

FY23 EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT

Summary and Funding Recommendations for Approval April 1, 2022



Overview of Review Process and Timeline

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

- Eligible Proposals Received: 132
- Funding Available: \$28,157,739
 - ECBG \$19,784,000
 - KPP \$8,373,739
- Total Funding Requested: \$35,654,509

Dec 23, 2021	Applications for ECBG & KPP submitted to Kansas CommonApp Portal
Dec 23 – Jan 9	Initial review by KCCTF & KSDE staff for completeness, required documentation
Jan 10-28	Eligible applications reviewed and scored by an external panel
Feb-Mar	Scored proposals jointly reviewed by KCCTF & KSDE staff
April 1	Children's Cabinet reviews and approves recommendations for ECBG grant awards
April 13-14	Kansas State Board of Education reviews and approves recommendations for KPP grant awards
May	Notice of pending awards delivered to recipients
May/June	Once the Legislature has adjourned and the state budget is final formal paperwork completed
July 1	Fiscal year starts

FY23 Funding Recommendations

Applicant	Funding Request	Proposed Funding	Proposal Overview
Beloit USD 273	\$414,500	\$414,500	Social/emotional lessons, positive behavior intervention supports, mental health consultation, coaching, and academic interventions. (Mitchell County)
Child Advocacy and Parenting Services, Inc	\$687,797	\$687,797	Family mentoring, parent education, and coaching supports for early learning educators to improve quality. (Saline, Ellsworth Counties)
Coffeyville USD 445	\$798,512	\$798,512	3–5-year-old preschool classrooms and additional days of operation for Southeast Kansas Community Action Head Start to align with district calendar. (Montgomery County)
Families and Communities Together, Inc.	\$188,130	\$188,130	Early childhood screenings, mental health consultations, parent educator training, childcare provider professional development, and preschool scholarships. (Marion County)
Family Resource Center	\$1,821,288	\$1,821,288	Quality early care and education, home visitation, targeted case management, and a summer kindergarten transition program through partnerships with local USD's, Crawford County Mental Health Center, and Greenbush. (6 SEKS Counties)
Four County Mental Health Center, Inc.	\$410,377	\$410,377	Case management, parent education, early childhood mental health behavioral services, and social and emotional classroom consultation. (5 SEKS Counties)
Hays USD 489	\$410,293	\$295,093	3–5 yr. old preschool classrooms and wrap around case management services. (Ellis County)
Junction City Family YMCA	\$452,992	\$452,992	Triple P Positive Parenting Program and Parents as Teachers home visitation program. (Geary County)
Kansas City, Kansas USD 500	\$1,133,376	\$1,133,376	Preschool classrooms and instructional coaching. (Wyandotte County)
LiveWell Northwest Kansas	\$490,220	\$490,220	Developmental screenings, health education, home visiting, parent

			education, and early literacy supports. (14 NWKS Counties)
Riley County Health Department	\$835,096	\$835,096	Home visiting, parenting education, family engagement, quality early care and education, and a summer kindergarten transition program. (Riley County)
Russell Child Development Center	\$2,424,225	\$2,424,225	Developmental screenings, home visitation, family education and support, and early learning opportunities. (19 SWKS Counties)
Success By 6 Coalition of Douglas County	\$1,009,485	\$1,009,485	Child & family therapy, parenting education, case management, and improving childcare quality and availability. (Douglas County)
The Opportunity Project	\$2,655,973	\$2,655,973	Full-day/full-year child care at TOP centers and collaborations with USD 260, Rainbows United and Kansas Children's Service League to provide a pre-k classroom, social emotional support/classroom consultation, and parent engagement. (Wichita, Sedgwick County)
United Way of Greater Topeka	\$2,328,512	\$2,328,512	Centralized intake, home visitation, parent education and engagement, high quality early learning strategies, and coaching and consultation services to improve teaching practices. provided in collaboration with Community Action, Inc. Head Start, USD 501, Kansas Children's Service League, Family Service and Guidance, Shawnee County Health Department, Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas and TARC, Inc. (Shawnee County)
United Way of Reno County	\$946,871	\$840,703	Home visitation, mental health consultation, classroom coaching to improve quality, 3yr old preschool classrooms, and a summer kindergarten transition program in collaboration with the Reno County Child Care Coalition, Kansas Children's Service League, Horizon's Mental Health Center, 5 USD's, and Emanuel Lutheran Church preschool. (Reno County)
United Way of the Plains	\$767,315	\$767,315	Partnerships with Rainbows United, YMCA of Greater Wichita and Kansas Children's Service League to offer mental health

supports, quality child care, home visitation and parent engagement programing. (Wichita, Sedgwick County)

*The Family Conservancy	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	Case management, mental and behavioral health supports, parent education, classroom consultation and coaching, and early childhood professional retention and tuition supports with 30 child care partners. (Wyandotte County)
*Olathe, USD 233	\$630,406	\$630,406	Preschool services for at-risk children 3-4 yrs. (Johnson County)
	FY23 Request	FY23 Proposed	
Total	\$20,005,386	\$19,784,000	

* New grantee

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Jewell, Mitchell, Lincoln, Osborne, and Cloud counties
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 414,500
- Number Children To Be Served: 200

Abstract

Mitchell County Partnership for Children (MCPC) in combination with USD 273 requests continued funding for our partnerships in USDs 273, 272, 298, 299, 392, St. John's Catholic, Tiny Treasures and USD 273 Early Learning Center and 3 year old KPP preschool 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 gap funding for our KPP preschool programs and funding for childcare staff serving at-risk children, as well as funding for childcare scholarships. Our goal is to have all children socially, behaviorally, and academically ready for kindergarten.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Saline, Ellsworth counties
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 687,797
- Number Children To Be Served: 200

Abstract

The Saline-Ellsworth Counties School Readiness Project 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. Children ages 0-5 years: 200

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Montgomery County, USD #445 Coffeyville Area
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$798,512
- Number Children To Be Served: 190

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 \$798,512 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 which is enriched by both public and private partners offering their expertise and funding.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Marion County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 188,130
- Number Children To Be Served: 300

Abstract

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 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 health holistic development, ensuring strong familial support, and ensuring early learning. ITAV is requesting \$188,130 for this project to continue serving approximately 300 individuals.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Allen, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette, and Neosho Counties
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 1,821,288
- Number Children To Be Served: 600

Abstract

The proposal requests is \$1,821,288 and includes six counties in extreme Southeast Kansas: Allen, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Labette and Neosho. Our programs will serve 600 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.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Montgomery, and Wilson counties
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 410,377
- Number Children To Be Served: 200

Abstract

Four County Mental Health Center, Inc. serves a five-county region of Southeast Kansas with incredibly high prevalence of at-risk children and families. FCMHC will provide Project Before Case Management, Parent Education, and Early Childhood 3 of 14 Description of Need Mental Health Behavioral Services / Social and Emotional Classroom Consultation to promote stable nurturing environments through support, education, skills development and linkage to community resources while emphasizing a whole-child/family focus. Alongside collaborative partners, FCMHC will promote high levels of care for at-risk children and families while increasing their protective factors. FCMHC's programs utilize evidence-based practices to strengthen families and promote good mental health practices. FCMHC's programs will target 180 'at-risk' children (0-5), their families, and expectant mothers in Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Montgomery, and Wilson counties in FY2023. At least 20 classrooms and 32 professionals will also receive services and support.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Ellis County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 410,293
- ECBG Funds Recommended: \$ 295,093
- Number Children To Be Served: 60

Abstract

USD 489 Early Childhood Connections will provide early childhood services for at-risk children, three to five, and their families in Ellis County access to a continuum of comprehensive, high-quality early childhood program to address healthy development, strong families and early learning. Sixty children will attend the USD 489 Early Childhood Connections Preschool Monday through Thursday for 7.5 hours. Teachers will use the Frog-Street Pre-K Curriculum. Family Advocates will provide case management services to 40 families enrolled in the Connections 3 to 5 Preschool. Through regular home visits Family Advocates provide parent and family support services that enhance parent-child relationships and promote the healthy growth and development of families and children. These "wrap around" case management services for families are in addition to the academic services received by children in the classroom.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Junction City, Ft. Riley, Milford, Grandview (Geary and Riley counties)
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$586,506
- Number Children To Be Served: 260

Abstract

Our Early Childhood Block Grant of Geary County project will impact the Geary County region, encompassing USD 475 boundaries which includes: Junction City, Fort Riley, Milford, and Grandview Plaza. Our project will provide home visiting and parent education services to 260 at-risk children and their families, birth-kindergarten entry. To implement this project, we are requesting \$452,992 of 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 260 at-risk children through the implementation of the following programs:

- Evidence-Based Triple P – Positive Parenting Program provides parent education for families with 100 children. (Strong Families, Healthy Development)
- 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. (Strong Families, Healthy Development, Early Learning)

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Wyandotte County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 1,133,376
- Number Children To Be Served: 120

Abstract

Kansas City, KS Public Schools (KCKPS) is requesting \$1,133,376 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 in KCKPS boundaries. The program proposes to implement the following strategies: 1) assessing students for early identification of needs and providing interventions, 2) utilizing instructional coaching techniques to enhance instructional quality and empower 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. Using evidence-based practices, SPARK anticipates the outcome of increased academic, social, and emotional readiness for its participants to succeed in kindergarten.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Wallace, Logan, Grove, Norton, Graham, Trego, Philips, and Smith Counties
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 490,220
- Number Children To Be Served: 1,586

Abstract

Six programs facilitated by Smart Start Northwest Kansas, under the direction of LiveWell Northwest Kansas requests \$490,220 for an estimated 1,586 high-risk children 0-5 and their families living in 14 northwest Kansas counties spanning over 13,000 square miles. Strategies include risk screening, health education, home visiting, parent education and early literacy and referral. 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. FY23 funding meets changing needs of Northwest Kansas residents by expanding its regional outreach to include fourteen counties, the integration of mental health services into its programs, strengthening community referral systems, and co-constructing new partnerships with community members and other organizations.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Riley County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 835,096
- Number Children To Be Served: 220

Abstract

Raising Riley responds to the unique needs of each community in Riley County, building strong foundations to provide high quality, well-rounded, individualized, developmentally appropriate services for children and families. Preparing children for lifelong learning includes staff and community working directly with at-risk families and children through home visiting, parent education, family engagement, and community involvement. Early learning facilities, both home and center based, are offering quality, affordable early care and education through RR child care scholarships and professional development. At-risk children entering kindergarten take advantage of RR/USD383 Camp Kindergarten, a summer program to help get ready for school that has shown marked improvements in Common Measures assessments administered. RR provides services to an estimated 220 children from 210 families in Riley County. RR programs work to provide services that build confident parents resulting in strong families that support healthy development and early learning for their children.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Clark, Finney, Ford, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Hamilton, Haskell, Hodgeman, Kearny, Lane, Meade, Morton, Ness, Scott, Seward, Stanton, Stevens, and Wichita counties
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 2,424,225
- Number Children To Be Served: 1,270

Abstract

Russell Child Development Center, a 56-year-old community non-profit, requests Early Childhood Block Grant funding in the amount of \$2,424,225 on behalf of young children, their families, and community partners in 19 Southwest Kansas counties. The Building Blocks project is a collaborative approach implementing whole child, two-generational, evidence-based programs selected to directly impact the accessibility, availability, and navigation of services for approximately 1,270 geographically isolated at-risk children and their families, aged, birth to kindergarten eligibility (including prenatal supports,) for whom Common Measures will be generated. Selected programs include Triple P Positive Parenting Program, Learn & Play Parent-Child Interaction Groups, Growing Together prenatal to three child/caregiver supports, and Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center (USD 443) partner programs, all of which align with Cabinet program philosophy, focus on priorities identified in the 2019 Early Childhood Needs Assessment, and address goals specified in the Blueprint for Early Childhood.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Douglas County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 1,009,485
- Number Children To Be Served: 264

Abstract

We propose three strategies for Douglas County. 1. Improve childcare quality, availability and affordability, 2. Provide parenting education & care coordination, 3. Provide child & family therapy. These serve 256 Families with a total of 264 children (156 children prenatal to age 3 and 108 children 3 to 5). Classroom instruction, coaching and mentoring for instructional leaders, childcare financial aid, new infant slots activate the quality and affordability and availability of childcare strategy. Parents as Teachers, Healthy Families, and bilingual Centro Hispano peer support provide direct home or virtual visits with families to activate the parenting education & care coordination strategy. Individualized family therapy coordinated with social emotional consultation in early childhood classrooms and with care coordination activate child & family therapy. We anticipate uniform, consistent screening and referral; healthy social emotional development; high quality learning environments; safe, stable, nurturing relationships.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Sedgwick County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 2,655,973
- Number Children To Be Served: 440

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 \$2,655,973 to provide services to 440 at-risk children ages 1-5 and 127 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. Social emotional support/classroom consultation, 4. Developmental Screenings, 5. Parent support/education. The anticipated outcome of our project is to improve the emotional/developmental functioning of children at-risk, so they enter kindergarten ready to learn.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Shawnee County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 2,328,512
- Number Children To Be Served: 830

Abstract

Capital Area Successful Start (CASS) is an eight-partner collaborative offering comprehensive, responsive services to children and families 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 connect 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 841 families, 522 infants and toddlers, and 308 preschoolers, helping families thrive and preparing children for success in kindergarten and beyond.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Reno County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 946,871
- ECBG Funds Recommended: \$ 840,703
- Number Children To Be Served: 311

Abstract

Through early screening and intervention, a continuum of parental supports to encourage strong families, and opportunities for equitable, inclusive, and quality early learning environments from birth to five, partner organizations from the public and private sector will impact at least 311 at-risk children in Reno County. These children will enter kindergarten on time and ready to learn, with age-appropriate communication, general cognitive, social, and emotional skills.

- Type of Application: Previously Funded
- Geographic Area Served: Sedgwick County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 767,315
- Number Children To Be Served: 270

Abstract

United Way of the Plains is requests \$771,266 to continue its strong partnership with Rainbows United, YMCA of Greater Wichita and Kansas Children’s Service League to offer services to 270 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.

- Type of Application: New Applicant
- Geographic Area Served: Wyandotte County
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 1,600,000
- Number Children To Be Served: 1,245

Abstract

The overall goal of The Family Conservancy (TFC) is to create a systemic approach to early childhood education that will improve the access and quality of child care, in Wyandotte County and beyond. TFC provides under-resourced families with the ability to enroll their child in a quality early education setting that increases the child’s chances of entering kindergarten prepared to succeed. The Start Young program will impact 1,245 children, teachers, and families by improving the quality of child care spaces for children ages birth to five in Wyandotte County through accessibility and quality improvement programming for our 30 child care partners. Start Young programming components will be measured alongside common measures in the Blueprint For Early Childhood’s three main pillars: Healthy Development; Strong Families; and Early Learning. TFC respectfully requests \$1.6 million to support us in carrying out these goals and creating lasting change for Wyandotte County families.

- Type of Application: New Applicant
- Geographic Area Served: Johnson
- ECBG Funds Requested: \$ 630,406
- Number Children To Be Served: 175

Abstract

The Olathe Public Schools is requesting \$ 630,406 to fill the gap in cost for providing preschool services for three and four-year-old's who reside in Olathe and meet at least one risk factor. We anticipate serving at least 175 at-risk preschoolers during the 2022-2023 school year. Early childhood staff will implement a core curriculum grounded in the Kansas Early Learning Standards, with a focus on using student data to guide instruction. We anticipate that students provided with a high-quality preschool experience will enter kindergarten socially, emotionally, and academically prepared for success.