



LEARNERS *Today,* LEADERS *Tomorrow*

Join experts from government, business and academia for the unveiling of the **Early Development Index** showing how ready Orange County's children are when they start kindergarten – which is a predictor of their success in school and the workplace.

May 6

LOCATION: TBD

FOR MORE INFORMATION
please contact Fiona at
fiona@quimbygroup.com or visit
occhildrenandfamilies.com.



Children & Families
Commission of Orange County



ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA CITIES
ORANGE COUNTY

A Healthy Bottom Line

High-quality early childhood care and education is critical to a healthy, productive workforce

SUMMARY

Poor health among today's and tomorrow's adults is jeopardizing businesses' ability to compete in the global economy. Mounting evidence shows that the foundation for good health lies in the earliest years—making greater access to high-quality early care and education imperative for promoting business success and a Culture of Health.

AMERICA'S BUSINESSES ARE PAYING FOR POOR HEALTH

Researchers predict that children growing up in America today will be the first generation to live shorter lives than their parents.¹ Despite high spending on health care, the U.S. now ranks 27th out of 34 developed countries in terms of life expectancy.¹ This health crisis affects business in a number of ways, including:

- **Health insurance costs:** Spending on health insurance consumed 45 percent of private industry's total profits in 2009.³ The average employer currently pays \$12,000 per family plan—a cost that has increased by 60 percent in the past decade.⁴ When employers spend more on health insurance, they have fewer resources to put towards hiring the best workers, developing the best products and generating returns for shareholders and their companies.⁵
- **Employee absenteeism and productivity:** The costs of sick days and days of low productivity due to illness are harder to measure, but also real—researchers estimate they cost the U.S. economy nearly \$260 billion per year.⁶



High-quality early childhood programs can lead to a host of better health behaviors and outcomes, including:

- Improved mental health
- Less smoking
- Less substance abuse
- Regular exercise
- Improved diet
- Less obesity
- Lower risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes

Source: Friedman-Krauss & Barnett (2013)

- **Customers' ability to buy goods and services:** High medical costs or unemployment due to health problems directly impacts individuals' discretionary income. In fact, unpaid medical bills are the leading cause of personal bankruptcy among Americans.⁷ Altogether, spending on health care consumes 17 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the U.S.—the highest percentage of any major country.⁸

“If we can take the long view, current knowledge tells us that investing in improving children’s development at the beginning of life is indeed a wise business venture as well as a social imperative – probably the single most effective strategy for realizing the health potential of all Americans.”

—Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2014 Issue Brief: Early Childhood Experiences Shape Health and Well-Being Throughout Life

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION: PROMOTING HEALTHY WORKERS AND A CULTURE OF HEALTH

Mounting evidence shows that high-quality early care and education can help establish the foundation for good health throughout life. Children’s earliest years are not only the period in which the most rapid brain development occurs; they are also a crucial time for shaping healthy behaviors.⁹ High-quality early interventions can impact health in a number of ways:

By reducing toxic stress that hurts brain development

Because of the rapid development that occurs in young brains, chronic or “toxic” stress during these years can lead to harmful effects on the brain and serious health issues later in life. According to the science, “When we are threatened, our bodies activate a variety of physiological responses, including increases in heart rate, blood pressure, and stress hormones such as cortisol... When strong, frequent, or prolonged adverse experiences such as extreme poverty or repeated abuse are experienced without adult support, stress becomes toxic, disrupt[ing] developing brain circuits.”¹⁰

Currently, too many young children experience toxic stress. Research shows that 37 percent of

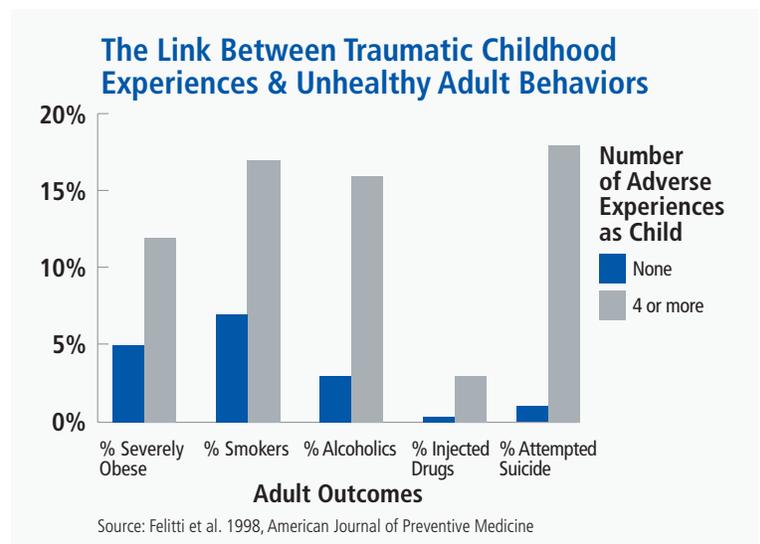
young children in the U.S. have at least one adverse experience—such as being abused or growing-up in a household with an alcoholic or drug user or domestic violence—before the age of five.¹¹

There is a strong connection between these traumatic childhood experiences and unhealthy adult behaviors. A study of more than 17,000 adults, the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study, found that individuals who had four or more adverse childhood experiences were 2.5 times more likely to smoke as an adult, five times more likely to become an alcoholic, 10 times more likely to have injected street drugs, and 15 times more likely to attempt suicide compared to people reporting no traumatic childhood experiences.¹²

It’s crucial to reach children during the early years of brain development with interventions proven to help prevent these adverse experiences. For example, studies show that the Chicago Child-Parent Center preschool program and the Nurse-Family Partnership home visiting program each reduced child abuse and neglect by 50 percent.¹³

By fostering healthy behaviors and outcomes

Failing to learn self-control at a young age is one risk factor for future health problems. For example, a groundbreaking study followed 1,000 individuals from birth to adulthood and found that children who exhibited more self-control during their preschool years had substantially better physical health and were much less likely to be substance abusers 30 years later.¹⁴ They were also less likely to become



“All companies need a healthy workforce, and early education helps lay the foundation for the long-term health of employees, families and communities.”

—Tim Solso, Chairman, General Motors Company;
Retired Chairman and CEO, Cummins, Inc.

criminals—an indication that they had better mental health.¹⁵ Similarly, a recent study funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation found that children rated by their kindergarten teachers as more sharing, cooperative and helpful had better mental health in their 20s.¹⁶ High-quality early education programs can help children learn these important self-control skills. Pennsylvania’s Pre-K Counts program, for example, reduced the number of problem behaviors among their young students by 80 percent.¹⁷

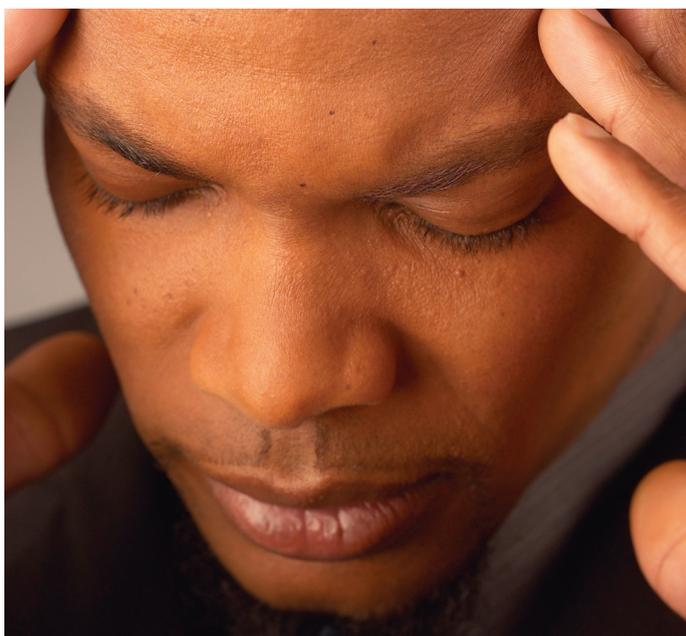
In addition to social skills, early childhood interventions that emphasize nutrition and physical activity can also greatly impact children’s physical health behaviors and outcomes. For example, a randomized trial of the Abecedarian early education program found that boys who participated were nearly four times more likely to exercise regularly and less likely to be substance abusers as young adults, and had significantly

lower risk factors for heart disease, stroke and diabetes by their mid-30s.¹⁸ Meanwhile, girls who participated in the program were more likely to exercise regularly as young adults and less likely to become obese as older adults.¹⁹ Similarly, a recent study showed that boys who participated in the Perry Preschool Project were 29 percent less likely to be smokers and 65 percent more likely to report improving their diet for health reasons as adults, while girls in the program were eight times more likely to exercise regularly as adults.²⁰

By promoting good parenting

Many young, at-risk parents lack some of the skills or knowledge that can help their child develop, such as knowing how to recover from a substance abuse disorder or reinforce positive behaviors in their children. A few high-quality interventions for these parents have achieved impressive results by affecting both generations.

The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), for example, is a voluntary program in which a nurse regularly visits the homes of at-risk, expectant parents from before birth to age two, to help improve their parenting and their own lives. According to randomized trials, the program improved healthy behaviors, such as reducing smoking during pregnancy and increasing breastfeeding.²³ It also cut child abuse and neglect in half and reduced deaths throughout childhood—by the age of 20, none of the children



Early education can help address health care costs

Early childhood education’s long-term mental health and obesity impacts translate directly to health care savings. Obesity and mental health problems are behind some of the most common chronic diseases—including heart disease, diabetes, depression and substance abuse—and individuals with chronic diseases account for approximately 85 percent of healthcare spending in the U.S.²¹

Businesses are directly affected. A single one of these conditions, diabetes, adds an average of \$10,000 per year in health insurance costs.²²

“My career has been dedicated to promoting good health, and I have come to believe strongly that early childhood is the foundation for life-long health and well-being.”

—George Halvorson, Former Chairman and CEO, Kaiser Permanente

who received NFP died of preventable causes (such as sudden infant death syndrome, unintentional injury and homicide), compared with 1.6 percent of children in the control group.²⁴

Another program, Positive Parenting Practices (“Triple P”), provides at-risk parents with simple, well-tested strategies for promoting positive behavior in their children through pamphlets and/or classes. A rigorous study of Triple P found that it dramatically reduced child abuse and foster care placements and paid for itself within a year.²⁵

By helping kids succeed in school and the workforce

Studies have demonstrated that high-quality early childhood education can impact high school graduation, college attendance and even future employment. For example, children in the Chicago Child-Parent Centers and the Perry Preschool Project were 30 to 40 percent more likely to graduate from high school.²⁶ Meanwhile, children in the Abecedarian early learning program were four times more likely to graduate college and 40 percent more likely to be consistently employed as adults.²⁷ More education, in turn, is associated with

less smoking, more physical activity and a longer life expectancy.²⁸ Meanwhile, stable employment enables families and individuals to live in healthier communities, buy more nutritious food, provide quality childcare for their own children and access better health care services.²⁹

By identifying problems early

Enrollment in early childhood programs allows for access to health services such as vaccinations, as well as screening of health problems that can identify a wide variety of impairments, including speech problems, hearing impairments and autism.³⁰ For example, one study found that children who participated in Head Start were more likely to access immunizations, dental care and health care, which contributed to a decrease in child mortality rates.³¹

CONCLUSION

High health care costs and a shrinking pool of well-qualified, healthy workers put businesses at a global disadvantage. Fixing this problem will require more support for effective solutions, and a new focus on the early years of life.

Research shows that high-quality early childhood education and care can dramatically improve health throughout life. Giving children such opportunities will help them succeed in school, their work and their careers, and contribute to a brighter future that includes less child abuse, obesity-related diseases and premature deaths.

And ultimately, early childhood investments will help to foster a Culture of Health nationwide while making all businesses more competitive.

Report authored by Kara Billings and Sara Watson. Designed by Stefanie Campolo. Sandra Bishop-Josef, Martha Brooks, Elise Gifford and Sean Noble also contributed to this report.

WHO WE ARE

ReadyNation is a business leader organization working to strengthen business through better policies for children and youth. Our members educate local, state, national, and international policymakers and the media about effective investments that will help business compete in today's global marketplace by helping children get on the right track to succeed in school and in life.

We invite anyone from a business or business organization to join. There are no membership fees, financial obligations, or formal meetings. Our staff support our members to take action, making the best use of their time. Go to www.readynation.org/join.

ReadyNation is a membership organization of business leaders that operates under the nonprofit Council for a Strong America.

Add your voice.

Contact us at:

ReadyNation
+1 (202) 408-9282
Info@ReadyNation.org
Twitter: @Ready_Nation
www.Facebook.com/ReadyNation


ReadyNation
www.ReadyNation.org

1212 New York Ave NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005 | USA


**Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is working with others to build a national Culture of Health that will enable all to live longer, healthier lives now and for generations to come. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

Business Case for Early Childhood Investments



In business, we rarely have the luxury of making an investment decision with as much evidence as we have to support the economic value of investing in early childhood development and education... Put bluntly, in my terms, they are a financial no-brainer. The only question is ‘how strong is the ROI?’ The answer: Two or three or more to one.



John Pepper,
former CEO,
Procter & Gamble

“By age 5, it is possible to predict, with depressing accuracy, who will complete high school and college and who won’t.”

David Brooks
Columnist, *The New York Times*

Businesses need employees who are job-ready, team-capable, and well-prepared – but we’re not getting them:

- The majority of fourth and eighth graders are not proficient in math and reading in all 50 U.S. states and Washington, D.C.¹
- Fewer than one-third (32%) of students in all 65 participating countries and economies reached the baseline proficiency level on the 2012 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) mathematics assessment.²
- Only 25% of young people ages 17 to 24 would qualify to serve in the U.S. military. The rest could not meet the physical, behavioral, or educational standards for service – standards similar to those many employers use.³

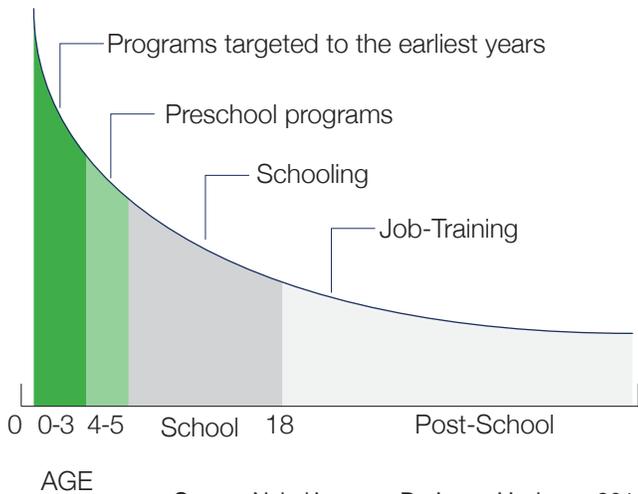
This failing workforce pipeline can be repaired, but we have to start early.

- The foundation of many skills needed for 21st-century jobs is established in the earliest years.
- Young children’s brains develop 700 synapses – neural connections that support learning and skills – every second.⁴
- By age 3, a child’s brain has reached about 85% of its adult weight.⁵
- The learning gap between advantaged and disadvantaged children shows up as early as 9 months of age. Disadvantaged children can start kindergarten as much as 18 months behind their peers. Many of these children never catch up, and are at an increased risk of dropping out of high school.⁶

WHO WE ARE

ReadyNation is a business leader organization working to strengthen business and the economy through effective investments in children and youth. Find us at www.ReadyNation.org

Rate of Return to Human Capital Investment at Different Ages



- By age 30, individuals served by the Abecedarian preschool program were four times more likely to graduate college (and 42% more likely to be consistently employed).¹⁰
- Children not served by NFP had more than twice as many convictions by age 19. Those not served by CPC were 70% more likely to be arrested by age 18, while those not served by the Perry Preschool Project were five times more likely to be chronic offenders with five or more arrests by age 27.¹¹
- A study from the University of California, Los Angeles and Johnson & Johnson found that providing basic health care education and tools for at-risk families reduced emergency room visits by 42%, saving individual families around \$500 per year. These efforts also reduced the number of missed school days by 29%.¹²

Evidence-based early childhood programs protect children's health and help them succeed:

- An overview of 56 studies across 23 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Central/South America found impacts of early childhood programs on health, IQ, and emotional development.⁷
- The Chicago Child-Parent Centers (CPC) preschool and the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) home visiting / parent mentoring program both cut abuse and neglect in half.⁸
- Children in the CPC were 29% more likely to graduate from high school, and the Perry Preschool Project children graduated 44% more often.⁹

Investments in early childhood programs yield short- and long-term returns:

- An independent analysis of NFP concluded that it produced a benefit-cost ratio of almost three to one and average net savings of almost \$17,000 per family by improving children's health, reducing child abuse and neglect, increasing their readiness for school and reducing their future crime. The same analysts reviewed over 20 studies of early childhood programs for at-risk children and found that the average benefit-cost ratio was over four to one, and average net savings were over \$26,000 per child served.¹³
- Child care and preschool professionals generally spend most of their earnings locally. States realize roughly \$2 in local spending for each child care dollar spent.¹⁴

BUSINESS LEADERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- ReadyNation was the only national business group speaking out in support of the successful renewal of the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program. ReadyNation members in 14 states and nationally submitted sign on letters to policymakers and contributed to other emails, meetings, and media pieces. Congress agreed to fund the program at \$400 million per year.
- Eli Lilly and Company, based in Indianapolis, played a critical role in advocating for an expansion of the city's preschool program. In December 2014, the city council voted to approve the \$40 million program.
- In Feb. 2015, executives from the four major city chambers of commerce in Tennessee – Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis, and Nashville – submitted a letter to the U.S. Congress supporting early childhood education in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- Through global accounting firm KPMG's Family for Literacy program, employees distribute free books, read to children and create fundraising events. The program has distributed more than two million books through 90 offices world-wide, including Mexico, India, Nigeria, South Africa, Zambia and the U.S.
- In 2014, former Procter & Gamble CEO John Pepper testified before a U.S. Senate committee in support of expanding federal preschool funds.
- In 2015, more than 50 global business leaders signed ReadyNation's Open Letter to the United Nations asking that early childhood development be a priority in its Sustainable Development Goals Report.
- Leaders from eight branches of the U.S. Federal Reserve System, plus the chairman, have publicly supported early childhood investments.

ReadyNation partners with business groups to call for investments in early childhood:



ReadyNation has worked in many U.S. states to engage business. Partners include:

- ▶ Business Council for Alabama
- ▶ Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (Colorado)
- ▶ Iowa Business Council
- ▶ Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Ohio Business Roundtable
- ▶ Early Learning Investment Commission (Pennsylvania)
- ▶ Maine State Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Massachusetts Business Roundtable
- ▶ New Mexico Business Roundtable
- ▶ Oklahoma Champions for Early Opportunities (OKCEO)
- ▶ Vermont Business Roundtable



WHAT BUSINESS LEADERS CAN DO – AND HOW READYNATION CAN HELP

WHAT BUSINESS LEADERS CAN DO:

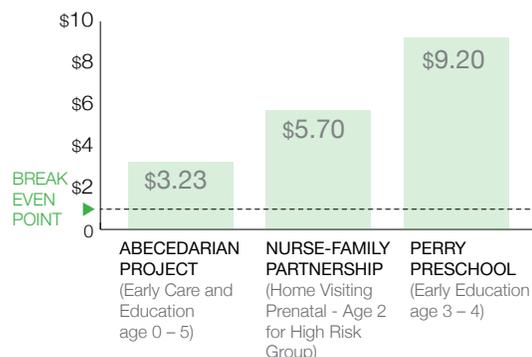
- ✓ Tell your elected officials and the media about the value of early childhood investments.
- ✓ Adopt family-friendly practices at your business.
- ✓ Provide time, volunteers, expertise, and funding to local early childhood programs.
- ✓ Host an event to share information with business and civic groups.
- ✓ Encourage your local business organizations to develop formal positions on the benefits of effective early childhood programs.
- ✓ Give your employees information about the importance of childhood and what they can do.

HOW WE CAN HELP:

Business people who become members of ReadyNation (at no cost) can receive a variety of supports to speak out. You can:

- ✓ Distribute our free materials.
- ✓ Receive our monthly e-newsletter to learn about new evidence, business networking events, and champions.
- ✓ Contact us to find speakers as well as sample speeches, op-eds, talking points, and other communications materials.
- ✓ Get support for policymaker communications.
- ✓ Attend our conferences or connect with the national network of business leader advocates and learn more about championing early childhood programs.

Quality Early Care and Education Pays Off: Cost/Benefit Analyses Show Positive Returns



Source: Nobel Laureate Dr. James Heckman

Who We Are

ReadyNation is a business leader organization working to strengthen business through effective investments in children and youth. Our members educate local, state, national, and international policymakers and the media about effective investments that will help business compete in today's global marketplace by helping children get on the right track to succeed in school and in life.

How We Make a Difference

Our members educate local, state, and federal policymakers and the public by:

- Engaging elected/appointed officials through letters, calls, and meetings.
- Speaking to the media through submitting opinion pieces or using radio/TV/social media outlets.
- Participating in public presentations or press events.

"Information from ReadyNation not only has credibility with our business leaders, but also with elected officials in Ohio."

Richard A. Stoff
President, Ohio Business Roundtable

In 2013-2014, we supported our members to have 415 media appearances and 502 policymaker interactions. We have contributed to policy victories in U.S. states as diverse as Washington, Oregon, Utah, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Maine. Our members contributed to winning more than \$1 billion in new state funds, and more than \$1.3 billion in federal funds for children.

We have launched *ReadyNation International* to work in countries outside the U.S. to help them build business networks for early childhood (www.ReadyNation.org/international).

We are also leading a new project to explore *Pay for Success* (social impact bond) financing for early childhood (www.ReadyNation.org/PFS).

For endnotes and funders, see our website.

ReadyNation is a nonprofit membership organization of business leaders that operates under the umbrella of the non-profit Council For A Strong America.

Add your voice.

Contact us at: ReadyNation
+1 (202)408-9282
info@readynation.org
Twitter: @Ready_Nation
www.Facebook.com/ReadyNation

ReadyNation
Strengthening business through effective investments in children and youth

Global Business Leaders Support Early Childhood Development Creating the workforce of tomorrow through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Report

March 2015

Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki-Moon
H.E. David Donoghue, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN
H.E. Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN

Executive Director of UNICEF Anthony Lake
Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova
Special Advisor on Post-2015 Development Planning
Amina Mohammed

As business leaders with global interests, we write to stress the vital importance of the early childhood years as creating the foundation for life-long health and productivity in all countries. A well-trained workforce is essential to address any international priority, including economic development, energy, environment, health, gender equity and conflict resolution. Children's experiences before birth and during the first five years of life lay the crucial foundation for a productive citizenry that can contribute to solving the world's pressing challenges.

We applaud the United Nations for including the youngest children in the Synthesis Report of the UN Secretary General on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda, and we ask for continued attention to this critical issue in the final report. During the first five years of life, children not only build their academic abilities but also the key physical, social and emotional skills that profoundly influence life outcomes. Remediation is costly and uncertain to succeed in helping children become the productive employees and customers every business needs and the informed citizenry every country desires.

Therefore, we urge the United Nations to:

- In the final report, keep under Goal 4 Education the specific target of Goal 4.2: ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
- In the final report, keep under Goal 3 Health the specific targets of preventing maternal deaths and those of children under five.
- In the final report, stress the importance of providing sufficient public and private funds to support effective investments that prepare children for success in school and in life.
- Ensure that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals includes the measurement, monitoring and tracking of births and child development through age five through coordinated efforts across health and education.

Roy Bostock
Vice Chairman, Delta Airlines
President, Fundação José Luiz Egydio Sertão, Brazil

Robert Bowater
Group Chief Executive, The dib Group, UK
President, Sebastian Estades Chamber of Commerce

John "Jack" Brennan
Chairman Emeritus and Senior Advisor, Vanguard
President, Conselho de Administração do Grupo Gerdau, Brazil

ReadyNation's Global Business Leaders Support Early Childhood

More than 50 leaders from four continents signed a letter to the U.N. emphasizing the importance of early childhood development.

How to Join

Go to www.ReadyNation.org/join. There are no membership fees, financial obligations, or formal meetings. Members are fully supported by our staff, minimizing your time commitment. Participation is always based on members' expressed consent, availability, and desire to speak out on a specific issue. Members' names will not be used without their consent, except to be listed as members of ReadyNation.

"Before she ever studies a software manual, the 3-year-old future programmer must build a foundation for learning how to read. The future pilot must begin to think critically and understand how to solve problems. These skills are built beginning in the earliest years of life."

Roy Bostock
Vice Chairman, Delta Air Lines

ReadyNation

ReadyNation | www.ReadyNation.org
1212 New York Ave NW Suite 300 | Washington, DC 20005 USA

**Agenda Item 10
February 3, 2016**

DATE: January 26, 2016

TO: Children and Families Commission of Orange County

FROM: Christina Altmayer, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: *Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow* Children's Summit

ACTION: Receive Update on the Children's Summit Planning Process

SUMMARY:

The Children and Families Commission of Orange County is leading the planning for a Children's Summit scheduled for May 6, 2016. The Summit is intended to raise the awareness of the importance of investments in early child development as an economic development strategy and using the Early Development Index (EDI) data as foundational support. This agenda item is an update on the Children's Summit planning process.

DISCUSSION:

The Commission's Business Plan includes a strategic intent statement to "focus on community learning and advancement of knowledge." One of the activities to achieve the strategic intent is to create or co-sponsor conferences using the Commission's data and expertise related to young children and families. The Commission approved hosting a summit focusing on young children in Orange County and using the 2015 Early Development Index (EDI) data as the foundation for the discussion and analysis of how young children are faring. Orange County is the first large county in the state to have comprehensive data on all public school children. This update includes a review of the Summit agenda, the status of the Commission's partnership with the Association of California Cities-Orange County, and an update on the planning team and sponsors.

***Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow* Children's Summit Agenda**

The Summit is scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The venue will be confirmed this month and then promotion for the event can begin. The event agenda includes morning and lunch keynote speakers from the business community to present on the importance of early childhood investments from an economic perspective, a presentation on the 2015 Early Development Index data, and a city/school district panel presentation on their experience in using the EDI data.

Keynote Speakers

A local business leader has been asked to present the morning keynote address, and a representative from ReadyNation will be presenting the lunch keynote. ReadyNation is a business leader organization working to strengthen business through better policies for children and youth. Their focus is to educate policymakers and the public about effective investments that will help businesses compete in today's global marketplace, build a foundation for lasting economic security, and help

children get on the right track to succeed in school and in life. Their advisory board is chaired by high-level representatives from major businesses and corporations, which also comprise their speaker's bureau. ReadyNation has confirmed their participation at the Summit and are in the process of confirming a speaker from a nationally recognized business.

ReadyNation has agreed to promote the event with their membership and affiliated organizations including Mission: Readiness and Fight Crime: Invest in Kids. Mission: Readiness members are retired senior military leaders advocating for early investments to secure the nation's future so that all young people can succeed academically, stay fiscally fit, and abide by the law. Currently, more than 70 percent of young adults cannot serve in the military because of poor education, obesity, or serious criminal records. Orange County Sheriff Sandra Hutchens is one of 5,000 policy chiefs, sheriffs and prosecutors that are members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids. The members work together to protect public safety by promoting education and health policies that prepare all young people for successful lives. Improving access to high quality early education as a foundation for success is one of the key priorities.

Early Development Data and Panel Presentation

The Early Development Index results and validation study process will be presented by Greg Duncan, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor at the University of California, Irvine School of Education. Dr. Neal Halfon from UCLA's Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities will also present on EDI, and the Executive Director of the Orange County California Association of Cities will facilitate a panel session with city and school district representatives sharing their experience in using EDI to inform their planning and strategies to improve outcomes for young children.

Technical Working Group Meetings

In January 2016, the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities began providing technical assistance and support to the cities and school districts that participate in the pilot planning effort using the EDI data. The UCLA team developed a six-month training curriculum and technical assistance plan to support the city and school district teams. The objective is to use EDI to inform specific city led activities to bring about positive change for children. To date, four cities and the school district teams attend the monthly Technical Working Group meetings. The teams include representatives from Anaheim, La Habra, Mission Viejo, and Stanton. At the conclusion of the training, the teams are expected to synthesize their experience using EDI including successes, challenges and future opportunities. Selected city and school district teams will present their experiences as part of the Summit panel session.

Children's Summit Planning Team and Sponsors

Commissioner Sandy Barry is the planning committee chair, and Commissioner Sandy Pierce and the Commission's Superintendent Liaison Gregg Haulk are participating as planning committee members. Other planning committee representatives include the Orange County Department of Education, University of California, Irvine and Los Angeles, and the Association of California Cities-Orange County (ACC-OC). Recently, the Orange County United Way and the Orange County Community Foundation have expressed willingness to support sponsorship of the Summit. The ACC-OC is hosting the monthly Technical Working Group meetings and continuing to recruit city participation. They are also coordinating with the Commission to promote the May event with their membership.

STRATEGIC PLAN & FISCAL SUMMARY:

This program has been specifically reviewed in relation to the Strategic Plan and is consistent with all goal areas. There is no funding requested for this item.

PRIOR COMMISSION ACTIONS:

- December 2015 - Received report on upcoming conferences supported by the Children and Families Commission of Orange County and authorized Executive Director to approve related costs.
- September 2015 - Received the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Early Developmental Index (EDI) results, update on the Young Children's Summit planning process, and adopt resolution authorizing an amendment to agreement with UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities to provide technical assistance.
- September 2014 – Received Fiscal Year 2013/14 Early Development Index Results and State of Young Children in Orange County Summit Proposal.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive update on the *Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow* Children's Summit planning process.

Contact: Kelly Pijl