Leveraging Dollars, Champions and Quality with Local Funds

First 5 California and the Water Cooler
Sacramento, CA
February 8, 2012
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Educare as a National Model

Dr. Diana Mendley-Rauner
President
The Ounce of Prevention Fund
The Beethoven Project, Chicago
Educare of Chicago
Coast to Coast Network

Operational Schools
Chicago
Omaha—Kollom
Omaha—Indian Hill
Milwaukee
Tulsa—Kendall-Whittier
Tulsa—Hawthorne
Denver
Miami-Dade
Oklahoma City
Seattle
Kansas City, KS
Central Maine (Waterville)
Arizona (Phoenix)
Washington, DC*
West DuPage, IL*
Lincoln, NE
Tulsa—MacArthur*
*under construction

Schools Under Development
New Orleans
Silicon Valley (San Jose)
Los Angeles
Educare as a Showroom for Quality
The Importance of Early Entry for Dual Language Learners

Home Language: English (n=1144) Dual Language (N=501)

- Late Entry, English
- Early Entry, English
- Late Entry, Dual Language
- Early Entry, Dual Language

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Age 2 | Age 3 | Age 4 | Age 5
---|---|---|---
91.9 | 93.1 | 94.2 | 95.3
90.3 | 91.8 | 93.3 | 94.8
86.0 | 88.8 | *83.6
70.5 | 77.1 | --- | ---
Educare as a Platform for Change: State Policy Impact

In recent years, the state has increased early childhood investments by over $148 million.
Educare as a Platform for Change: National Policy Impact
Building Champions Across the Nation
"If [early childhood education] works in Oklahoma, why don’t we do it in the whole country? We’ve got an education system that’s leaving too many children behind."

- Barack Obama, at Educare of Tulsa, March 2007
Bringing Educare to California

Evelina Du
Senior Research Associate
Center for Child & Family Studies,
WestEd
Educare California Feasibility Study

Site Selection Criteria

1. Head Start/Early Head Start Presence
2. Anchor Public and/or Private Funding Opportunities
3. Receptivity of School District to Collaborate with Educare
4. Land Availability Adjacent to an Elementary School
Building Statewide Alignment in Early Learning

Dr. Meera Mani
Director
Children, Families, and Communities Program
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Business Support for Early Learning

Dennis Cima
Senior Vice President
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Return on Investment:  
Silicon Valley Business Community Support

• Who makes up our organization and what is our mission?
• Why education policy and quality early education?
• The strong case for ECE...
• Why Educare and what do we have to offer?
• Our role in the partnership
Return on Investment:  
**Silicon Valley Business Community Support**

- Who makes up our organization and what is our mission?
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• Why education policy and quality early education?
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• The strong case for ECE...
Return on Investment:  
Silicon Valley Business Community Support

- Why Educare?
- What do we have to offer?
Return on Investment:
Silicon Valley Business Community Support

- Our Role in the partnership and what we hope to achieve
Efforts to Narrow the Achievement Gap in Santa Clara County: Early Learning Master Plan and SJ2020

Dr. Charles Weis
Superintendent of Schools
Santa Clara County Office of Education
The Achievement Gap

Disparity in academic performance between lower-performing Hispanic/Latino and African-American students; and higher-performing Asian and White/non-Hispanic students.
SJ2020: Four Focus Areas

- School readiness/ early learning
- Home and community
- School and classroom
- College and career success

Make school readiness/early learning standout to intro next slide.....
Santa Clara County Early Learning Master Plan

- Early Learning strategy for SJ2020
- 2009 – community stakeholders begin yearlong planning process
- 2010 – plan officially unveiled, launched
Early Learning Master Plan

- Birth through third grade focus
- 2-, 5- and 7-year goals in six strategic areas
- Implementation through shared leadership and leveraging of existing efforts
- Signature efforts that cut across all strategic areas
Possible Budget Reductions

Proposed 2012-13 state budget could:
- Cut $4.8 billion in education
  = 3 school weeks = $368/pupil
- Eliminate Transitional Kindergarten (TK) requirement
- Eliminate Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program
- Reduce full-day preschool per-child reimbursement rate by 10 percent
The cost of the achievement gap

In a working lifetime, high school dropouts earn $400,000 to $500,000 less than high school graduates.

The City of San José loses almost $800 million over their lifetimes.
What: State-of-the art early childhood schools
Open full-day and full-year
BA-degreed teacher in every classroom

Why: Children from economically disadvantaged homes too often arrive poorly prepared for kindergarten
Require significant and costly concentration of K-12 resources to provide them with equal educational opportunity.

How: Private dollars help build the building
Operating budget through cross-organizational partnership.

Parent Involvement: Parents are expected to play an active part in the life and governance of Educare

Staffing: Professional career ladder to prepare neediest children to succeed by the time they enter kindergarten.

Governance: Educare governance board under an independent 501(c)(3) represents all major stakeholders in the project, including parents.
Community collaboration is crucial

SJ2020

- County of Santa Clara
- City of San Jose
- Educators
- Business leaders
- Community organizations

ELMP

- The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- First 5 California
- FIRST 5 Santa Clara County
- Preschool California
- Educare Learning Network
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- Community-based providers
- School districts
Santa Clara County P-16 Strategic Vision for Student Success

County/City
- Early Learning Master Plan
- SJ2020

Neighborhood/District
- Franklin-Mckinley Children's Initiative (FMCI)
- Educare
  - Kindergarten Transition Program
  - Screenings
  - Family Resource Centers

Intensive Strategy
Building a Community Coalition: Franklin-McKinley Children’s Initiative

Buu Thai
Trustee
Franklin-McKinley School District
Santee Neighborhood of East San Jose
Partnership with East Side Union High School District
The Context for Quality

Care provided in safe, interesting, and intimate settings where children have the time and opportunity to establish and sustain secure and trusting relationships with other children and with knowledgeable caregivers who are responsive to their needs and interests.
Implementation: Educare of California at Silicon Valley (Program, Partnership, and Professional Development)

Dr. Yolanda Garcia
Director
WestEd E3 Institute–Excellence in Early Education
Distribution of Funds for Educare of California at Silicon Valley

- Santa Clara County Office of Education (Head Start): 37%
- Santa Clara County Office of Education (State Preschool): 24%
- East Side Union High School District: 28%
- Power of Preschool: 11%
Educare of California at Silicon Valley Neighborhood Concept

1. Neighborhood
2. Coach/Master Teacher

3. Agency*
   - ESUHSD: CCTR, EHS, CalSafe
   - SCCOE: CSPP, EHS, HS
   - PoP: F5 SCC, F5 CA
   - SCCOE: HS

4. Funding Stream**
   - CCTR
   - EHS
   - CalSafe
   - CSPP
   - SCCOE
   - EHS
   - HS
   - F5 SCC
   - F5 CA
   - PoP

* ESUHSD: East Side Union High School District; SCCOE: Santa Clara County Office of Education; PoP: Santa Clara County Power of Preschool
** CCTR: General Child Care and Development from the California Department of Education, Child Development Division; EHS: Early Head Start; CSPP: California State Preschool Program from the California Department of Education, Child Development Division; HS: Head Start; F5 SCC: First 5 Santa Clara County; F5 CA: First 5 California
Family Support
Building an Early Learning Collaboration and Creating a Shared Governance Model

Jolene Smith
Chief Executive Officer
FIRST 5 Santa Clara County
During the 10 years that I have been with FIRST 5 Santa Clara, we have made tremendous strides towards improving our children’s readiness for school. Yet, despite the successes of our funded programs, demonstrated by rigorous evaluations, funding for programs in early childhood in this state continue to be at risk. This shift in our state’s commitment to our children is a giant step back from 1998 when we were celebrating the passage of Proposition 10.
Three years ago, I was first introduced to a national, evidence-based model called Educare. This model was based on the best of early education practices, comprised of public and private partners, and was a platform for policy change. I was initially skeptical whether Educare could succeed in California. But as I met with representatives from the Ounce of Prevention Fund, the Buffett Early Childhood Fund, First 5 California, and The Packard Foundation, I felt excited because I recognized the potential for Educare to be a catalyst for real change in California.
- When Santa Clara was selected as one of two sites in California for Educare, we immediately got to work. I met with representatives from the public and private sectors: Silicon Valley Leadership Group, the Santa Clara County Office of Education, and the Franklin-McKinley School District. Together we founded a governing board. Our group has grown to include representation from every sector of our community.

### Educare of California at Silicon Valley Members

- Buffett Early Childhood Fund
- Catholic Charities of Santa Clara
- Children’s Discovery Museum of San Jose
- City of San Jose
- County of Santa Clara
- The David & Lucile Packard Foundation
- East Side Union High School District
- Educare Learning Network
- First 5 California
- FIRST 5 Santa Clara County
- Franklin-McKinley Children’s Initiative
- Franklin-McKinley School District
- Santa Clara County Office of Education
- Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- WestEd
- WestEd-E3 Institute
After much discussion, we knew that Educare, given our work with the First 5’s Power of Preschool, SJ2020, the Santa Clara County Early Learning Master Plan, the Franklin-McKinley Children’s Initiative, was critical in the movement to narrow the achievement gap so that our children are ready for school.
We created an organizational structure with a governance board, a steering committee, and a committee structure.
Did we have doubts due to the high capital costs? Sure. Did we have doubts because of the high operations costs? Absolutely. We experimented with many funding models. We revised our building design many times. And at times, our commitment was tested. But we persevered. We brought in experts from the American Institutes of Research, an expert on fundraising, architectural experts, programmatic experts. For over a year, we rode a roller coaster. We had difficult discussions. And some hurt feelings along the way. But despite these challenges, we held on and kept our eye on the prize, our children. Through steadfast commitment and perseverance, we collaborated to develop a realistic budget for the building and created a braided funding model for the operations. I am happy to report that we are now a quarter of the way towards reaching our goal for our capital campaign. But we are still have much work to do.
Now, many of you are probably thinking that Educare is too expensive to build in my community, that it is too ambitious for my community. That it is only possible in places like Silicon Valley or Los Angeles.

Maybe.

This is really important. The true influence of Educare is not the state-of-the-art facility, but the core features.

I propose to you that every county in California can implement the 13 core features of Educare. Many of you either already are implementing or have been implementing them.

This is what the First 5 California Child Signature Program is trying to accomplish. Implement the core features of Educare throughout California to raise the quality of care for our children.
To successfully implement all or even some of the core features requires not only commitment and perseverance, but partnerships. The partnership that you see before you today is not unique to Santa Clara County but can be formed in any community. If you want to succeed in raising the quality of early childhood education in your community, you need to have business at the table, you need to have your local and county school districts at the table, and you need to have the community at the table.
We look at Educare as a wrapper for high-quality programs. Our vision for Educare in Silicon Valley is that it will be a showcase for high-quality early learning, for world-class professional development, and as an invaluable resources for the community.
It will be a place where policymakers can see firsthand what quality looks like. But most importantly of all, Educare will be an inspiration for a community, historically impoverished and neglected.
It will be a place where families that are have some of the highest risk factors will be able to have greater access to services,
View of Atrium when you first walk into the front door
What will be in the atrium
• Offices for FMCI
• Family Resource Center
• West Ed
• Conference Rooms
• Training rooms
• Space split into areas for
  • children
  • parents
where children can grow vegetables in the community garden,
and where children can perform in an outdoor amphitheatre.
In fact, how appropriate would it be to name the amphitheatre in honor of Rob Reiner for his steadfast leadership. Which if not for his dedication to children, none of this would be possible.
Questions?