

# EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT (ECBG) 2024-2025 (FY25)

Summary and Funding Recommendations for  
Approval April 5, 2024



## Overview of Application and Award Timeline

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### PROPOSAL SUMMARY

- Total Renewal Applications: 26
- Funding Recommendation: \$22,800,000

Feb 8 - Mar 8, 2024	Renewal Applications submitted to Kansas CommonApp Portal.
Mar 11 - 29, 2024	Renewal Applications reviewed by KCCTF staff for completeness, required documentation, eligibility, etc.
April 5, 2024	Children's Cabinet reviews and approves recommendations for 2024-2025 ECBG grant awards.
April 2024	Notice of pending awards emailed to recipients.
May or June 2024	Once the Legislature has approved the state budget, Grant Award Contracts will be emailed out to complete.
Jul 1, 2024 - Jun 30, 2025	Fiscal year

## Funding Recommendations

Applicant	FY24 Funding	FY25 Recommendation
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,800,000</b>	<b>\$22,800,000</b>
<a href="#"><u>Child Advocacy and Parenting Services (CAPS)</u></a>	\$1,034,660	\$1,034,660
<a href="#"><u>Child Start</u></a>	\$187,388	\$187,388
<a href="#"><u>Families and Communities Together (FACT) - It Takes a Village (ITAV)</u></a>	\$198,385	\$198,385
<a href="#"><u>Family Resource Center, Inc. (FRC)</u></a>	\$1,861,888	\$1,861,888
<a href="#"><u>Four County Mental Health Center</u></a>	\$472,209	\$472,209
<a href="#"><u>Growing Futures</u></a>	\$510,642	\$510,642
<a href="#"><u>Junction City Family YMCA</u></a>	\$463,085	\$463,085
<a href="#"><u>Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL)</u></a>	\$395,484	\$395,484
<a href="#"><u>LiveWell Northwest Kansas</u></a>	\$496,634	\$496,634
<a href="#"><u>Phillipsburg Child Care Center (PCCC)</u></a>	\$100,911	\$100,911
<a href="#"><u>Riley County - Raising Riley</u></a>	\$911,757	\$911,757
<a href="#"><u>Russell Child Development Center (RCDC)</u></a>	\$2,569,565	\$2,569,565
<a href="#"><u>Success By 6 Coalition of Douglas County (SB6)</u></a>	\$1,018,285	\$1,018,285
<a href="#"><u>The Family Conservancy - Start Young</u></a>	\$1,790,383	\$1,790,383
<a href="#"><u>TOP Early Learning Centers</u></a>	\$2,962,684	\$2,962,684
<a href="#"><u>Tree House Early Learning</u></a>	\$200,000	\$200,000
<a href="#"><u>United Way of Kaw Valley</u></a>	\$2,530,492	\$2,530,492
<a href="#"><u>United Way of Reno County</u></a>	\$922,906	\$922,906
<a href="#"><u>United Way of the Plains</u></a>	\$779,884	\$779,884
<a href="#"><u>USD 273 Beloit - Mitchell County Partnership for Children (MCPC)</u></a>	\$414,500	\$414,500
<a href="#"><u>USD 293 Quinter</u></a>	\$151,730	\$151,730
<a href="#"><u>USD 298 Lincoln</u></a>	\$127,396	\$127,396
<a href="#"><u>USD 445 Coffeyville</u></a>	\$790,848	\$790,848
<a href="#"><u>USD 450 Shawnee Heights</u></a>	\$360,504	\$360,504
<a href="#"><u>USD 489 Hays</u></a>	\$380,733	\$380,733
<a href="#"><u>USD 500 Kansas City</u></a>	\$1,167,047	\$1,167,047

## Project Overviews

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### Child Advocacy and Parenting Services

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Saline & Ellsworth
- Children to be Served: ~510
- Families to be Served: ~475

#### Project Abstract

The Saline-Ellsworth Counties School Readiness Project (SECSCR) works to support parents, grandparents and early childhood programs to give at-risk children 0-5 a healthy start. Through an evidence-based family mentoring program, the SECSCR is building supportive relationships and stronger foundations for at-risk families. This project will also prepare at-risk children ages 0-5 for success in kindergarten by strengthening teacher-child interactions, identifying delays earlier, and monitoring growth and development through quality classroom participation stipends, and coaching for early childhood educators.

Child Care Providers: 125

### Child Start

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Harvey, Butler & Sumner
- Children to be Served: ~225
- Families to be Served: ~225

#### Project Abstract

Child Start Early Childhood Connections program requests \$187,388 to supplement existing funding for ASQ, IGDI, myIGDI, and CLASS assessments for 18 licensed child care facilities both center and in-home within Harvey, Butler & Sumner Counties. Each of the licensed child care facilities will receive 6 mini learning experiences. We will host 4 community events to connect families, and providers with child development-based community organizations. There will be 12 peer meeting events that provide networking, discussions, additional training, and awareness for both providers and parents within the programs. We will focus on increasing capacity and awareness of the importance behind the ASQ assessments; therefore, increasing early intervention opportunities within Harvey County. CLASS Tool and associated Technical Assistance (TA) completed with caregivers will result in improved child-to-caregiver interactions. Finally, by using the outcomes from all assessments, we will provide centric observational learning through Mini Learning Experiences. We have the potential of impacting ~225 children.

## Families and Communities Together (FACT) - It Takes a Village (ITAV)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Marion
- Children to be Served: ~253
- Families to be Served: ~244

### Project Abstract

Realizing that no one program or group can meet the demands of early childhood development in at-risk families, Families and Communities Together, Inc., a non-profit organization, partnering with Marion County Early Childhood Task Force, created the "It Takes a Village" Early Childhood Collaborative (ITAV) which serves children and families throughout Marion County. This initiative collaborates programs and organizations to create the greatest benefit for Marion County children and families. ITAV offers evidence-based services to at-risk children (birth-age 5) and families by providing coordinated perpetual supports including early childhood screenings, mental health observations and consultations, parent educator training, conscious discipline parenting training, childcare provider professional development, and preschool scholarships. ITAV focuses on early childhood issues while raising public awareness with the consistent goals of ensuring healthy holistic development, ensuring strong familial support, and ensuring early learning. ITAV is requesting \$198,385 for this project to continue serving 250+ pre-school aged children.

## Family Resource Center, Inc (FRC)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Allen, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette & Neosho
- Children to be Served: ~735
- Families to be Served: ~735

### Project Abstract

The proposal requests is \$1,861,888 and includes six counties in extreme Southeast Kansas: Allen, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette and Neosho. Our programs will serve ~735 at-risk children and their families. Our early learning (age 0-3), preschool (age 3-5) and home visiting programs are the elements that drive most of the strategies and touch all three areas of impact as outlined in the Blueprint for Early Childhood: Healthy Development, Strong Families and Early Learning. These strategies are designed to provide access to services for at-risk children and families, to utilize existing and new public/private partnerships and to use evidence-based strategies to ensure quality of service. Developmentally appropriate interventions will be identified based on the assessed needs of the individual child and their family/caregiver(s). Coordination of services and heightened supports during critical transitions across programs and as children enter kindergarten will ensure that children and families are confidently prepared for school success.

## Four County Mental Health Center

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Montgomery & Wilson
- Children to be Served: ~135
- Families to be Served: ~130

### Project Abstract

Four County Mental Health Center, Inc's (FCMHC) Early Childhood programming provides critical services and supports to the regions' most at-risk children and families, serving Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Montgomery, and Wilson Counties. FCMHC requests stable funding of \$472,209 to continue the following programs in FY2025 with only minor changes. Project Before Case Management and Parent Education provides support, education, skills development, and linkage to resources needed to provide stable nurturing environments. Mental & Behavioral Services and Classroom Consultation provides direct treatment to children and education for parents, teachers, and child service providers on promotion of good mental health. The programs provide stress-reducing supports, connect families with community resources, facilitate treatment, and improve parenting skills which increase protective factors and decrease potential for adverse experiences. In FY2025, these programs will serve ~135 children (0-5), ~130 families, pregnant mothers, ~50 families through Parent Education, and ~43 individuals will receive professional development.

## Growing Futures

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Johnson
- Children to be Served: ~219
- Families to be Served: ~185

### Project Abstract

Growing Futures requests \$510,642 to cover costs of one preschool classroom to serve 16 children (ages 3-5) living up to 185% of the federal poverty level in Johnson County, Kansas; continue staff retention pay for our high-quality staff; offset costs of another increase in health insurance premiums; and cover costs of a full-time Family Educator who provides support and education through our Home-Visiting Program. We must keep the classroom open for children living just above the federal poverty level to give them access to an education they otherwise would not get, leading to improved social, emotional, and academic performance as they prepare for kindergarten. The FE will bring these same opportunities into families' homes, improving access to our services. All other requests improve staff recruitment and retention to ensure our center remains open and continues to provide quality services to the ~219 children and their families who need us the most.

## Junction City Family YMCA

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Geary
- Children to be Served: ~200
- Families to be Served: ~133

### Project Abstract

Our Early Childhood Block Grant of Geary County (ECBGGC) project impacts the Geary County region, encompassing USD 475 Geary County boundaries which includes: Junction City, Fort Riley, Milford, and Grandview Plaza. Our project provides home visiting and parent education services to ~200 at-risk children and their families, ages 0-5. Many families benefit from both home visiting and parent education. To sustain this project, we are requesting \$463,085 of continued funding. Geary County, through comprehensive planning, has developed innovative partnerships and strategies that align with the Blueprint for Early Childhood and ECBG Outcomes to build Healthy Development, Strong Families and ensure Early Learning for ~200 at-risk children through the implementation of the following programs:

- Evidence-Based Triple P – Positive Parenting Program provides parent education to 100 children and their caregivers.
- Evidence-Based home visitation program – Parents as Teachers personal visits providing support for families to ensure 160 children are healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

## Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Sedgwick
- Children to be Served: ~94
- Families to be Served: ~94

### Project Abstract

The Kansas Children's Service League requests level funding of \$395,484 to provide Pre-K services to about sixty nine 3 and 4 year olds and Mental and Behavioral Health services to about twenty five 3 and 4 year olds. All funded classrooms will utilize the ASQ3, ASQ-SE, my IGDIs and CLASS common measures. The Mental and behavioral Health Services will utilize the ASQs and DECA common measures, all classrooms will provide information to families about community services quarterly through distribution of the 1-800-CHILDREN line information and app and other opportunities. We anticipate that expanded access to preschool and mental and behavioral health services will improve students' academic and social emotional readiness to succeed in Kindergarten.

## LiveWell Northwest Kansas

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Norton, Phillips, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Graham, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Trego, Ellis & Smith
- Children to be Served: ~259
- Families to be Served: ~223

### Project Abstract

Six programs facilitated by Smart Start Northwest Kansas, under the direction of LiveWell Northwest Kansas requests \$496,634 for an estimated 259 high-risk children ages 0-5 and their families living in 15 Northwest Kansas counties spanning over 13,000 square miles. Strategies include risk screening, health education, home visiting, parent education, and early learning, and referrals to additional services. Outcomes include social-emotional development; strong families that provide safe, stable, and nurturing relationships; and early learning to ensure children enter kindergarten ready to learn. FY25 funding will continue to meet the needs of Northwest Kansas families by continuing its regional outreach to include fourteen counties. The current service model will continue that includes six programs: Attachment, Bio-behavioral Catchup, Play and Learning Strategies, Behavioral Health Services, PreK and Early Learning Infrastructure, and Kids Port. Strengthening community referral systems and co-constructing new partnerships will be integrated into the service model.

## Phillipsburg Child Care Center (PCCC)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Phillips
- Children to be Served: ~50
- Families to be Served: ~28

### Project Abstract

Phillipsburg Child Care Center requests \$100,911 to provide early education services for approximately 50 children ages 6 weeks to 5 years to improve Kindergarten readiness. We plan to utilize grant funds to focus on early education from birth to age 5. Grant funds will help increase pay for lead teacher in the pre-K classroom to recruit employees that have obtained a form of higher education related to early education. Grant funds will provide incentives for teachers that score well/improve scores on their CLASS Observations as motivation to improve interactions with students. We will also provide classroom consultation for our teachers to improve social emotional development or behavioral health education and provide coaching/consultation for teachers for stress management and to prevent burn out. We recognize the high turn over in staffing for child care and early education and hope to help improve staff resiliency and long term employment.

## Riley County - Raising Riley

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- Type of Application: Kansas County and City Governments
- Counties Served: Riley & Pottawatomie
- Children to be Served: ~274
- Families to be Served: ~274

### Project Abstract

Raising Riley (RR) collaborates with families and communities establishing robust foundations, offering tailored, high-quality services for children and families. Our aim is to equip children with the skills for lifelong learning, achieved through direct engagement. To support these efforts, we request \$911,757 in funding from the ECBG for FY25. This funding will cover personnel wages, benefits, and childcare scholarships for eligible at-risk families and children. Childcare services are delivered in early learning facilities, encompassing both home and center-based settings, ensuring access to affordable, quality early care and education through partnership with RR. These services are anticipated to benefit approximately ~274 children and their families. Additional support from Riley County enhances childcare provider assistance, including professional development, offers parent education and family engagement, and promotes community involvement. These programs collectively empower parents, nurturing strong families committed to fostering healthy development and early learning in their children.

## Russell Child Development Center (RCDC)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Clark, Finney, Ford, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Haskell, Hodgeman, Kearny, Lane, Meade, Morton, Ness, Scott, Seward, Stanton, Stevens & Wichita
- Children to be Served: ~1,270
- Families to be Served: ~1,236

### Project Abstract

Russell Child Development Center (RCDC), a 59-year-old community non-profit, requests Early Childhood Block Grant funding for \$2,569,565 on behalf of young children, their families, and community partners in 19 Southwest Kansas counties. Funds will ensure continued implementation of the collaborative, whole child, two-generational, evidence-based programming selected to directly impact the accessibility, availability, and navigation of services for approximately 1,270 geographically isolated at-risk children birth to kindergarten eligibility (including prenatal supports) and their families for whom Common Measures will be generated. Selected programs include Triple P Positive Parenting Program, Learn & Play Parent-Child Interaction Groups, Growing Together Home Visiting Program, Attachment and Biobehavioral Catchup (ABC) Program, and Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center's Before & After School and Transportation Program. Each focuses on priorities identified in the 2019/2021 Early Childhood Needs Assessment, aligns with the All In For Kansas Kids strategic plan, and addresses goals specified in the Blueprint for Early Childhood.

## Success By 6 Coalition of Douglas County (SB6)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Douglas
- Children to be Served: ~266
- Families to be Served: ~226

### Project Abstract

Child & Family Therapy: To provide intensive interventions in the form of individual child, parent, or parent/child therapy to traumatized or otherwise socially and emotionally compromised and vulnerable and immigrant children and families.

Early Education: To simultaneously increase the quality and affordability of early care and education for vulnerable families with young children. To increase the supply of quality, affordable infant/toddler early care and education to BIPOC families served by Douglas of Douglas County. To bring an early childhood special education perspective to the continuous quality improvement efforts of family childcare homes and center-based early learning programs.

Parenting Education and Care Coordination and Maternal Infant Health: To provide a Strengthening Families, five protective factors parenting education and care coordination including for maternal infant health to Black, immigrant and indigenous families in Douglas County.

## The Family Conservancy - Start Young

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Wyandotte
- Children to be Served: ~808
- Families to be Served: ~695

### Project Abstract

The Family Conservancy (TFC) respectfully requests \$1,790,383 to support Start Young's year seven program activities. TFC's Start Young program increases access to full-day, full-year, quality child care in Wyandotte County, Kansas. In partnership with both center-based and family child care programs, Start Young addresses accessibility and quality through capacity building, systems support, and professional development for providers. Start Young impacted ~1,200 children during the first four years of program implementation (2018-2022). In year five, Start Young served ~380 children ages birth to three and ~482 children ages three-five. The Family Conservancy has created a sustainability plan to carry the project forward to impact approximately 1,000 children, teachers, and families annually.

## TOP Early Learning Centers

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Sedgwick
- Children to be Served: ~355
- Families to be Served: ~110

### Project Abstract

TOP Early Learning Centers, a not-for-profit organization collaborating with Rainbows United, Derby Public Schools (USD 260) and the Kansas Children's Service League is requesting \$2,962,684 to provide services to ~355 at-risk children ages 1-5 and ~110 families in the City of Wichita and Derby attending TOP Schools or Wineteer Elementary. Primary strategies will include: 1. Full-day/full-year early childhood education, 2. Expansion of slots and extending hours of service to children, 3. Early Childhood mental health support, 4. Developmental Screenings, 5. Parent support/education, 6. Case management. The anticipated outcome of our project is to improve the emotional/developmental functioning of children at-risk, so they enter kindergarten ready to learn.

## Tree House

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Montgomery & Wilson
- Children to be Served: ~52
- Families to be Served: ~52

### Project Abstract

Tree House Early Education Foundation is requesting \$200,000 to assist with costs related to providing high-quality childcare and preschool to children in and around Montgomery County. These costs include a portion of salaries/benefits so we may provide staff with a competitive wage and lessen staffing issues, general supplies, classroom supplies, professional development, and funding for our Community Navigator program.

## United Way of Kaw Valley – Capital Area Successful Start (CASS)

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Shawnee
- Children to be Served: ~960
- Families to be Served: ~887

### Project Abstract

Capital Area Successful Start (CASS) is an eight partner collaborative offering comprehensive, responsive services to children throughout Shawnee County. Primary strategies ensure children and families are provided opportunities leading to healthy development, strong families and early learning. CASS takes a holistic approach through universal screening to connecting families early to home visitation and community resources to fit their unique needs. Home visitation services address prenatal health and delivery, child development and parent education and support. Child care services and preschool implementation provide high-quality early learning experiences for at-risk children. Families are strengthened through parent education options. Coaching and consultation services improve teaching practices in community-based child care classrooms serving at-risk children, recognizing the importance of social development, literacy rich learning environments, and family engagement. CASS partners will serve ~887 families, ~631 infants and toddlers and ~329 preschoolers, helping families thrive and preparing children for success in kindergarten and beyond.

## United Way of Reno County

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Reno
- Children to be Served: ~475
- Families to be Served: ~344

### Project Abstract

United Way of Reno County requests \$922,906 to enhance the quality of education for ~475 children ages 0 to 5. We have eight partners that provide 11 programs to children, parents, and teachers. We meet the needs of these children through engaging and well-prepared activities in their classrooms or daycare. We include social-emotional support for children who may otherwise experience delays in their success. We partner with families to support healthy home environments to nurture success. We support teachers by providing positive training to encourage excellent classroom settings for the needs of all their students. Our goal for Reno County is to develop the healthiest, well-equipped children to enter Kindergarten in Kansas.

## United Way of the Plains

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- Type of Application: Kansas 501(C)(3)
- Counties Served: Sedgwick
- Children to be Served: ~292
- Families to be Served: ~65

### Project Abstract

United Way of the Plains is requests \$779,884 to continue its strong partnership with Rainbows United, YMCA of Greater Wichita and Kansas Children’s Service League to offer services to ~292 children ages 0-5 and ~65 families of children ages 0-5 across some of Wichita’s most impoverished zip codes. Our proposal includes a three-pronged approach.

- Healthy Development - Universal screening for healthy development and improved access to Early Childhood mental health services.
- Strong Families - Safe, stable, and nurturing relationships to ensure that children have strong, healthy starts through parent engagement and leadership programing.
- Early Learning- Scholarships for children to have high quality early learning classroom experiences.

## USD 273 Beloit - Mitchell County Partnerships for Children (MCPC)

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- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD)  
NOT currently receiving Kansas Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE).
- Counties Served: Mitchell, Jewell, Lincoln & Osborne
- Children to be Served: ~305
- Families to be Served: ~275

### Project Abstract

Mitchell County Partnership for Children (MCPC) in combination with USD 273 Beloit requests continued funding for our partnerships in USDs 272 Waconda, 298 Lincoln, 299 Sylvan Grove, 392 Osborne County, 107 Rock Hills, St. John’s Catholic, Little Knights Learning Center, and USD 273 Early Learning Center that will promote healthy development, strong families, and early learning in North Central Kansas. Our multi-county approach allows us to provide services to more than 200 families in multiple communities at a fraction of what it would cost districts to replicate our programs individually. We propose to continue social/emotional lessons, mental health consultations, PBIS, assessments, data driven coaching to teachers and academic intervention to students not meeting benchmarks. USD 273 seeks continued funding for childcare staff serving at-risk children at the Early Learning Center, as well as funding for childcare scholarships for low income families to afford childcare. Our goal is to have all children socially, behaviorally, and academically ready for kindergarten.

## USD 293 Quinter

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- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD) NOT currently receiving Kansas Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE).
- Counties Served: Gove, Sheridan & Trego
- Children to be Served: ~34
- Families to be Served: ~33

### Project Abstract

Our current preschool program is partially funded through special education, USD 293 Quinter general fund, and the Pre-School Aged At-Risk grant. Due to this funding, USD 293 Quinter is able to offer two morning and two afternoon mixed aged (3 and 4 year old) classes. Our program focuses on child directed and play based developmentally appropriate practices. Our preschool operates under an approved calendar starting in mid-August through mid-May, four days per week. USD-293 Quinter is focused on partnering with the community and parents in ensuring that all children are Kindergarten ready as specified in the state board outcomes. This funding will allow the district to offer this pre-school program to parents at no cost and thus increase participation in the program, leading to better outcomes for all children.

## USD 298 Lincoln

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- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD) NOT currently receiving Kansas Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE).
- Counties Served: Lincoln
- Children to be Served: ~46
- Families to be Served: ~42

### Project Abstract

Lincoln USD 298 is requesting \$127,396 to keep our expanded early childhood services for our district. The increased need of kindergarten readiness and demand of childcare services in our community continues to grow. USD 298 and the community has benefited from the implementation of a learning center that services birth to 3 year old children and expansion to all day 3 and 4 year old preschool. These services would impact approximately 46 birth to 4 year old children in our community. The demographics of our community have shown the need for increased academic and social/emotional learning in early childhood development. We continue to see the early learning center and all day preschool for 3 and 4 year old children has helped build a platform for these students' future success. We predict that these additional services will reduce the need for remediation in the primary grades due to kindergarten readiness.

## USD 445 Coffeyville

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- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD)  
NOT currently receiving Kansas  
Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the  
Kansas State Department of Education  
(KSDE).
- Counties Served: Montgomery
- Children to be Served: ~160
- Families to be Served: ~160

### Project Abstract

The purpose of the Coffeyville Model for Early Learning is to ensure basic needs of students are met while providing high-quality services and supports to prepare the workforce of tomorrow. It also aims to break the cycle of poverty in our community. USD 445 requests funding renewal to offer universal early childhood services through an integrated approach to serve the whole child and meet the needs of families. This is accomplished through early educational experiences to prepare children for their next educational setting.

Furthermore, a specific focus on social-emotional learning contributes to a strong foundation. Social-emotional learning is supported through developmentally appropriate classroom environments, where teachers engage children in meaningful activities, provide substantial time for child-focused learning, and create structure with predictable schedules, routines, and rules. Lastly, the Coffeyville Model for Early Learning is a community-based approach enriched by both public and private partners offering their expertise and funding.

## USD 450 Shawnee Heights

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- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD)  
NOT currently receiving Kansas  
Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the  
Kansas State Department of Education  
(KSDE).
- Counties Served: Shawnee
- Children to be Served: ~80
- Families to be Served: ~80

### Project Abstract

Shawnee Heights requests \$360,504 to continue to provide PreK programming during both the school year and summer to approximately 80 4-year-olds in Shawnee County. We anticipate the continued expanded access to preschool will improve kindergarten readiness in the areas of both social-emotional and academics.

## USD 489 Hays

- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD)  
NOT currently receiving Kansas  
Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the  
Kansas State Department of Education  
(KSDE).
- Counties Served: Ellis
- Children to be Served: ~60
- Families to be Served: ~60

### Project Abstract

USD 489 Hays Early Childhood Connections will provide comprehensive early childhood services for at-risk children, birth to five and their families in Ellis County. The funding is utilized to support services for families to be in full-day programming and for wrap around services. The program provides funding to support children that need additional intervention in literacy and math but do not require special education services. The Response to Intervention (RTI) teacher assesses the children utilizing the myIGDIs assessment. The RTI teacher will identify students that need intervention and will provide individual, small group or classroom support.

## USD 500 Kansas City

- Type of Application: Kansas Unified School District (USD)  
NOT currently receiving Kansas  
Preschool Pilot (KPP) funding from the  
Kansas State Department of Education  
(KSDE).
- Counties Served: Wyandotte
- Children to be Served: ~120
- Families to be Served: ~117

### Project Abstract

USD 500 Kansas City (KCKPS) requests \$1,167,047.00 to support the district's Successful Programs to Assure Readiness for Kindergarten (SPARK) program. Located in Wyandotte County, SPARK will provide early childhood services for approximately 120 three- and four-year-old children/families residing within KCKPS boundaries. Proposed program strategies include: 1) assessing students for early identification of needs and providing interventions 2) utilizing instructional coaching techniques to enhance instructional quality, empowering teachers, families, and students to support student social-emotional development and mental health; and 3) providing instruction and teacher training to ensure student success in early literacy and numeracy while supporting teachers in providing a positive learning environment. SPARK anticipates these evidence-based practices to result in the following outcomes: increased academic, social, and emotional readiness for its participants to succeed in Kindergarten.