

Benefits of Investing in Kids

Investing in young children: Yields a high rate of return on investment

- Economists at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve calculate that early childhood education produces an inflation-adjusted annual return of 16%.

- Every dollar invested in pre-school produces \$8.74 in benefits to society.

Spurs community economic development

- Strong life and job skills are critical factors in fostering economic development and attracting industry.

- Early childhood education is a large, growing industry employing over 14,000 people in the St. Louis metro area.

- The availability of child care enables 48,000 other workers to get, keep and be productive at their jobs.

Provides economic opportunity for individuals

- Children who receive a quality early childhood education are more likely to succeed in school and, as a result, earn a good income, own their own home and pay taxes.

Improves the quality of community life

- Investing in the positive development of all children reduces educational failure, crime, drug use and violence--- while lowering costs for health care, social services and remedial education.

- Today's children are tomorrow's leaders of society and our future workforce. How we develop our children today shapes the St. Louis region of tomorrow.