

2019 North Dakota Early Childhood Awareness Day



What is Early Childhood and why is it important?

Early Childhood is all of the supports in a community for an infant, toddler and preschooler that occurs in a child's life. These supports can come in many forms from support through home visitation programs for the families with small children, health care, school and community based preschool programs, and childcare. These programs all vary in practice, policies, and systems but they all hold one truth: **The quality of early childhood programs is essential to the development and wellbeing of our future adults and communities.**

“A solid body of research shows the cost-effectiveness of early childhood development in helping to prevent achievement gaps, boost school achievement, promote better health outcomes, improve our workforce, increase productivity and reduce the need for costly social spending.”

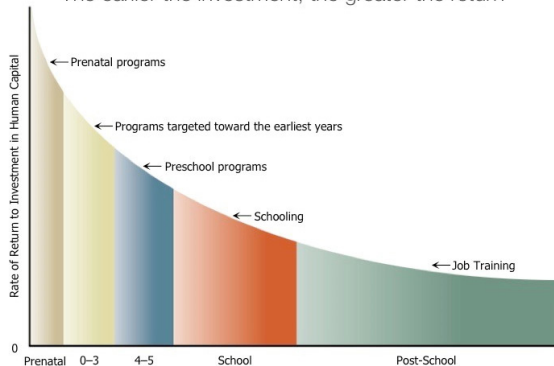
James Heckman

Nobel Laureate in Economics,
On the *Strong Start for America's Children Act*

Research not only show the benefits in health and education but also economic wellbeing. Also, the return on investment for the future generation is impacted by today's quality early childhood services.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IS A SMART INVESTMENT

The earlier the investment, the greater the return



Source: James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics

That translates to “High Quality birth-to-five programs for disadvantaged children can deliver a 13% Return on Investment.”

– James Heckman, from Lifecycle Benefits

The following entities and organizations would like you to remember our littlest North Dakotans as you consider legislation and budgets over the 66th Legislative Session.

North Dakota Early Childhood Awareness Day 2019

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