



Plan of Action

18-month Deliverables

The K-Ready Project team works with community partners to:

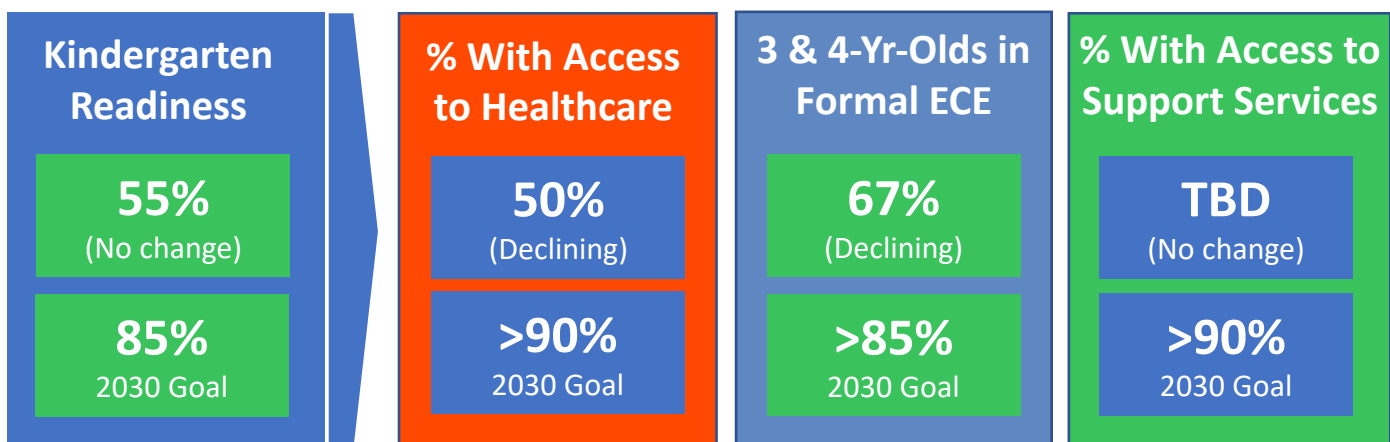
1. Facilitate collective impact work:

- Research to assess the impact of COVID and the state of children and providers in local neighborhoods
- Create an early childhood scorecard and integrated data system
- Convene champions and a cross-sector leadership team committed to the mission
- Build a broad alliance of advocates to advance early childhood policy

2. Implement a collective plan to address priorities, such as:

- ECE teacher workforce shortage and pay and childcare capacity
- Access and participation in healthcare and family assistance
- Mental health and resiliency skills for children and families

K-Ready Community Scorecard (in development)





Plan of Action

Priorities and Collective Action

Priorities



Healthy Beginnings

Actions

Significant Disparities in health and education

access and utilization of services as well as outcomes for families with young children have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Limited Awareness of Importance of Early Childhood Development, what children need, and how to give all children a strong start.

1. Home visitation & support for maternal and infant well-being
2. Integrated system of care, navigation, and follow thru
3. Knowledge campaigns for parents and leaders on importance of early years



High-quality Care & Education

Lack of Alignment on “Kindergarten Ready”

Programs, training, student assessments, and quality standards are inconsistent and do not always align with a working definition of “Kindergarten Ready” that is developmentally and culturally appropriate.

Insufficient Capacity and Teacher Shortages in ECE are a critical concern since the pandemic, especially in low-income neighborhoods.

Inadequate Funding for ECE means that most families can’t afford ECE for their children and most ECE teachers do not earn a living wage.

4. Standard working definition of Kindergarten Ready with developmentally and culturally appropriate assessments, programs, and training
5. Braided funding and integrated data strategies to drive quality and address resource gaps
6. Early learning center capacities and supports and workforce compensation and recruitment strategies
7. Alliance-building and advocacy to drive better funding and policies



Supported Families

Lack of Resources and Tools to Address

Widespread Trauma to help children build resiliency and critical socio-emotional and coping skills.

Struggling Families Many families with young children are struggling and need support, especially black and Hispanic families and those with women heads of households where almost a third are below 100% of poverty.

8. Resources and training to address trauma and mental health (resiliency training, Circle of Security)
9. Business engagement, childcare assistance, and family-friendly policies
10. Neighborhood access to family supports (community centers, schools, churches)