Early Learning Investments Are Essential to Wisconsin’s Future. Military, business and law enforcement leaders are calling for greater investments in young children to ensure our national security, build our economic well-being and reduce crime.

WHY NATIONAL SECURITY?

70% of Americans aged 17 to 24 cannot meet the military’s eligibility requirements.

In Wisconsin, That’s OVER 450,000 young Wisconsinites UNABLE TO JOIN the military.

WHY ECONOMIC WELL BEING?

DO NOT have the basic education and communication skills required to acquire and advance in jobs.

Employers have concerns about employees’ ability to communicate and collaborate effectively and creatively.

80–90 million adults 
Nearly half the US workforce

WHY CRIME REDUCTION?

At-risk children who didn’t receive a high-quality early childhood education were 70% more likely to be arrested for a violent crime by age 18.

In FY 2017, Wisconsin’s Department of Corrections was appropriated over $1.2 BILLION

WE KNOW WHAT WORKS!
Early Child Development Investments Produce Results!
Decades of research has identified programs proven to work for young children.

Higher reading & math scores. A 2011 Duke University study found children had higher third grade reading and math scores in counties that received more funding for early care and education programs when those children were younger.

Higher graduation rates. High-quality early childhood programs increase graduation rates by as much as 44%.

Better health. A study of children who participated in the Carolina Abecedarian early learning program found participants experienced fewer illnesses as adults, made healthier lifestyle choices, had lower rates of high blood pressure, and had significantly lower risk of heart disease than the control group that did not participate.

Greater self-sufficiency. Voluntary home visiting programs reduce health care costs, improve school readiness and success, reduce need for remedial education and increase family self-sufficiency. Those who participated in high-quality early childhood programs will pay more taxes and be less likely to rely on government assistance.

Higher salaries. At-risk children who participated in a high-quality early childhood program were more likely to be employed and earned 33% higher average salaries.

Less crime. At-risk children who participated in a high-quality early childhood program were significantly less likely to be arrested for a violent crime by age 18.

7-10% Return on Investment. Every dollar invested in high-quality early childhood education produces a 7-10% annual return.

References for all statistics are available online at www.cetewisconsin.org/toolkit.

Learn more...

cetewisconsin.org