





***“We must expand and improve  
our early education and  
child-care programs...  
In the face of such intense  
global competition, for the  
sake of our children and the  
continued growth of  
our economy,  
we cannot do  
anything less.”***

**- Gov. Mark Dayton  
January 5, 2015**

Minnesota Department of  
Education



# Office of Early Learning

**Mission:** Partner with families & communities across the state, and align human & financial supports across agencies, to promote healthy child development from prenatal through grade 3.

**Vision:** All Minnesota children get the great start they need to succeed in school and life.



## Progress by the Numbers



**5,700+** children receive EL Scholarships!

**1,892** Parent Aware rated providers statewide!



**80%** of PW-I scholarship children choose 4-stars!

**29%** of CCAP children under 5 choose quality!

# Challenges: Mental health capacity

1 in 4 will have some kind of mental illness in their lifetime.

Just how common is **1 in 4?**

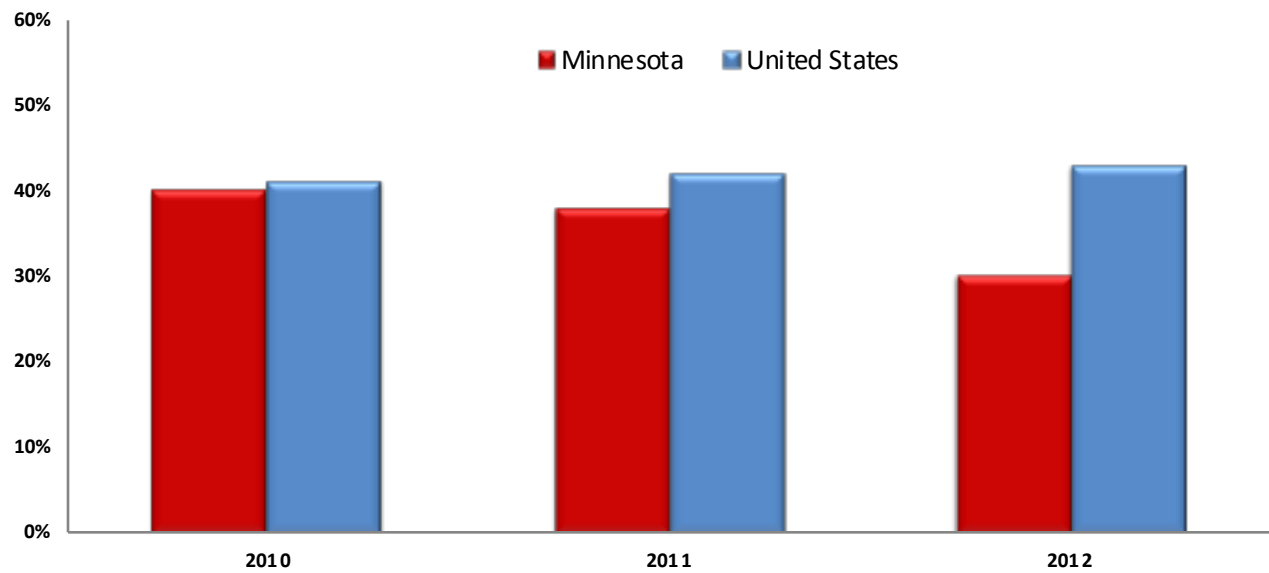
More common than gray cars | **1 in 6**



Start talking. Stop the stigma. Make It **OK**.org

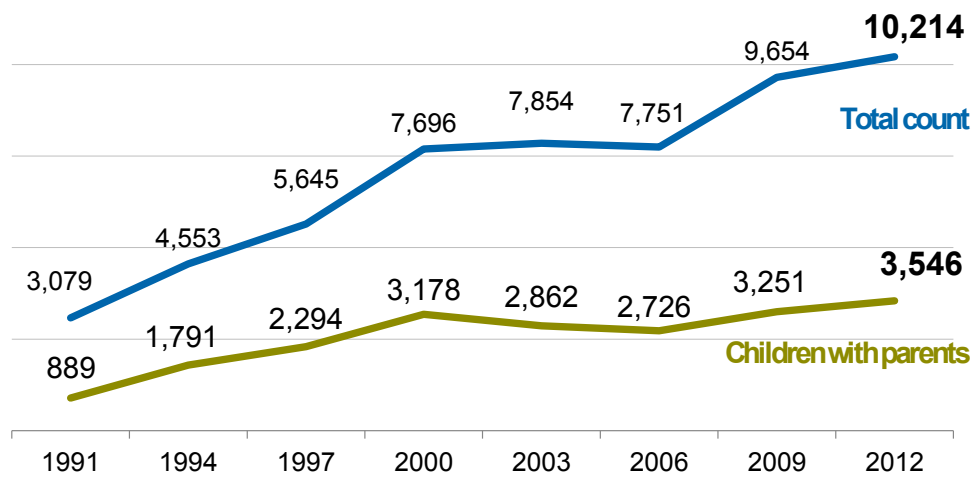
# Challenges: Access to care

**Percentage of Medicaid children receiving preventive dental services**



# Challenge: Children and housing

**Current issues:** The number of homeless children and their families has almost quadrupled *per one-night shelter counts*



## Challenges that still exist

In Minnesota:

- 5 in 10 Black children
- 4 in 10 American Indian children
- 3 in 10 Hispanic children
- 2 in 10 Asian children and
- 1 in 10 White children ...

**LIVED IN POVERTY IN 2012**

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey



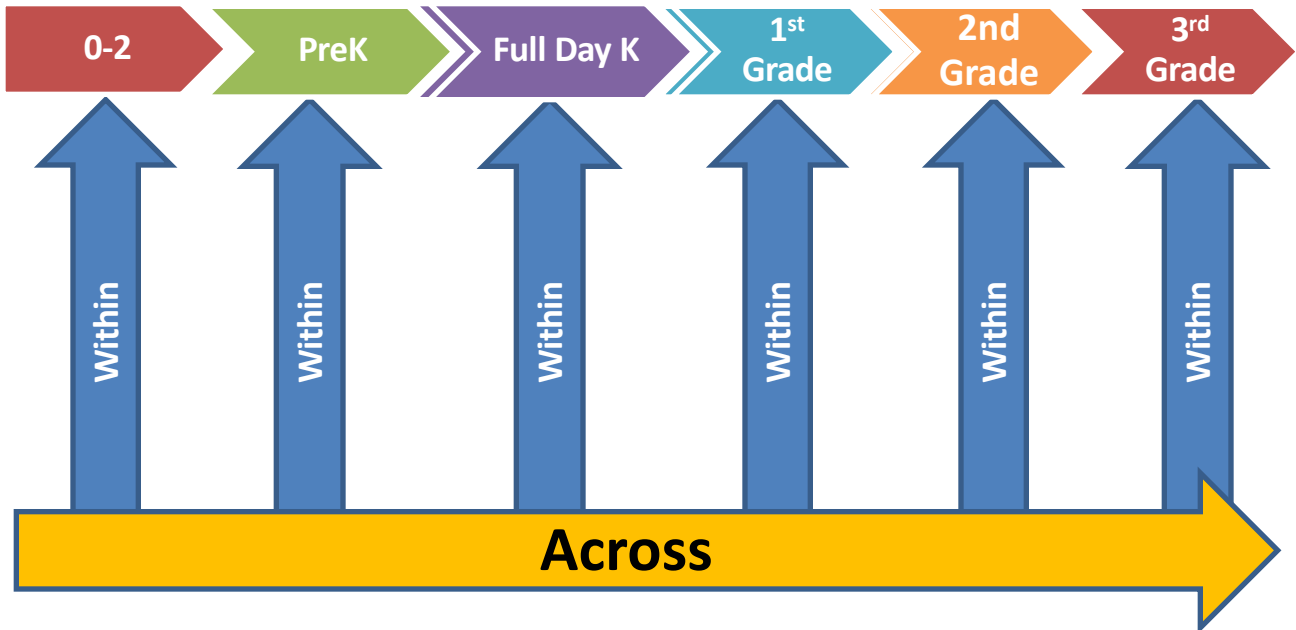


# Common Agenda

**Healthy development**  
& **well-being** contribute to  
**early learning success**  
and a successful  
**trajectory throughout**  
**school and life.**



# P-3 Alignment Must Exist *Within* Each Age/Grade Level and *Across* Levels



# Pathways to Readiness

6-8<sub>yrs</sub>



**Grades 1-3: Foundation for Lifelong Learning**

*Before / After / Summer School Programs*

5<sub>yrs</sub>



**Full-day K: Universal Transition Year**

3/4<sub>yrs</sub>



**High-Quality PreK: Foundation for K-12 Education**

0-2<sub>yrs</sub>



**Birth to 3: Crucial Brain Development**

**Transition Plans in Place**

## Help Me Grow (\$2M)

- Comprehensive, collaborative system for **improving access to existing resources** and services for children (birth → age 8) and their families;
- Builds on existing in-state structure, with help from Help Me Grow National Center;
- **Four Core HMG Components:**
  - ❖ Provider Outreach
  - ❖ Community Outreach
  - ❖ Centralized Access Point
  - ❖ Data Collection

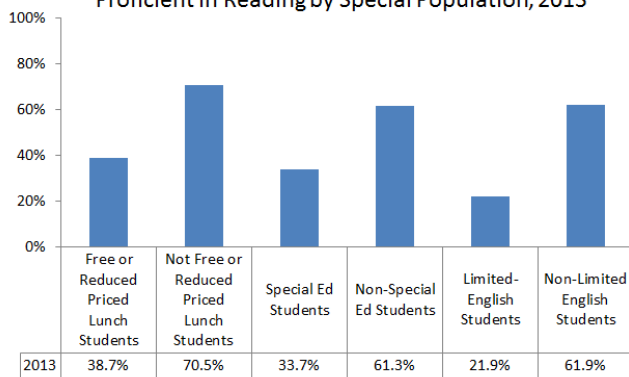


**High Quality  
Early Learning  
Opportunities**

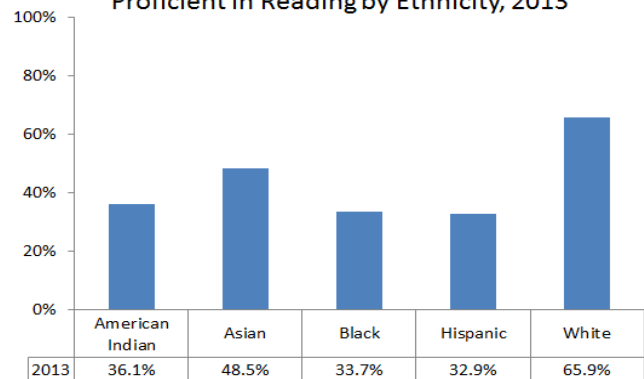
# Early Learning

Children of color and children from low-income families consistently demonstrate lower proficiency rates on key indicators such as third grade reading.<sup>5</sup>

Percent of Minnesota Third Graders that are Proficient in Reading by Special Population, 2013



Percent of Minnesota Third Graders that are Proficient in Reading by Ethnicity, 2013



<sup>5</sup>Minnesota Dashboard

# High Quality Early Learning

## **Statewide Pre-Kindergarten for 4 year olds (\$109M)**

- Provide voluntary, full day, high quality pre-Kindergarten early learning opportunities for every 4-year old, statewide. (*n = 31,000 children*)

## **Eliminate Head Start Waiting List (\$19.4M)**

- Promote school readiness, family support, and education for low-income children. (*n = 2,485*)

## **MN Reading Corps (\$10M)**

- Provide trained tutors for students who struggle with literacy skills.

## High Quality Early Learning, cont.

### **Invest in Quality Child Care**

- Simplify child care assistance requirements to reduce complexity for participants and counties **(\$1.6M in FY16/17)**
- Reduce the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Waiting List - currently at 6,157 **(\$12.5M in FY16/17)**
- Sustain Parent Aware Quality Rating System **(\$3.5M in FY16/17)**

### **Add Flexibility for Early Learning Scholarships**

- Enhance portability and family choice.



**PHYSICAL &  
MENTAL HEALTH**

## Physical/ Mental Health

### **Free Breakfasts for Pre-K through Grade 3 (\$28.1M)**

- Ensure every child, from Pre-K to grade 3, has access to a well-rounded, nutritious meal to start their day.

### **Oral Health (\$8.4M in FY16/17)**

- Reform the way Oral Health services are provided in Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare.

# Physical/ Mental Health

## **Child protection (\$2.5M in FY16/17)**

- Support best practices;
- Increase accountability for county and tribal child welfare agencies.

## **Mental Health: Prevention**

- Build community capacity to reduce the incidence of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) (**\$796K in FY18/19**);
- Expand respite care (**\$847K in FY16/17**) to keep children healthy in the community.

# Physical/ Mental Health

## **Mental Health: Early Intervention**

- Mental health consultation for early childhood providers (**\$922K in FY16/17**)
- School-based diversion pilot for students with co-occurring disorders (**\$65K in FY16/17**)

## **Mental Health: Treatment**

- Begin to establish Psychiatric Residential Treatment capacity in the state (**\$6.6M in FY16/17**).

## Evidence-based Family Home Visiting

- **\$650,000 FY 2016, \$2M each FY thereafter**
- Awarded competitively
- To Community Health Boards and Tribal Nations
- Expanding evidence-based programs already implemented in Minnesota (Nurse-Family Partnership, Healthy Families America, and Family Spirit (culturally tailored for American Indian families))
- Provide home visiting services to another 200-300 pregnant or parenting teens and women

## Family Home Visiting

- Develops parent knowledge of child development;
- Enhances parenting behaviors and parent-child relationships;
- Increases parenting confidence & skills;
- Screens for risk factors;
- Refers to other needed services and supports;
- Connects to preventive health services;
- Educates on home safety and injury prevention.



## Home Visiting Results

- Improves healthy birth outcomes;
- Improves use of preventive health services;  
reduced ER visits;
- Reduces child abuse and neglect;
- Improves school readiness;
- Reduces use of government assistance programs;
- Increases employment for mothers;
- Increases intervals between pregnancies;
- Reduces juvenile arrests (child);
- Reduces maternal convictions (mother).

# **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**



## Community Partnerships

- ❖ Provide wrap around services for children and families within the Northside Achievement Zone and St. Paul Promise Neighborhood, who partner with families and community to permanently eliminate education disparities. **(\$4M)**
- ❖ Support expanded tribal administration of human services programs for WEN **(\$2.8M in FY16/17)** and Red Lake TANF **(\$284K in FY16/17)**

## Community Partnerships

- ❖ Establish American Indian Family Early Intervention Program to families who are at risk for possible child maltreatment (**\$2M in FY16/17**)
- ❖ Invest in targeted, coordinated, culturally-specific care for pregnant mothers at high risk of poor birth outcomes from drug use (**\$272K in FY16/17**)

