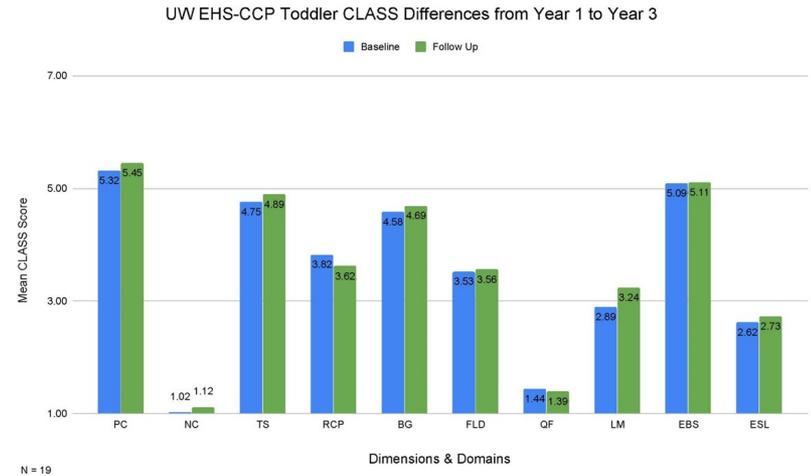
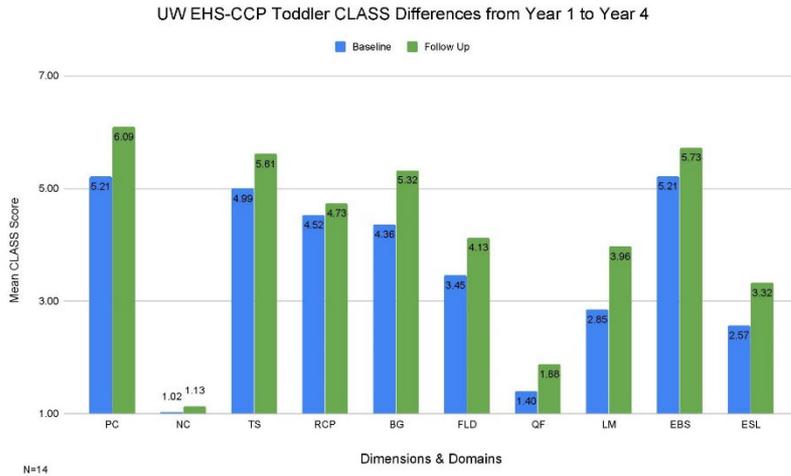
Opportunities

- 167 have completed a CDA with a focus on Infants and Toddlers
- 100% of partners are utilizing an evidence based curriculum
- 100% of practitioners are receiving intense intervention on intentional use of observations in the development of experience plans
- 100% of FCCHs have participated in 110 hours of capacity building experiences



This year's results

Teachers are showing progress in Child Teacher Interaction



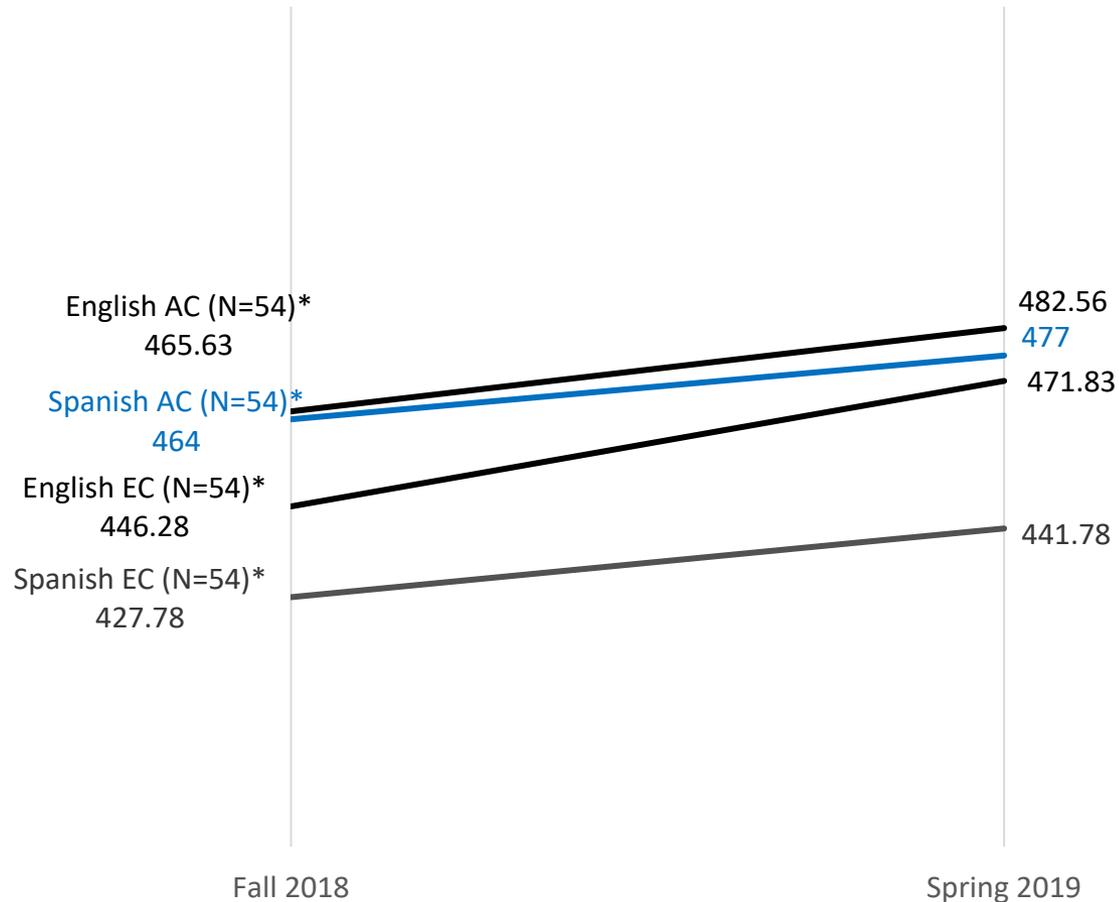
All Educare Miami Infant CLASS was in the **high** range

All Educare Miami Toddler CLASS domains were in the **high** range

All PreK CLASS domains were in the **high** or **mid** range.

Closing the Gap

At Educare Miami PLS-5 growth scores represent growth over time, from fall to spring.



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Benefits



The Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation

Founded in 1970, the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation supports a variety of organizations in Hampden County, Massachusetts with a focus on education and early literacy. The Foundation provides approximately \$5,000,000 in grants annually.

Areas of Work:

- **Reading Success by 4th Grade (Birth - 8 Years Old)**
- **K-16**
- **Charter Schools**
- **Developing Teachers & Leaders**
- **Capacity Building**

Springfield, Massachusetts

Springfield at a Glance:

Population:	155,000
Children:	13,410
Median Income:	\$37,200
Poverty Rate:	28.7%
Child Poverty:	42.5%

Attend Early Ed:	52%
Graduate HS:	77%
Attend College:	18%

Data from 2017



Causing Change

- Grants
- Loans
- Program-Related Investments

- Fact-Find
- Analyze
- Test
- Evaluate



- Initiate
- Convene
- Unify
- Collaborate

- Advocate
- Gadfly
- Seal of Approval



The Davis Foundation's Key Strategies

In order to serve as an agent of change in Hampden County, the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation believes it is essential to incorporate a multi-disciplinary approach to its work.

Change strategies used by the Foundation include:

- A targeted, strategic grantmaking program focused largely on young children and their families, but also emphasizing engagement in education PreK-16 and other catalyzing community initiatives
- Convening stakeholders to foster opportunities for networking and organizing on critical community issues
- Engaging in public policy and advocacy in support of issues critical to the success of children, youth and families
- Investing in study, research and data collection to inform the Foundation's work and the work of its partners and stakeholders
- Employing strategic communications strategies to build public awareness, engagements and resolve
- Leveraging the Foundation's efforts by working to connect local, state and national public and private resources in support of critical issues facing Hampden County



How Educare Came to Massachusetts

2014

- **Catherine Street site shut down overnight**
- **100+ children and families affected**
- **Davis Foundation reached out to the Educare Learning Network (ELN)**

2017

- **An Anonymous Donor's Challenge**
- **HCS Head Start signed on as Key Partner**
- **Springfield College Site Secured**

2018

- **New Market Tax Credit Allocation awarded**
- **DEEC Early Education and Out of School Time Grant awarded**
- **Mass Works Infrastructure Grant awarded to the City of Springfield**
- **Community Meetings for Parents, SPS & The Old Hill Neighborhood Council**
- **Other fundraising efforts continue**
- **Educare Springfield Groundbreaking**

2019

- **Executive Director hired**
- **Construction Completed**

Educare Springfield





“Alone we do so little. Together we can do so much.”



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Support from Corporate Funders

- Case Study: PNC



- Matches DonorsChoose funds for eligible pre-K and Head Start projects
- Promotes volunteerism amongst PNC employees. Many sit on local Head Start boards and policy councils
- Encourages healthy child development through funding organizations like Sesame Street and Mr. Rogers Production
- Leads the way on innovation in early childhood by funding the HeadStarter Network

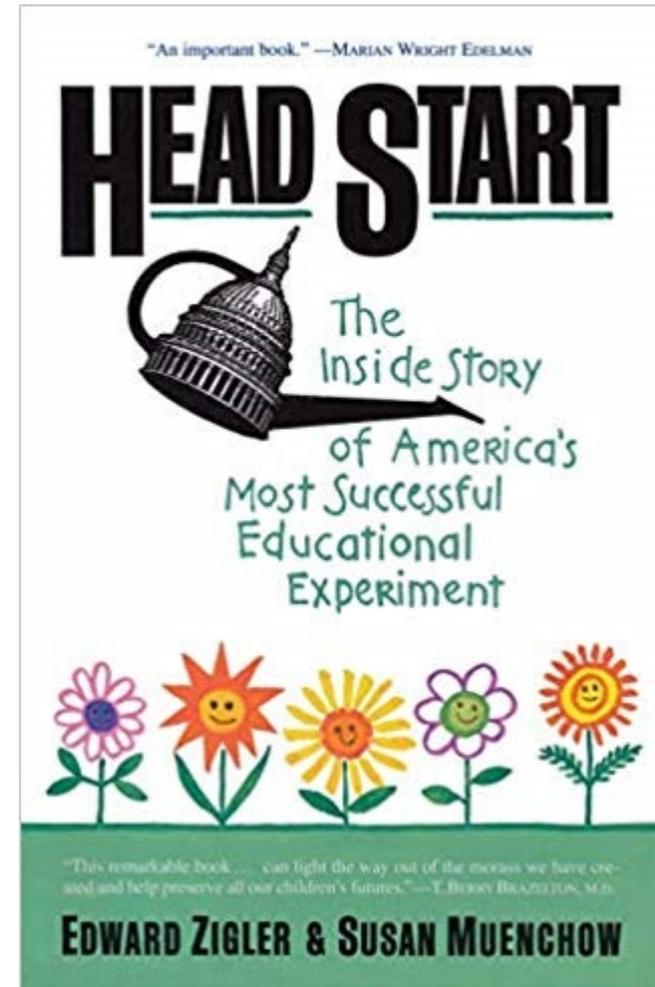


Head Start's Culture of Innovation

- Early Head Start and Birth to Five model comes from Head Start
- Innovative performance standards
- Constant creative solutions to tomorrow's roadblocks



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HeadStarter Network uses the forces shaping children in today's world to grow the impact of early childhood education.

THINK TANKS

VENTURE PHILANTHROPY

ECE INNOVATORS

ACADEMIA

HEAD START FIELD

Virtual / Augmented Reality
Big data/AI
Neuroscience
Social psychology
Business models
New delivery models
Process innovation
Professional development
Policy proposals
Macro-trends

BUSINESS

FOUNDATIONS

IMPACT INVESTORS



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HeadStarter Network Innovation Events

Hackathon - Nashville, 2016

Tech/EarlyEd Incubator Austin, 2017

Catalyst – Chicago, 2019

AI Hackathon, Boulder, 2020

ECE Workforce Catalyst, 2020

Early Childhood Innovation Summit
(ECIS) - Salt Lake City, 2017

ECIS – Louisville, 2018

ECIS – Indianapolis, 2019

ECE Workforce Catalyst, Boston, 2020

ECIS - Cincinnati 2020



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Current Innovation Initiatives

- AI ECE Guardians
 - Writing guidelines for AI tech in early childhood education
- Disrupting the ECE Workforce
 - Partnering to find new credentialing methods
- Redefining Parent Engagement



Questions & Discussion

Upcoming GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinars:

PRODUCTIVE PARENT/TEACHER PARTNERSHIP WEBINARS

Making Hopes & Dreams the Center of the Parent/Teacher Relationship

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 3 p.m. ET/12 p.m. PT

PARTNER WEBINARS

Early Head Start: What Can We Learn to Make a Difference for Children and Families?

Tuesday, Jan. 7, 3 p.m. ET/12 p.m. PT

PRODUCTIVE PARENT/TEACHER PARTNERSHIP WEBINARS Blueprint for America's

Focusing on the Basics to Close the Achievement Gap: Boston Basics

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 3 p.m. ET/12 p.m. PT

Please join us!

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