



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION & CARE

Shaping Futures in the Willamette Valley

The Need

Building Strong Foundations for Young Learners

The early years of a child's life are crucial for their social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development. High-quality early childhood education and accessible child care are essential not only for the development of children, but also for enabling parents to participate in the workforce confidently.

Immediate Impact Through Foundation Support

In the Willamette Valley, only a fraction of the necessary child care services are available—with licensed programs serving just 1 in 8 infants and toddlers, and 1 in 4 preschoolers. Moreover, only 33% of these programs have undergone quality assessments, and a mere 15% meet the high standards set by Oregon's Quality Rating System. By supporting the training and incentivization of the early childhood workforce, the enhanced quality of care and education provided will benefit children, educators, and parents alike.

The Power of Youth

Expanding Opportunities Through Strategic Partnerships

Our initiatives include augmenting state funding for educational outreach that trains early childhood educators, thus improving the overall care and educational content. The Foundation is also set to develop home-based learning and care centers, along with Early Childhood Education Instruction Centers, to broaden the reach and impact of our efforts.

Proposed Expenditure: \$4 Million by 2030

Sample Initiatives

Primeros Pasos Partnership: A Community Effort

In collaboration with Primeros Pasos and the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, we have embarked on a mission to establish up to four Family Childcare Homes within affordable housing communities. This initiative, backed by a \$25,000 grant from the Foundation, addresses the critical need for more care providers by offering training in business practices and childcare certifications.

