The State of the Young Child in Wayne County

Needs Assessment Data to Guide Workgroup Strategy
Abstract

The Early Childhood Coalition for Wayne County Kids (ECC) has focused on utilizing data compiled from multiple sources to gain a comprehensive overview about the state of young children in Indiana in order to follow the stated vision of all Wayne County children being prepare and ready to succeed in kindergarten.

As engagement in the coalition has grown, so has the need for an easy-to-view snapshot of data available. This report presents 2018 data from the Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee gathered from 8 sources statewide. The data has been broken down into workgroup-specific areas to increase usability. In addition to the data, data analysis questions, additional workgroup-specific resources, and a shared-language glossary have been included.
Introduction

The ECC held the initial workgroup session on December 4, 2018. At this meeting, the three vital strategies were outlined: early identification of developmental challenges, increased number of quality childcare situations, and comprehensive efforts and interventions to ensure readiness. Each of these 3 strategies were assigned workgroups. In the following analysis, data is provided specific to these 3 vital strategies which can be used by the workgroups to develop plans for change.
Data

Data contained in this needs assessment is current as of March 2019 and was provided by a variety of sources connected to young children of Wayne County and their families.
Problem Statement: Wayne County has not clearly defined how to determine if a child is prepared and ready to succeed in Kindergarten. How do we define and measure Wayne County children’s preparedness for kindergarten?

The identified vital strategies:
1. Early identification
2. Access to quality childcare
3. Plan for kindergarten readiness

Young Children Defined As:
Age 0 - 5

Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018
Wayne County Reality

DCS reports: 1,741 Wayne County children abused or neglected during past 6 years

Child neglect, abuse rises in Wayne County: 'Some things you can't forget'

'We have a long way to go' to help Wayne County children

Official: Drugs fuel skyrocketing neglect cases
Wayne County 2019

Demand for High Quality Care

Paths to QUALITY Utilization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Centers</th>
<th>Homes</th>
<th>Ministries</th>
<th>School Age</th>
<th>Head Starts</th>
<th>Preschools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of known programs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of regulated programs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of programs in Paths to QUALITY</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of &quot;high quality&quot; programs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Supply & Demand

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Infant</th>
<th>Toddler</th>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>School Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Children¹,²</td>
<td>799</td>
<td>1670</td>
<td>2579</td>
<td>5068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of children that are low income (below 185% FPL)³</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children with all parents in the labor force⁴</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>1091</td>
<td>1684</td>
<td>3603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity of regulated programs⁵</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity of Paths to QUALITY™ programs</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity of &quot;High Quality&quot; programs⁶</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment in regulated programs</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment in Paths to QUALITY™ programs</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment in &quot;High Quality&quot; programs</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>521</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmet Need for &quot;High Quality&quot; care⁷</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>1386</td>
<td>3483</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wayne County

2019
Proposed Workgroup Solutions

Early Identification

Quality Childcare

Kindergarten Readiness
Early Identification of Developmental Challenges

Early Childhood Coalition for Wayne County Kids
Assessment of Needs and Strengths

First Steps (2018) has outlined the following developmental areas to be assessed when determining needs and strengths to determine appropriate services.

- Cognitive Development
- Social/Emotional Development
- Physical Development
- Communication Development
- Adaptive Development
First Steps (2018) outlines specific requirements for covered personnel who conduct assessments:

1. **Profession** – social workers, speech/language pathologists, etc.
2. **Education** – aligns to profession
3. **Continuing education** requirements
Eligibility Criteria

- Under the age of 3
- Experienced developmental delays on specified scale
- Diagnosed physical or mental condition with high probability of future developmental delay

(Indiana First Steps System, 2018)
Benefits of Early Intervention

Early intervention elicits positive benefits for young children, their families, and society as a whole:

- Schools see reduced need for special education service provision
- Nation experiences decreased health care costs

(Indiana First Steps System, 2018)
### Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Goals</th>
<th>Measurement Plan</th>
<th>Services to be Provided</th>
<th>Service Provision Location</th>
<th>Service Provision Timeframe</th>
<th>Payment</th>
<th>Transition Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plan for treatment</td>
<td>Outcome assessment plan</td>
<td>Includes: audiology, family education, health services, physical therapy, transportation, and social work services</td>
<td>Home = best practice</td>
<td>Planned duration of services</td>
<td>Payer plan and assessment of options</td>
<td>Plan after child ages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Indiana First Steps System, 2018)
2017-18 Outcomes

Wayne County Data (10/01/17 – 09/30/18)

Average Age at Referral
- 13 months

July 2018 to September 2018
- 15 new ISFP established

Children Served (2018)
- 199 total
- 171 served in natural environment consistent with best practices

Exited Services
- 43 – preschool special education
- 2 – no longer needed services (under 3)
- 15 – declined services

(In Indiana First Steps System, 2018)
Example Questions Working Groups Can Begin To Answer:

- How many First Steps qualified providers do we have in Wayne County?
- How many children need First Steps services in Wayne County?
- What barriers exist to early identification of developmental challenges of children in Wayne County?
- What steps can be taken to increase early identification of developmental challenges in Wayne County?
- What costs would be associated with expanding early identification of developmental challenges in Wayne County?
- Are there other areas of developmental challenges that would be best addressed by early identification?
Early Childhood Coalition for Wayne County Kids

Increase the Number of Quality Childcare Situations
Early Childhood Care Program Options

- Licensed Child Care Center
- Family Child Care
- Registered Ministry
- School-Based Program

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
High-Quality Childcare

High-quality programs are at Level 3 or 4 and have:

- Age-appropriate educational curriculum, year round
- Trained teachers who receive ongoing professional development, yearly
- Teachers continuously assess strengths and weaknesses of children
- Level 2 and 1 requirements met

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
Wayne County Paths to QUALITY Options

NUMBER OF CHILDCARE FACILITIES IN WAYNE COUNTY AT EACH PTQ LEVEL

34 Programs in Wayne County not Participating in Paths to QUALITY Program

(Number of Childcare Facilities at Each Level)

34 Programs in Wayne County not Participating in Paths to QUALITY Program

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
Long-Term Outcomes of High-Quality Childcare

- Better prepared for kindergarten
- Successful throughout academic careers
- More productive in workplace settings
- Earn more over lifetimes
- Fewer health issues
- Less likely to utilize social safety net
- Decreased risk of criminality

(Fortman, 2018)
Care Needs in Wayne County

- Need childcare due to working caregiver(s) (66%)
- Enrolled in a known program (45%)
- Enrolled in high-quality early childhood care (12%)

4,598 Young Children in Wayne County

(Young Children = Ages 0-5)
Important Factors in HQ Childcare

Availability: Do families have options?

Accessibility: Can families utilize them?

Affordability: Can families afford them?
High-Quality Program Stats

14 High-Quality Programs in Wayne County

7 in Childcare Centers

6 in Family Child Care Centers

1 School-Based

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
High-Quality Program Stats

375 Children Enrolled in HQ in Wayne County

289 in Childcare Centers

56 in Family Child Care Centers

30 School-Based

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
NUMBER OF HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS IN WAYNE COUNTY IN 2012 AND 2017

Number of High-Quality Programs in Wayne County

22% Increase in 5 years

Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018
### Cost Associated with High-Quality Programs

#### How much does a single parent pay for one child to attend a high-quality program?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Income Paid for HQ Care</th>
<th>35%</th>
<th>28%</th>
<th>19%</th>
<th>18%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% FPL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125% FPL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>185% FPL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200% FPL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### What public assistance is available to support families?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Funding Subtotal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCDF</td>
<td>$506,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>$1,902,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start</td>
<td>$868,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMW Pre-K</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEMG</td>
<td>$13,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Ed.</td>
<td>$638,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title I</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funding Subtotal: $3,929,749

$13,257,960 is needed to fund high-quality care for young children living under 100% of FPL.

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
Example Questions Working Groups Can Begin To Answer:

- What public assistance is available to support child engagement in high-quality childcare?
- Does funding exist to help childcare facilities engaged in PTQ?
- What contributes to enrollment, by age, in high-quality early care?
- How can we engage the faith community in the provision of high-quality care?
- How many more students can be enrolled in the high-quality programs that currently exist in Wayne County?
- How accessible are the current high-quality programs in Wayne County?
- What’s the right number of high-quality programs to meet demand?
Comprehensive Efforts and Interventions to Ensure Readiness for Kindergarten
Growth Factors Related to Kindergarten Readiness

Social

Emotional

Physical

Cognitive

Academic

(Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018)
Wayne County Kindergarten Stats

How many students are ready for kindergarten?
Currently, Indiana has no uniform way to measure kindergarten readiness across the state.

Cost Associated with Kindergarten Retention in Wayne County
$474,504
Retention Count x Average Daily Membership = Cost of Retention

How many children are enrolled in kindergarten?
Wayne 787
97.8%

How many children repeated kindergarten?
Wayne 68
8.7%

Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee, 2018
Future Option: On My Way Pre-K

Started in 2015 in 5 Indiana counties, now in 20 counties
- Shown to have potential to improve lower income 4-year-olds’ early learning skills and readiness for kindergarten
- Major impact in areas of language comprehension, early literacy skills, and overall school readiness

Family eligibility
- Income below 127% of FPL
- Child must be 4 and starting Kindergarten in following year
- Caregivers in household must be working, going to school, or attending job training

Facility eligibility
- Located in eligible county
- Top-ranked at level 3 or 4 in PTQ or be accredited by an approved national or regional accrediting body

(Office of Early and Out-of-School Learning, 2018)
Future Option: Indiana’s Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning Capacity Building Grant

74% of Hoosiers agreed that high-quality pre-K helps children academically prepare for kindergarten.

76% of Hoosiers agreed that it was important that four-year-old Hoosier children spend time in an organized pre-K program.

64% of Hoosiers agreed that children who attend high-quality pre-K have stronger social-emotional development.

(Early Learning Indiana, 2017)
Future Option: Indiana’s Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning Capacity Building Grant

Capacity-building grants may be used for the following purposes:

- Training and professional development of teaching staff
- Classroom materials that demonstrate increased outcomes for children or increased instructional practices for educators
- Evidence-based curriculum or instructional materials including professional development for teaching staff to utilize the curriculum
- Family engagement activities or materials and/or marketing and communication materials
- Other relevant needs to help expand capacity and/or improve quality programming to help programs reach Paths to QUALITY level 3 or 4, which is the requirement for a provider to be eligible to be an On My Way Pre-K provider

(Office of Early and Out-of-School Learning, 2018)
Example Questions Working Groups Can Begin To Answer:

- Have other communities developed a clear definition of kindergarten readiness?
- How can current funding be used to implement local programs focused on kindergarten readiness?
- What elements are important in a kindergarten readiness program?
- What current kindergarten readiness options currently exist?
- How do current options for kindergarten readiness serve the Wayne County population?
- How do the other workgroup areas of focus tie in to kindergarten readiness?
References


