



preschool

PROMISE

because the first 5 years matter



Power in

PARTNERSHIP

2023 - 2024 Annual Report



About PRESCHOOL PROMISE:

Preschool Promise began in 2014 as a small pilot program in Kettering with the goal of making Preschool more affordable. Over the last almost decade, the initiative has expanded to partnering with nearly 125 high-quality sites that serve nearly 3,700 3- and 4-year-olds in 8 of Montgomery County's 16 school districts.

Through our work and advocacy at the local, state and national levels, we promote understanding that the first 5 years of a child's life matter — they lay the foundation for children's success.

IN ADDITION:

- We provide early educators free, evidence-based professional development that focuses on teaching literacy and early math skills and fostering children's ability to problem-solve and control their emotions.
- We work to ensure classrooms are responsive to the needs of all children, especially Black boys and girls.
- We assist early educators eager to earn degrees and credentials by providing financial aid and academic support.
- We offer home visiting for families with children under age 3.
- We offer free resources to families to keep their children learning at home.

OUR GOAL:

Every child in Montgomery County, Ohio, is ready for success in Kindergarten and beyond.

HOW WE ARE GETTING THERE:

We are transforming early care and education, ensuring that every child can have equitable, high-quality, affordable care and education from prenatal through age 5.

ENSURING EQUITY IS AT THE HEART OF OUR WORK.

WE CAN BUILD A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR OUR YOUNG CHILDREN!

We need to promote more understanding that **children benefit from high-quality early care and education.**

We need to acknowledge that **children do better when they get help early for learning disabilities or exceptionalities.**

We need more recognition that **early educators are woefully underpaid.**

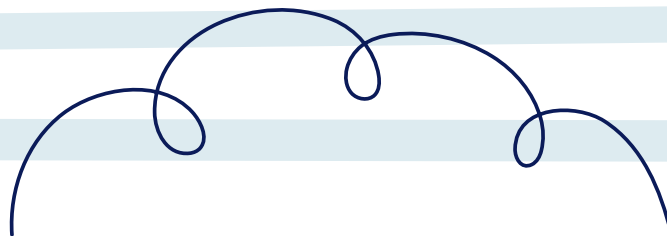
We need to build more partnerships with the business community so **families with young children can work and employers can hire and keep employees.**

Preschool Promise has been in the vanguard nationally and across Ohio of lifting up the needs of young children and working families! We're also helping professionalize the field.



WITH OUR GROWING LIST OF PARTNERS, WE'RE LEADING BY:

- developing innovative initiatives that bring new funding to our community
- conducting gold-standard research on teaching young children
- fostering collaborations at the state and local levels to leverage limited resources
- ensuring that pregnant women and children get what they need prenatally through age 3.





DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE AND PRESCHOOL KEEP GROWING



ON THE NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS:

- Public investment in Preschool is increasing — an acknowledgement of the importance of early education.
 - Hundreds of pieces of legislation have been introduced in Congress and in state legislatures to increase support for young children and families.
 - Public opinion surveys increasingly show support for government investment in helping families afford child care.
 - Businesses, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and state and local chambers, are advocating for increased investment in child care and early learning.
- There is growing recognition that the first three years of a child's life require more attention and investment than our country has historically provided.
 - Recognizing that they cannot wait, more communities across Ohio have joined other cities to look at how to create local Preschool initiatives.



OVER THE NEARLY LAST 10 YEARS IN OUR COMMUNITY:

- We've leveraged funding from our national, state, local and philanthropic partners, helping bring nearly \$20 million to our community.
- Together, Dayton and Montgomery County have committed \$8.3 million in annual sustaining funding for Preschool Promise.
- 1,500 teachers have improved their teaching skills, receiving free professional development and coaching.
- Thanks to support from our university partners, 76 Scholars have earned an early childhood education degree or credential.
- We have developed equity-focused professional development to address the ways our systems fail Black children.
- Our annual Readiness Summit brings 600+ people together to ensure more children are ready for Kindergarten.

In the last decade,

**15,000+ CHILDREN HAVE ATTENDED
PRESCHOOL PROMISE PARTNER SITES.**



We have so **MUCH TO CELEBRATE THIS YEAR**

Our coaches provided 3,500 hours of coaching to 122 early educators.

We provided nearly \$750,000 to partner schools to support teachers and improve operations.

We won a highly competitive \$4 million research grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

1,000 people attended our screenings of the acclaimed documentary *Black Boys*.



- **122 Promise Scholars** — 54% of whom are **Black** — were **working on or completed a credential or degree** in early childhood education.
- **328 teachers** received free **professional development**.

Our children in all 8 school districts continued to outperform their peers not at Preschool Promise sites.

**31% VS. 20% TESTED FULLY
READY FOR KINDERGARTEN.**





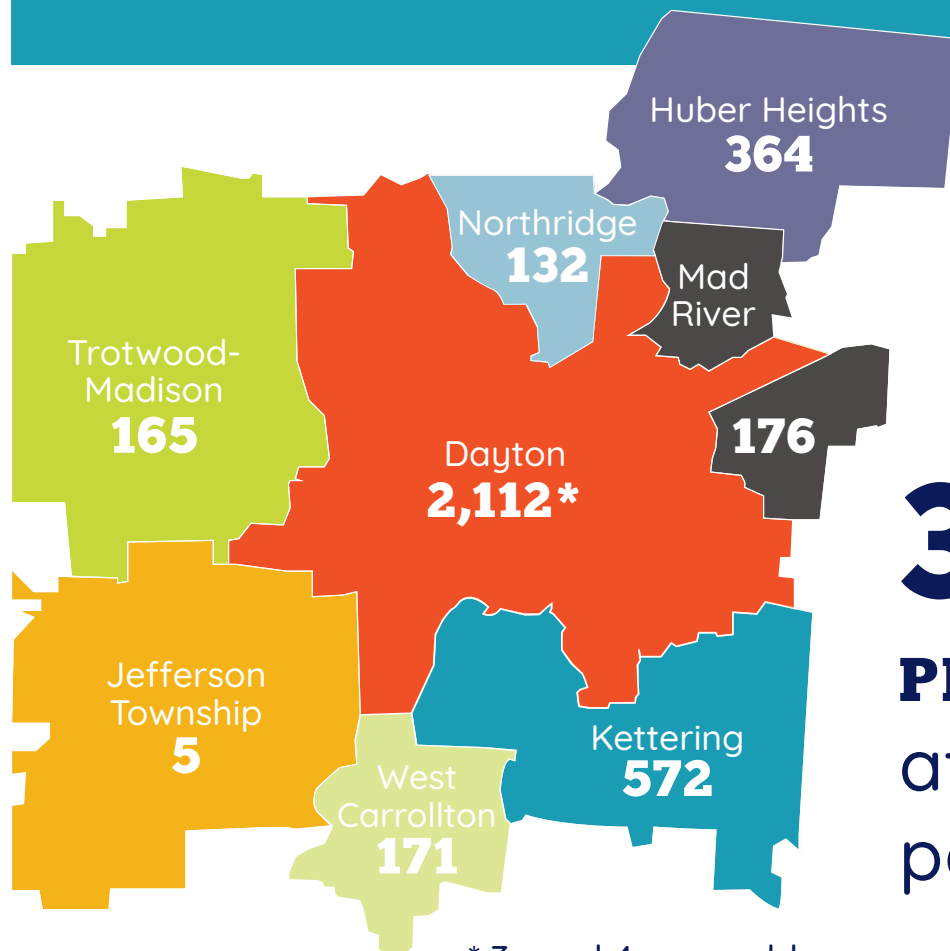
OUR PARTNERSHIPS KEEP GROWING

- We're partnering with **Omega Community Development Corp.** to ensure nearly 200 young children are being taught early literacy skills using Science of Reading.
- We were chosen by the **State of Ohio** to pilot Business and Child Care Partnerships to increase access to child care; we are working with the **Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce.**
- We're collaborating with **over 15 organizations** to create a one-stop, shared website for social services, making it easier for families to get support.
- Thanks to **PNC Grow Up Great, Passport to Kindergarten** continues to help early educators and families get their children ready for Kindergarten, including by involving the **Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, Muse Machine, the Dayton Art Institute, Dayton Metro Library** and **Five Rivers MetroParks.**
- With the **Dayton Art Institute**, we expanded the **Black Boy Brilliance** program by securing funding for a Black artist-in-residence who also teaches art to Preschoolers.
- We're partnering with the **Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association** to support over 100 families using the **Parents As Teachers** home visiting curriculum.
- We're working with **The Village Network** and **Youthland Academy** to support early childhood mental health.
- We're installing dozens of **Little Free Libraries** with the support and help of a host of partners.



Our
**PARTNER
PRESCHOOLS
INCREASED
FROM
104 TO 123.**

We're supporting
**CHILDREN + FAMILIES ACROSS
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**



* 3- and 4-year-olds

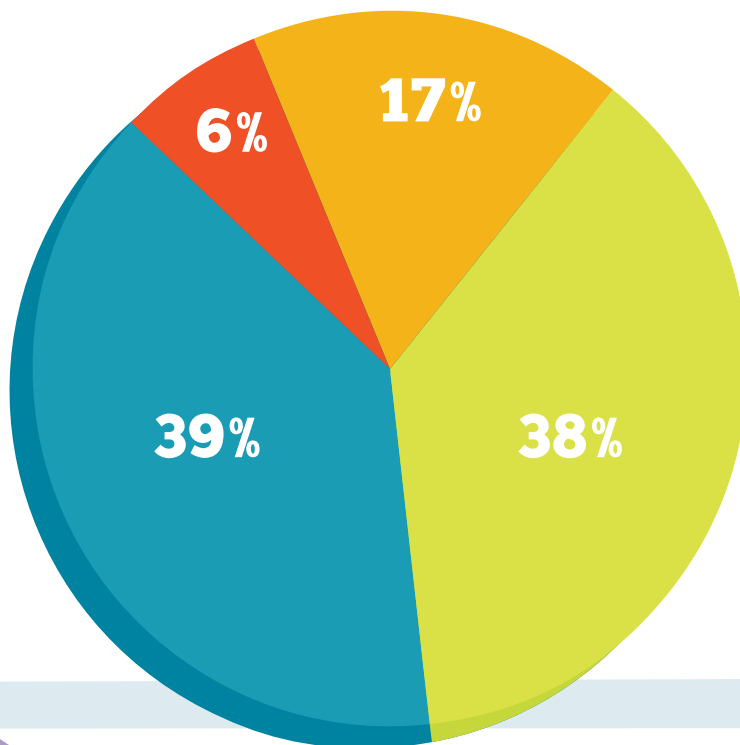
3,700
PRESCHOOLERS
attended our
partner sites.

7 OF 10 PRESCHOOL PROMISE CHILDREN

live in families earning

UNDER \$42,000/YEAR

MORE THAN **2/3** ARE OF COLOR



FAMILIES HAVE CHOICES

Our Partner Preschools

- Catholic Preschools
- MVCDC (Head Start)
- Family and Child Care Centers
- Public School Preschools



RESULTS & DATA DRIVE OUR STRATEGIES

We partner with the **University of Dayton Business Research Group** to evaluate our children's progress, the impact of our professional development and to monitor trends.

These independently produced findings help us continuously improve.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS YEAR:

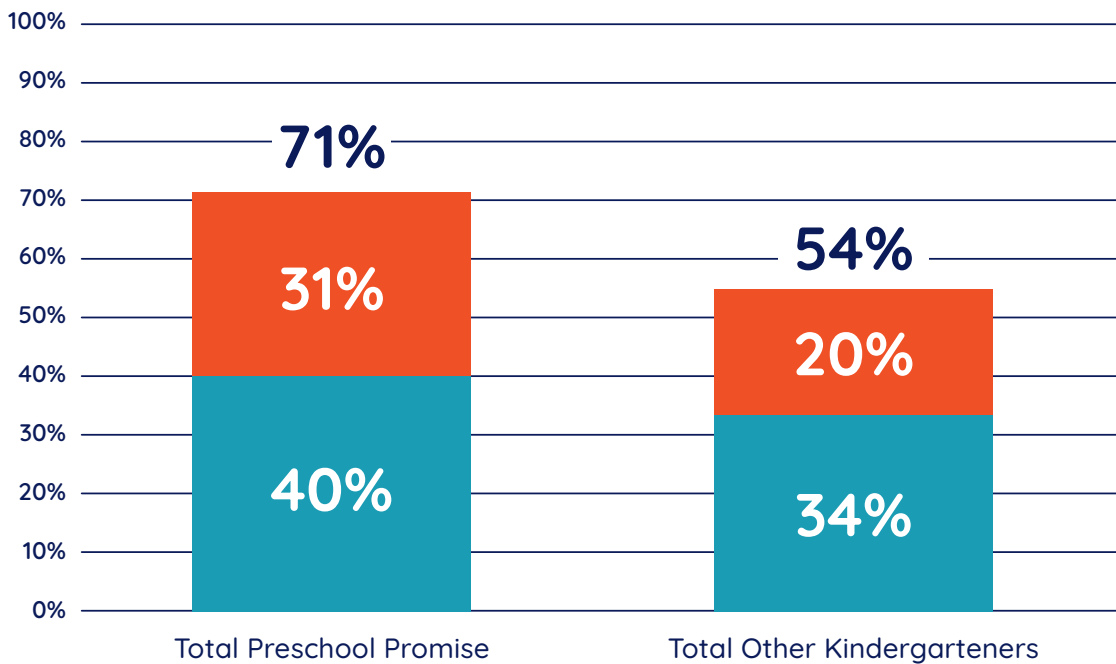
- Children attending our partner sites outperform their peers not at our programs regardless of gender, race or ethnicity group in all geographic areas we serve.
- Preschool attendance continues to be an important driver of children's achievement.
- Families are regularly using our Books-of-the-Month and our thrice weekly text messages promoting school readiness.
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) scores are still behind pre-Covid-19 levels.
- We have more work to do to eliminate the barriers our Black boys and girls face.

Ohio mandates all children take a readiness assessment at the start of Kindergarten. Children are scored according to “Demonstrating Readiness,” “Approaching Readiness” and “Emerging Readiness.”

Our goal is to help all children score “Demonstrating Readiness,” which is closely associated with reading proficiently in 3rd grade.

About half of children who test “Approaching Readiness” go on to become proficient readers in 3rd grade.

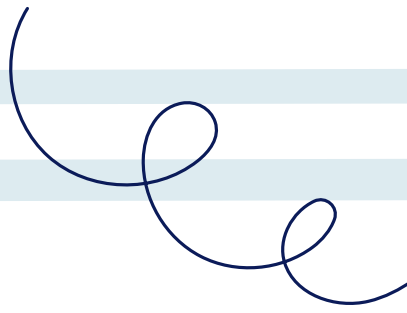
% of Children ‘Demonstrating’ + ‘Approaching’ Kindergarten Readiness, Fall 2023



CHILDREN EXPERIENCING POVERTY HAVE MORE DIFFICULTY BEING PROFICIENT READERS IN 3RD GRADE IF THEY WERE NOT FULLY READY TO START KINDERGARTEN.

■ Demonstrating
■ Approaching





**PRESCHOOL
PROMISE
CHILDREN IN
ALL DISTRICTS
ARE BETTER
PREPARED**

We're making
**A DIFFERENCE ACROSS
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

Northridge
+12

Kettering
+10

Dayton
+18

Mad River
+15

West
Carrollton
+22

Trotwood-
Madison
+28

Huber
Heights
+14

% point difference of children scoring in the
'Demonstrating' and 'Approaching' KRA bands vs.
children not attending Preschool Promise sites



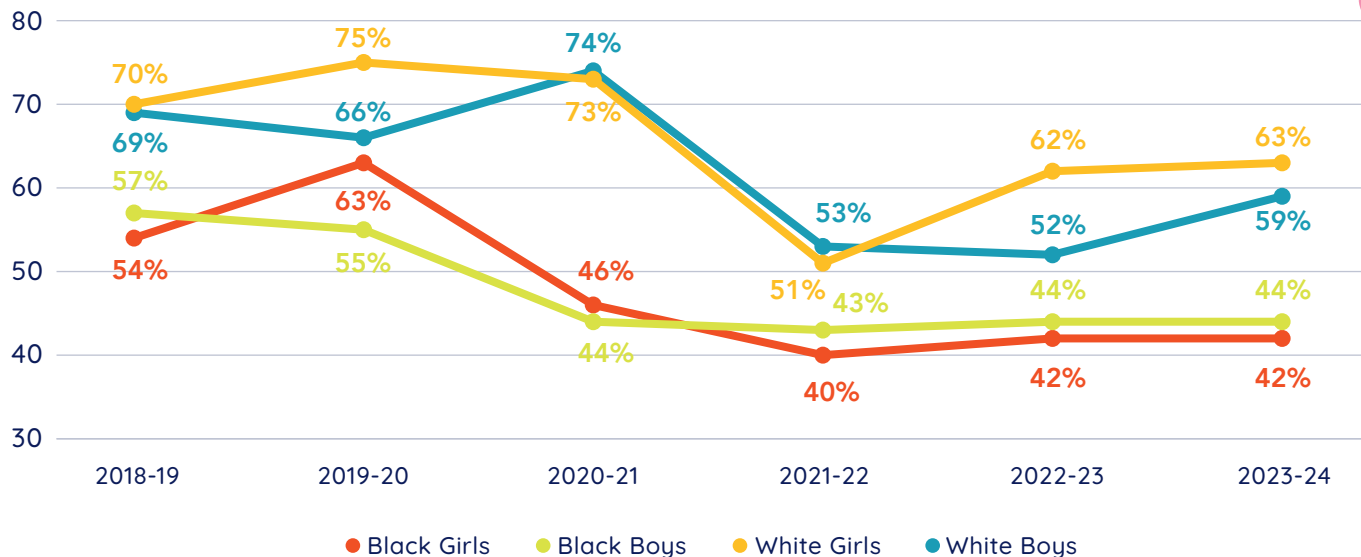
We have to DRIVE UP ATTENDANCE



Year after year, the data show that attendance matters for children's Kindergarten Readiness. To get the most from Preschool, children need to have at least a 90% attendance rate.

- Far too few children are meeting that bar.
- We have not rebounded to pre-COVID 19 attendance levels.
- We're particularly struggling to support attendance by Black children.

% of Preschool Promise children with at least 90% attendance





HOW TO IMPROVE CLASSROOM QUALITY



THE GREATEST IMPACT

Our data, based on the nationally recognized assessment known as CLASS®, showed the greatest impact on improving classroom instruction when:

- Training was focused on teaching specific early literacy skills
- The Lead Teacher participated in the training
- An entire site was engaged in the same training
- Families were involved

**“TEACHING DIALOGIC READING
IN SMALL GROUPS HAS BEEN
A GAME-CHANGER FOR ME.
I HAVE SEEN HUGE GROWTH
IN LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT.”**

- Preschool Teacher





328 TEACHERS

participated in evidence-based professional development

44% of Preschool Promise classrooms participated

3,500 hours of coaching were provided

**IN COACHED CLASSROOMS,
CHILDREN GAINED MORE THAN
THE EXPECTED GROWTH.**





Exceptional FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We are so grateful to all our financial supporters, especially the **City of Dayton** and **Montgomery County**, which are our signature funders.

The City of Dayton has committed sustaining funding to Preschool Promise, a decision that was made possible by voters' overwhelming support in March 2024 to renew an income tax increase for another 8 years. Over 70% voted in favor of the measure.

Montgomery County has been a steadfast funder of Preschool Promise and was the first government to step up with support. Its contributions have allowed us to strategically expand to 8 of Montgomery County's 16 school districts, concentrating on communities with large numbers of children experiencing poverty.

"THANKS TO TUITION ASSISTANCE, WE COULD TAKE THE ADVICE OF GIVING OUR SON ANOTHER YEAR IN PRESCHOOL. NOW, HE'S MORE SELF-AWARE, CAN ADVOCATE FOR HIMSELF AND SHOWS KINDERGARTEN READINESS SKILLS."

– Preschool Parent

OUR INVESTMENTS IN CHILDREN + FAMILIES

EXPENSE	AUDITED FINANCIALS 2023		BUDGETED FOR 2024	
Assisting Families	\$4.18M	33%	\$4.47M	36%
Expanding Quality and Families' Access to Affordable Preschool	\$4.12M	32%	\$3.89M	32%
Northwest Dayton	\$1.34M	11%	\$331K	3%
Educating the Community	\$1.14M	9%	\$972K	8%
Evaluation and Administration	\$952K	8%	\$1.1M	9%
Birth to 3	\$658K	5%	\$607K	5%
Hope Zone	\$284K	2%	\$897K	7%

2023 TOTAL:

\$12.7M

2024 TOTAL:

\$12.3M

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Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine

Thank you to our GENEROUS FUNDERS & SPONSORS



LOCAL PARTNERS

Dayton Children's Hospital
Learn to Earn Dayton
Omega Community Development Corp.

FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS

United States Department of Education
Ohio Department of Children and Youth
Ohio Department of Education and Workforce

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Parents As Teachers
Pritzker Children's Initiative

CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS

KeyBank
PNC *Grow Up Great*

LOCAL FOUNDATIONS

Charles D. Berry Foundation
The Frank M. Tait Foundation
Iddings Foundation
Kettering Family Philanthropies
Levin Family Foundation
Martha Holden Jennings Foundation
Mathile Family Foundation
Physicians' Charitable Foundation
of Miami Valley
The Spurlino Foundation



Thank you to our Preschool Promise Partner sites.

DAYTON

ABC Child Development Center
Amaysing Kids Academy
Angie's Early Learning Academy
Aunnie's Early Learning Center
Bionca Jones
Blue Book Schools
Bombeck Family Learning Center
Creative Corner - Hoover
Creative Corner - Main
Creative Corner - McCall
Crowned Kids Care
Cynthia Douglas
Dayton Children's Hospital Child Care Center
Dayton Christian Center
Dayton Public Schools - Belle Haven
Dayton Public Schools - Charity Adams
Dayton Public Schools - Cleveland
Dayton Public Schools - Eastmont
Dayton Public Schools - Edison
Dayton Public Schools - Fairview
Dayton Public Schools - Horace Mann
Dayton Public Schools - Kemp
Dayton Public Schools - Kiser
Dayton Public Schools - Louise Troy
Dayton Public Schools - River's Edge
Dayton Public Schools - Roosevelt
Dayton Public Schools - Rosa Parks
Dayton Public Schools - Ruskin
Dayton Public Schools - Valerie
Dayton Public Schools - Westwood
Gloria Dei Montessori
God's Grace Learning Center
Growing Seeds Learning Center
Immaculate Conception
Inspire Me Learning Academy
It's Levels
Jubilee
Kids Nest II
Little Creations Big Discoveries
Little Hearts Schoolhouse Early Learning Academy
Little Lessons Academy
Miami Valley CDC - Dayton View
Miami Valley CDC - Findlay

Miami Valley CDC - Kings Highway
Miami Valley CDC - Miami View
Miami Valley CDC - Our Lady of the Rosary
Miami Valley CDC - Rosa Parks
Preschool Academy
Miami Valley CDC - Twin Towers
Mimi's Home Care
Mini University at Sinclair College
Mini University at The Hope Center
Next Generation ChildCare (Lacretia Warren)
Nita's Nurturing Nest
On Purpose Academy
Playtime
Rainbow Years Child Care
Small World
Smart Steps - Salem
Smart Steps - Wyoming
So Loved Child Care
Speedie Daycare
St. Anthony YMCA
St. Benedict the Moor
Stepping Stones Learning Center
Steps Creative Center
The Glen Early Learning Center
The Learning Ladder
TrueFit Childcare LLC
United Rehabilitation Services
WestPark Academy
Youthland Academy of Dayton

HUBER HEIGHTS

Creative World of Learning - Huber
Kindercare Learning Center - Brandt
KinderCare Learning Center - Bufort
KinderCare Learning Center - Old Troy
Sheila Stinson Family Child Care
St. Peter Early Childhood Center
Studebaker Preschool
YMCA Early Learning Center at Studebaker

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP

Miami Valley CDC - Blairwood

KETTERING

Busy Bees Family Child Care
Christ United Methodist Church
Creative World of Learning - Kettering
Kettering City Schools - Beavertown

Kettering City Schools - Greenmont
Kettering City Schools - Indian Riffle
Kettering City Schools - John F. Kennedy
Kettering City Schools - Kettering ECEC
Kettering City Schools - Oakview
Kiddie Kampus
KinderCare Learning Center - Ebert
KinderCare Learning Center - Stroop
MCESC Learning Center - East
Miami Valley CDC - Moraine Meadows
St. Albert the Great Preschool
The Learning Tree
Wee-Haven Children's Center
Wenzler
YMCA Child Care at LifePointe

MAD RIVER

Mad River Early Childhood Center
Merrie Time
St. Helen School
Youthland Academy of Riverside

NORTHRIDGE

Buttercups Learning Center
Champions Preschool at Northridge
Local Schools
Miami Valley CDC - Dixie
Pitter Patter Learning Center
Youthland Academy of North Dayton

TROTWOOD-MADISON

KB Child Development Center
Miami Valley CDC - Goodwill Easterseals
Miami Valley CDC - MET
Mother Maria Anna Brunner Catholic School
Peg's Pal's Childcare
Trotwood-Madison ELC
Tumbling Tots
Uniquely Dis-zian Family Daycare

WEST CARROLLTON

Crayons Academy
Little School
Ms. Shelly's Place
West Carrollton Early Childhood Center
Youthland Academy - School Age
Youthland Academy of West Carrollton

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DONATE NOW!

📍 2251 Timber Lane
Dayton, OH 45414

🖥️ PreschoolPromise.org

📞 (937) 329-2700

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