

LIVE UNITED



United Way of King County

United Way of King County Early Learning Support for Parents and Quality Early Care Education Funding Announcement

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Overview:

United Way of King County is committed to working towards a goal that 80% of children in King County, regardless of income or race, enter school ready to succeed. Through these investments, we will strengthen our focus on high quality, culturally competent programs serving communities most impacted by racial disparities in kindergarten readiness, including low-income, African American/Black, Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and immigrant/refugee communities. By continuing to invest in direct services to children and families we will continue to move towards a community where children are on the path to school success.

Programs currently supported under Support for Parents (investment areas 2214, 2215 and previously 2216) and Quality Child Care (investment area 2209) must reapply to be considered for continued funding.

Funding for early learning investments will be more competitive than in previous years due to anticipated higher number of applicants for a reduced amount of available funding. We do not guarantee that those who have been funded in the past will continue to receive funding.

Funding available: A total up to \$1,575,000 is available in Early Learning in the following areas:

- Support for Parents (up to \$900,000)
- Quality Early Care and Education (up to \$675,000)

Applicants may apply for funding in more than one investment area as long as applications are for different programs.

Award range: Grants will be in the \$30,000-100,000. Funding outside this range may be considered if appropriate, based on the level of service being provided.

Funding period: Initial awards will be made for a one year period from July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

Timeline:

January 13, 2017	Applications available in eImpact
January 17, 2017, 2:00-4:00pm	Application information session 1: United Way of King County, 720 2 nd Ave, Gates Rm, Seattle WA
January 24, 2017, 11:00-1:00pm	Application information session 2: The 2100 Building, 2100 24th Ave S, Seattle WA
January 27, 2017, 1:00-3:00pm	Application information session 3: Green River College, 417 Ramsay Way, Ste 112, Kent WA
February 24, 2017	Applications due
April 30, 2017	Applicants notified if approved for funding
July 1, 2017	Contracts begin
January 16, 2018	Progress report due
July 23, 2018	Year-end report due with demographics

Application Information Sessions:

There will be three sessions (agenda repeated for each) held to answer any questions about the application process. Please RSVP for the information sessions [here](#).

Support for Parents- *Parents are informed, supported, engaged*

Overview:

This funding supports education services provided through a culturally relevant parent-focused curriculum or service model. These parent services are designed to promote/strengthen positive and effective parenting that enhances young children’s physical, cognitive, emotional and social development and supports early learning. **Programs currently supported under the following investment areas- formerly “Parents are informed, supported and engaged- Home Visiting (2214), Parent Education (2215) and Family Support & Advocacy (2216)” must re-apply to be considered for continued funding.**

Funding

A total up to \$900,000 is available in Early Learning for Support for Parents.

Strategies/Services

We seek to fund parent support and education that is culturally competent and relevant, and when appropriate delivered in a parent’s home language. By focusing on support for parents through a cultural lens and valuing culturally relevant child-rearing practices, programs can better address and celebrate parents’ cultural and community assets. Programs should value home culture and language development in a multicultural or culture-specific environment. Services will also include parent education and support that will additionally address broader parent needs and goals as they intersect with parent education.

Examples of programs that align with this area include:

- A culture-specific parenting group led by culturally matched staff that discusses parenting norms and practices in home culture and offers ideas for engaging their children in ways that are culturally relevant.

- One-to-one parenting support that is delivered in the parent’s home language and helps introduce parents to new child development information in a way that relates to the parent’s cultural values and family or personal goal setting.
- Programs that focus on promoting healthy social and emotional development, including supporting the resiliency and competency of parents in order to attend to experiences of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) and trauma.
- Dual Language or culturally based Kaleidoscope Play and Learn hosted by an agency based in communities of color, and/or immigrant and refugee communities.

Examples of programs that do **not** align with this area:

- Programs for parents that are not specifically focused on parenting their young child birth to kindergarten entry.
- Programs using a national home visiting model
- Support for parents that is also eligible for funding by Part C (early intervention).

Note: United Way’s support for home visiting services is focused on the Parent-Child Home Program, funded separately from this set of investments. While we do not anticipate providing much, if any, other home visiting program support, we will consider support for programs with a home-based component that are focused on meeting a specific local need for an under-served population.

Focus Population:

Low-income families of color and immigrant and refugee families with children birth to kindergarten entry. Particular interest in serving African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and/or Latino families.

Additional Requirements

Applicants who receive funding in Support for Parents will be required to utilize new or existing community engagement practices to ensure that programs delivered can be developed with the community they serve. For example, a parent advisory group to inform program development and decision-making. Additionally, program leadership will be required to attend quarterly learning community meetings.

Information & Technical Assistance-

For more information, please attend an Information Session. At the Information Sessions we will also encourage agencies to engage in relationship building, share their program strategies, best practices, and discuss opportunities to partner. Individualized technical assistance is available at each applicant’s request. To schedule technical assistance, contact Hannah Locke, hlocke@uwkc.org, (206) 461-5021.

Quality Early Care and Education- *Child care/preschool programs support children’s development and school readiness and engage in continuous quality improvement*

Overview:

This funding supports direct service early care and education providers in their work to foster young children’s development across the kindergarten readiness domains. In addition to delivering effective services, applicants should be actively engaged in quality improvement and provider skill development.

Programs currently supported under the following investment area 2209 (formerly “Child

care/preschool programs support children’s development and school readiness and engage in continuous quality improvement”) must re-apply to be considered for continued funding.

Funding

A total up to \$675,000 is available for Quality Early Care and Education.

Strategies/Services

Category 1: *Ensuring that early care and education providers have the support and resources necessary to provide high quality services.*

In this category, we support quality child care that is culturally competent and relevant, and when appropriate, a dual language program. Culturally competent, culturally relevant and dual language early care and education:

- Promotes positive cultural identity development and cross cultural skill-building.
- Promotes home language development that is connected to positive cognitive functioning and increased parent engagement
- Enhances culturally relevant curriculum and ways of learning

Examples of programs that align with this area include:

- Culturally competent, culturally relevant and dual language preschool programs (ECEAP, Head Start, Seattle Preschool Program or other not-for-profit programs serving focus population in a culturally and linguistically relevant way)

Examples of programs that do **not** align with this area:

- Early care and education that is also funded through our Early Intervention Investment Area.

Category 2: *Support efforts to improve family child care to better serve children and families and reduce disparities*

In this category, we are looking to fund innovative partnerships that support family home child care providers based in low-income communities of color and immigrant and refugee communities. This is intended to supplement existing professional development efforts to offer support and resources providers identify as critical to meeting Early Achievers Quality Standards.

Examples of programs that align with this area include:

- A support group consisting of a network of family home providers sharing resources and engaging in a community of practice.
- Individualized relationship-based coaching that is relevant and responsive to provider’s home language and/or culture.

Focus Population:

Category 1: Low-income children of color and children from immigrant and refugee families with children birth to kindergarten entry. Particular interest in serving African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and/or Latino families.

Category 2: Organizations working with family home child care providers of color based in low-income communities and serving families from their community, often with shared cultural and language background.

Racial Equity

United Way of King County is focused on eliminating the racial disparities that are evident at kindergarten entry and persist in later education. United Way therefore has a significant focus on populations with identified school preparation and achievement gaps, including but not limited to low-income children, children of color (in particular African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and Latino) and English language learners.

Successful applicants will demonstrate the capacity to deliver effective, culturally competent services that have the potential to reduce identified racial disparities. Review criteria will take into account the unique geographic/regional needs across King County and give higher priority to areas with the most significant and greatest proportion of need, especially related to the focus population groups.

Reporting

A six month progress report and year-end final report are required, providing a summary of goals/milestones met to date including narrative descriptions of highlights, successes and challenges encountered and resolved.

Specific indicators to be measured are under development and will be available with the application.

Additional Requirements

Applicants who receive funding will be required to utilize new or existing community engagement practices to ensure that programs delivered can be developed with the community they serve. For example, a parent advisory group to inform program development and decision-making. Additionally, program leadership will be required to attend quarterly learning community meetings.

Application Process

Applications will be available on January 13, 2017 and must be submitted through [eCImpact](#), our online application system. If you need help logging into or navigating e-CImpact, email communityservices@uwkc.org, or contact Damian Spence at 206-461-8511 or Sue Wyss at 206-461-3778. Technical assistance may be limited near the submittal deadline. Please don't wait until the last minute to complete your application in e-CImpact.