



Hi-Crest Proposal

CHILDREN'S CABINET SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2020





Welcome

KIM MOORE, CHAIR





Hi-Crest Proposal

MELISSA ROOKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Our Vision for early
childhood in Kansas is
that *every child thrives.*

All In For 
Kansas Kids



BLUEPRINT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

“While the paths to success may vary, our vision of every child thriving and this Blueprint for Early Childhood are intended to guide innovative program design, partnership development, sharing of best practices, and tracking toward long-term outcomes for children and families.”

Children's Cabinet



2019 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

“We need to support and strengthen our committed workforce, sustain our facilities and environments, strengthen connections within communities, and eliminate access and navigation barriers for families.”

- KEY FINDINGS in the NA:
 - Availability, Access, Workforce, Facilities, Collaboration

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2019 NEEDS ASSESSMENT – KEY FINDINGS

- KEY FINDING: Availability

“Gaps exist across the early childhood system but are concentrated in a few key areas: parenting skills, basic and economic supports, **child care**, crisis services, and health care...Child care is a significant need, **especially infant care, care during nontraditional hours**, and care for children with special needs.”

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2019 NEEDS ASSESSMENT – KEY FINDINGS

- KEY FINDING: Availability

“Families with young children experience a gap between the services that are available and their actual needs, **disproportionately affecting vulnerable and underserved populations.**”

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2019 NEEDS ASSESSMENT – KEY FINDINGS

- KEY FINDING: Facilities

“There is limited funding and funding flexibility for providers to make **capital improvements**, despite the importance of physical infrastructure to the safety of children and staff. Additional learning materials and enhancements to environments are also needed to ensure **children of all abilities and cultural and linguistic backgrounds** have high-quality and developmentally appropriate experiences in their early years.”

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STRATEGIC PLAN

Details from the *All in for Kansas Kids* Strategic Plan strategies and tactics related to this Hi-Crest Proposal are identified below, and included in Attachment A.

- Strategy 2.2
- Strategy 5.3 and 5.4
- Strategy 6.2 and 6.3
- Strategy 7.1

All in for Kansas Kids



2020 Children's Cabinet Annual Report

Champion

Elevates the importance of investing in early childhood and contributes to innovative program approaches.

Recommendation

Adopt a commitment to equity statement.

➤ Update

In June 2020, the Children's Cabinet adopted a statement affirming its commitment to ensuring equitable outcomes for all children and families using systems-wide approaches to meeting basic needs, elevating family voice and choice, using data ethically and responsively, and equitably funding programs.

Recommendation

Recognize the importance of child care as a public good and the need to elevate the profession.

➤ Update

The Children's Cabinet presents information on the following page about recognizing child care as a public good, including ideas for incorporating family-friendly policies and practices into the workplace and the benefits of such strategies for both families and employers.

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

“The Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund (Children's Cabinet) recognizes that equitable life outcomes start with an early childhood system that acknowledges children and families experience disproportionate access and opportunity across race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical and developmental abilities, home language, and geography.”

Children’s Cabinet



FUNDING PORTFOLIO

ON-GOING

Tobacco Master
Settlement Funding

Federal
Funding

\$51,966,331



Children's
Initiatives Fund

\$979,817

Community-Based
Child Abuse Prevention

3-YEAR

Federal
Grant

\$8,943,000



Preschool
Development Grant

ONE-TIME

Emergency
Federal Funding

\$41,700,000



CARES Act
Grant Programs

\$250,000 is
less than 1%
(0.5%)
of the entire
CIF funding

Looking ahead...

All In For 
Kansas Kids



PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE

A post-pandemic **public-private partnership** structure to:

- Develop a portfolio of innovations ranging from action labs (small investments for safe-to-fail experiments) to demonstration projects (larger, one-time investments in future-focused business plans that address the needs unveiled in our 2019 Needs Assessment).

Looking ahead...



PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE (CONT'D)

A post-pandemic **public-private partnership** structure to:

- facilitate locally-driven and state-supported partnerships that nurture ideas into solid innovations
- ensure that the needs of the present are met while considering the needs of future generations
- amplify the reach of innovative and entrepreneurial leaders across the State

Looking ahead...



FUTURE PROSPERITY – ROOTED IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Children's Cabinet recognizes that our shared present and future prosperity is rooted in early childhood. Kansas children stand to benefit if we **treat investments in child care as a public good.**

- Good for the economy
- Good for families
- Strong ROI when children receive high-quality care in their earliest years

Looking ahead...



HI-CREST DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

To take action on our **commitment to equity**, and to increase **availability and affordability of quality child care** during traditional hours and on a drop-in basis in a high-need neighborhood –

One-time Grant of \$250,000 to support SENT in purchasing a recently-closed child care facility in Topeka's Hi-Crest neighborhood.

Equity in Action



IMPACT - HI-CREST DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

- Support access to reliable care in a child care desert, enabling parents to work and/or pursue educational opportunities;
- Develop and strengthen the local child care workforce through apprenticeships, wage supplements, and partnerships with higher education; and
- Establish the new child care center as family engagement hub.

Equity in Action



PARTNERS - HI-CREST DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

- Public Partners:
 - Children's Cabinet
- Private Partners:
 - SENT (501c3 nonprofit) – *Lead Entity*
 - Topeka Community Foundation
 - Capital Area Successful Start
 - Child Care Aware of Northeast Kansas (CCA-NEKS)
 - Private Donors

Equity in Action



PROJECT LEAD - SENT OVERVIEW

Strengthening and Equipping Neighborhoods Together - SENT

- 501c3 nonprofit organization
- 3 Pillars:
 - Housing and Business Development (renovate affordable properties, etc.)
 - Cradle to Career Education (STEAM learning for children, etc.)
 - Health and Wellness (mental health services, etc.)
- Serve Children ages 6 weeks to 6 years old

Equity in Action



HI-CREST NEIGHBORHOOD DATA

- 27% live below poverty line
 - 65% of *children under 5* live below the poverty line
- Median income - \$36,250
 - Shawnee County \$59,441, KS \$62,087
- Diverse neighborhood
 - 39% white (non-Hispanic or Latino) compared to 75% white statewide
 - 26.2% Black or African American compared to 5.7% statewide

Equity in Action



DISCUSSION - HI-CREST DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

- One-time \$250,000 grant toward facility costs.
- Proposed Grantee Requirements:
 - Participate in the **same evaluation requirements** as other Cabinet programs, including: The Accountability Process, Common Measures Initiative, addressing the Blueprint for Early Childhood, and others.
 - Recommended Department of Administration language: “...In the event the grantee ceases to provide or cause to be provided the above-described services at the purchased location within (some period) years of (specific date), **grantee shall repay the granted amount** to the Kansas Children’s Cabinet
 - **Conflict of Interest clearance**

Equity in Action



FORMAL VOTE

- Motion
- Second
- Vote

- LeEtta Felter
- DiAnne Owen Graham
- Deliece Hofen
- Rep. Monica Murnan
- Terri Rice
- Dr. Tyler Smith
- Sen. Dinah Sykes
- John Wilson
- Cabinet Chair, Kim Moore

Children's Cabinet



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Cabinet meetings are held the first Friday of every other month from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Will continue to meet virutally until further notice.

2021 Meeting Schedule

- February 5
- April 9
- June 4
- August 6
- October 1
- December 3

Children's Cabinet

