

A young child with light-colored hair is shown in profile, blowing bubbles. The child is smiling and looking upwards. The background is a soft, greenish-yellow color with many bubbles of various sizes floating around. The overall mood is joyful and hopeful.

**Montgomery County Family & Children First Council
Young People Succeeding Outcome Team
Early Care & Education Initiative**

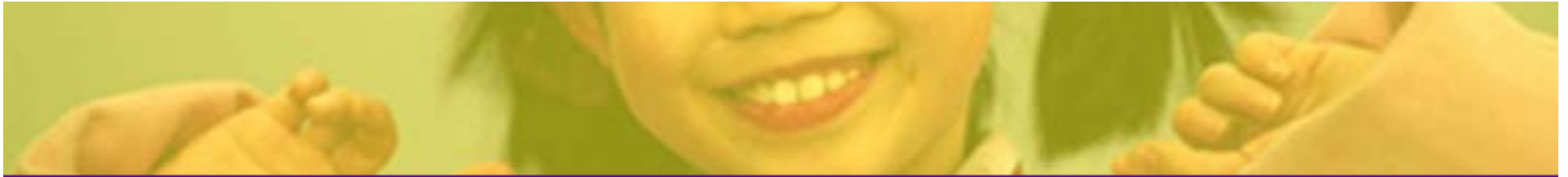
**Preparing Every
Child to be
School Ready**

July 29, 2008



VISION

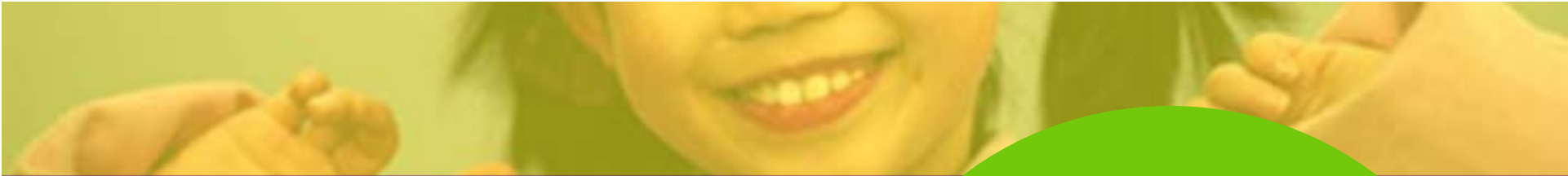
**Every child in
Montgomery
County will
be school
ready.**



Children are born ready to learn.

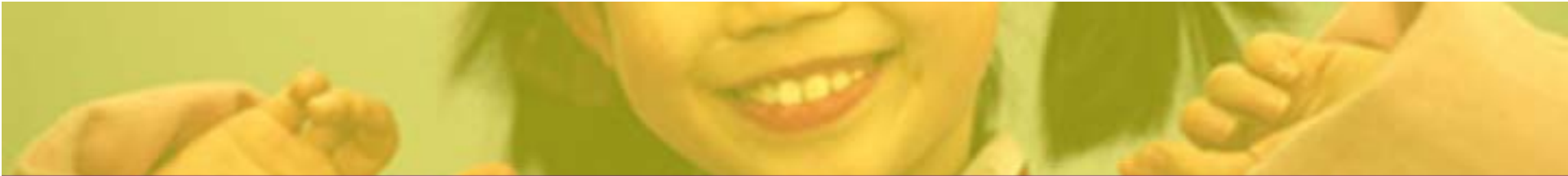
It is our job
to make sure
they are ready
for school.





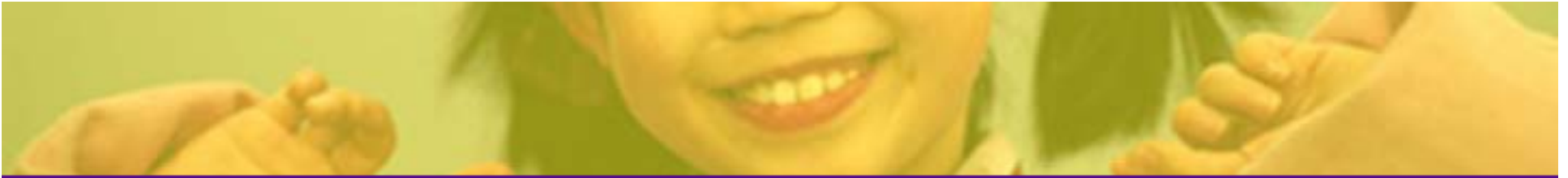
**Improve the
overall quality
of Early Care &
Education (EC&E)
in Montgomery
County**

MISSION



Build upon state and national efforts to leverage human, intellectual and financial capital.





The first years of life are crucial to the development and functioning of the brain.

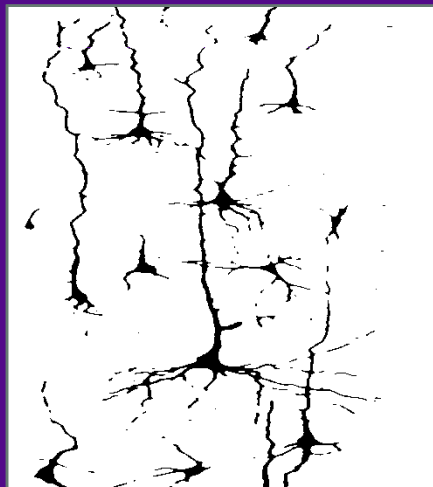


- Early experiences affect learning, as well as social and emotional development.
- What children know and can do when they start school contributes to their success in the classroom and the workplace ... and throughout their lives.

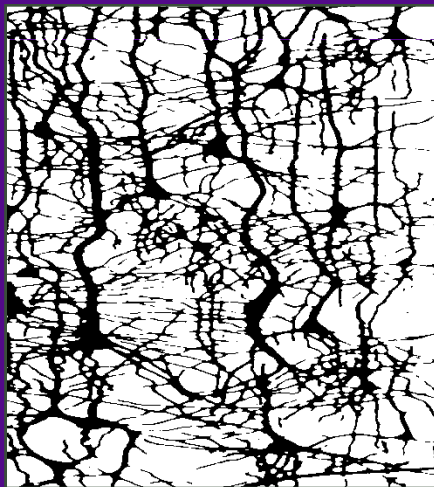


Brain Development

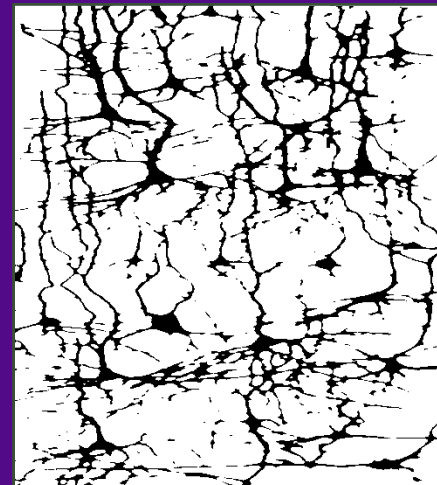
at Birth



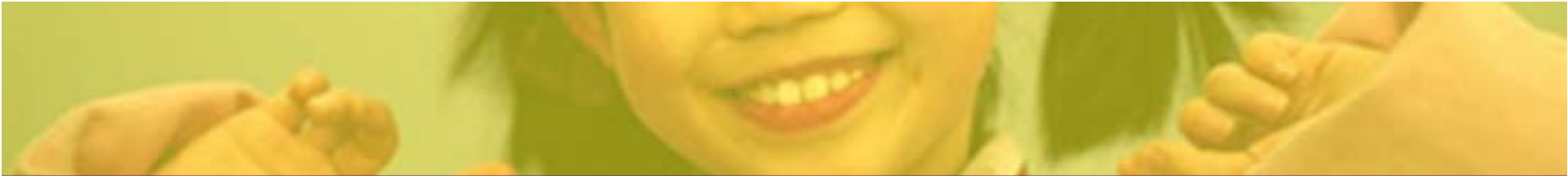
at 6 Years Old



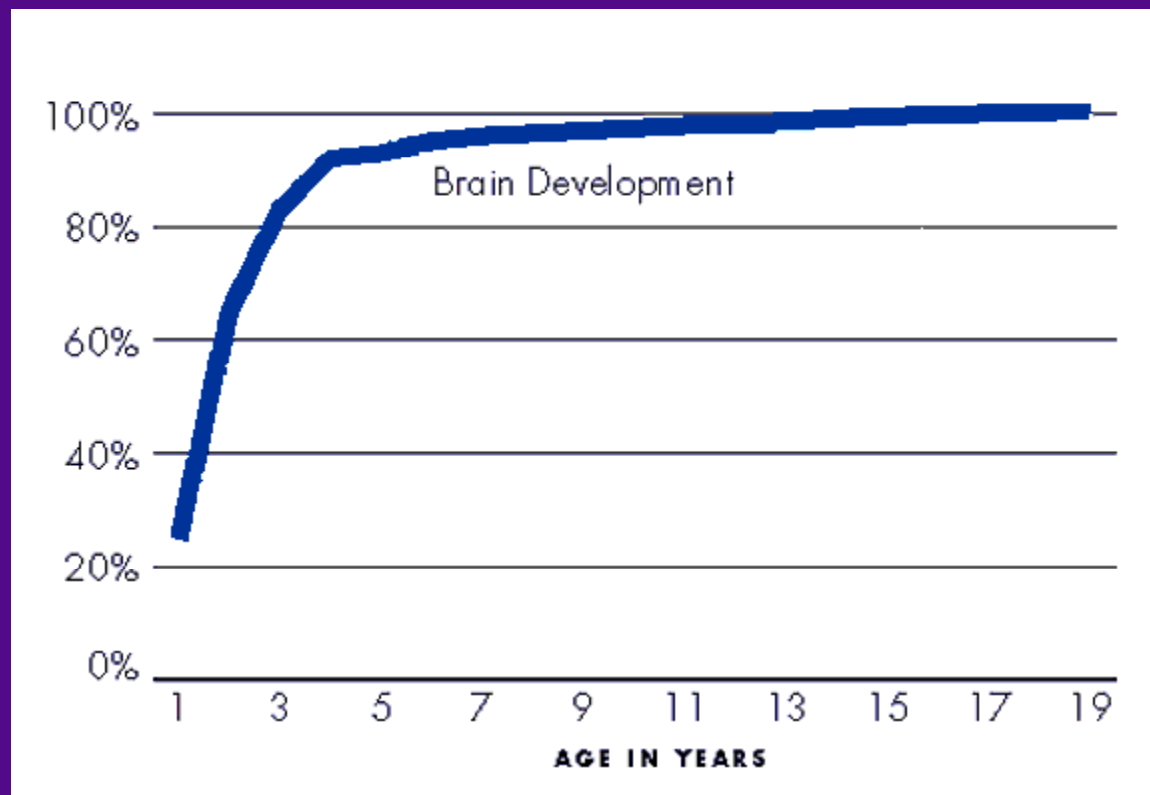
14 Years Old



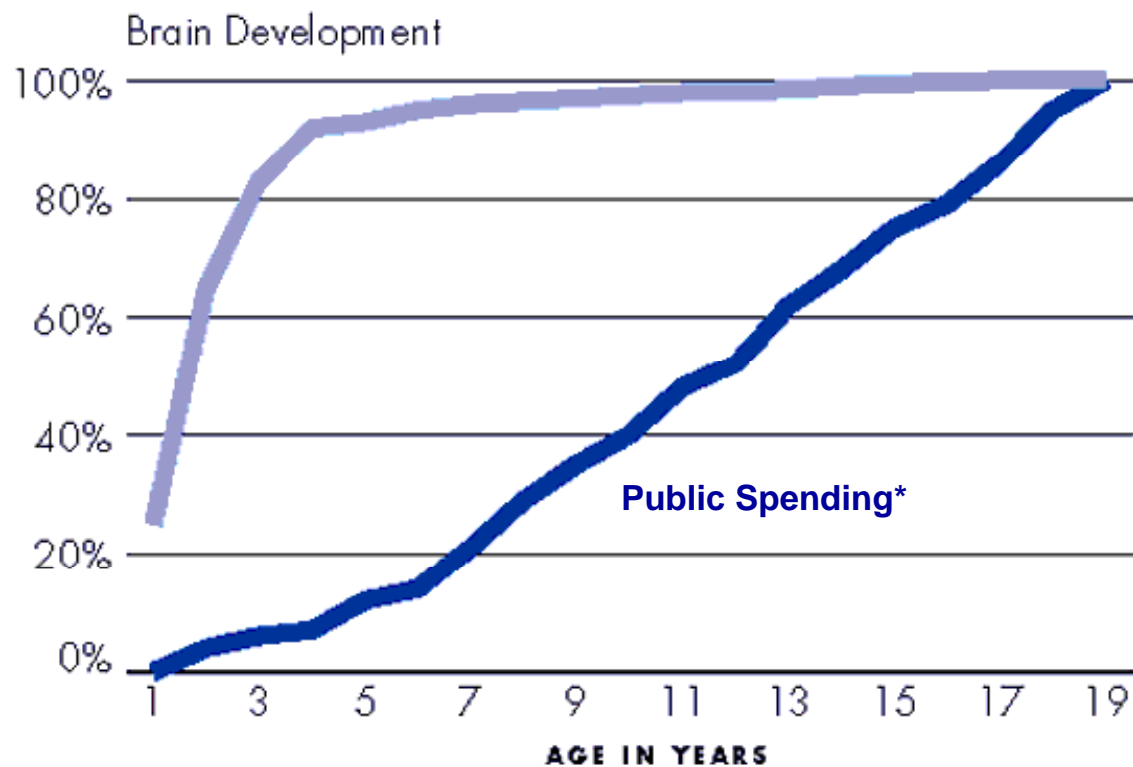
90% of a child's brain is developed by age 5.
Quality early experiences influence the wiring of a child's brain -- unused connections are pruned off.



Brain Growth and Child Age



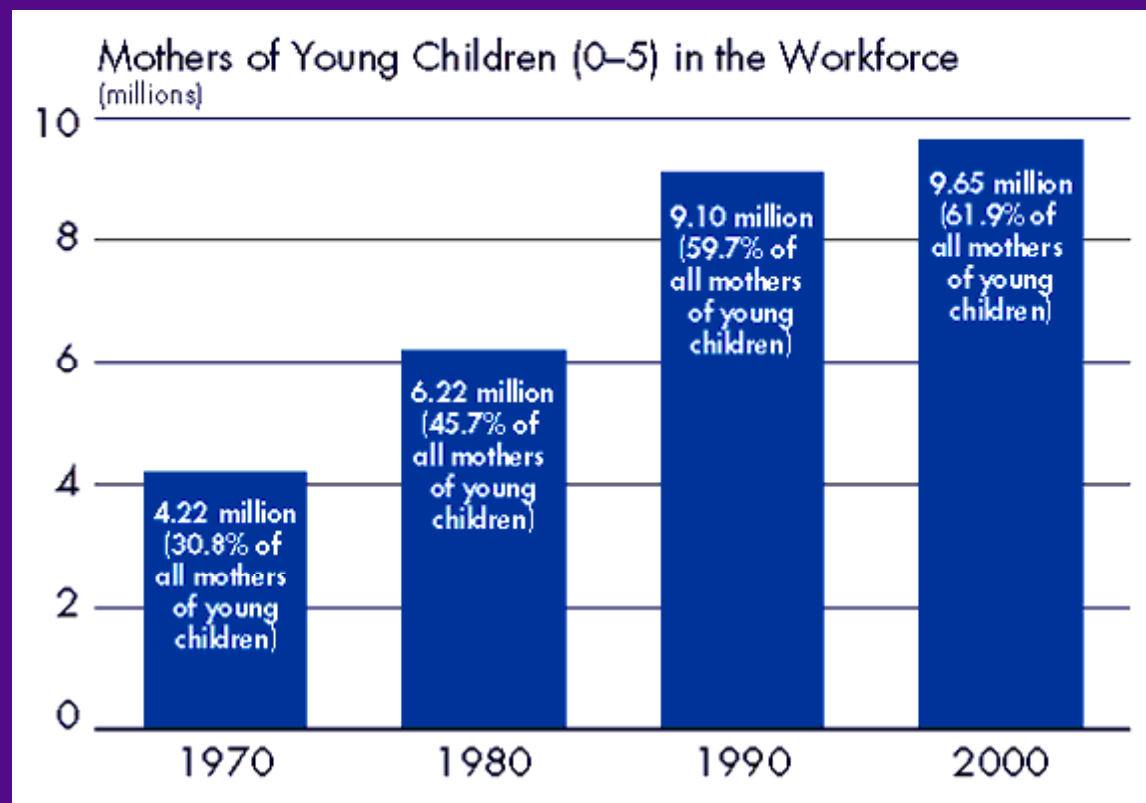
Public Spending Priorities Do Not Match Research Findings



* Portion of total public investment in children being spent during indicated year in children's lives.



As a Nation we have Experienced Three Decades of Increase

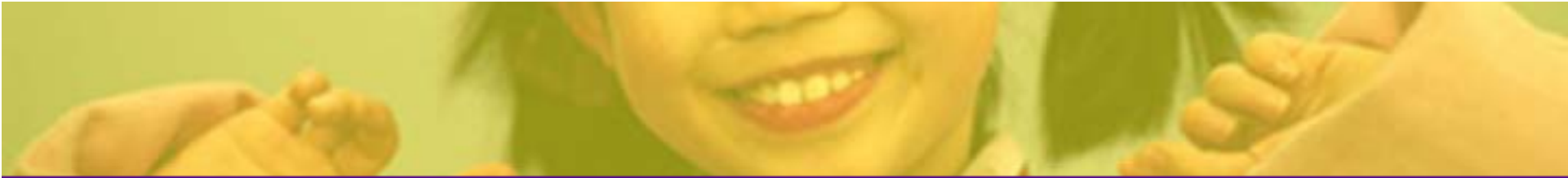




Too many children in Montgomery County are not kindergarten ready.

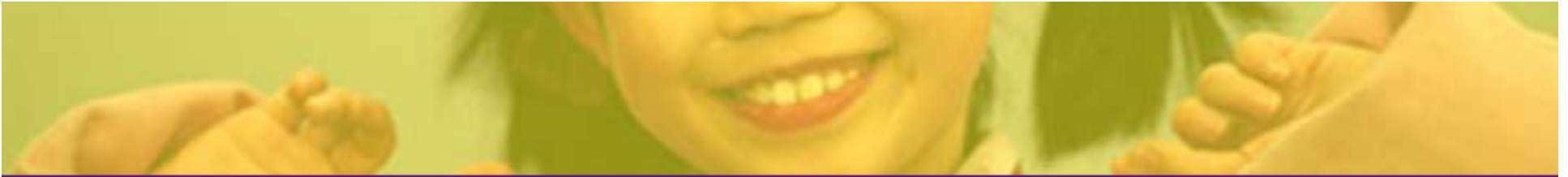


- A survey of Ohio Kindergarten teachers showed that they believed 1/3 of Ohio's children entering kindergarten are not ready for school
- Montgomery County KRA-L data results show us that at least 67% of incoming Montgomery County kindergarten students require some or significant intervention



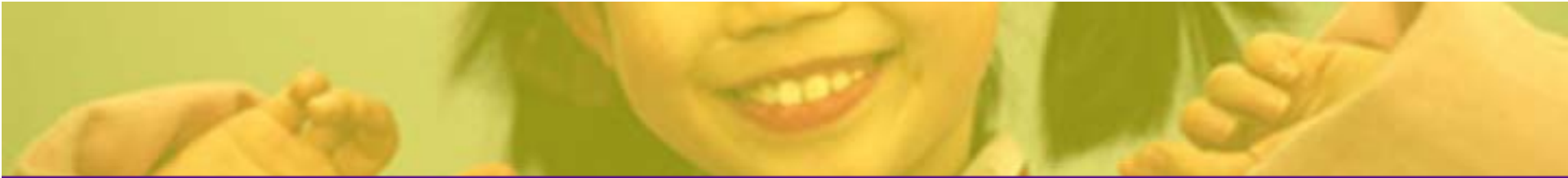
Montgomery County is missing out on substantial opportunities to leverage resources

- An estimated \$4 million of federal funding available through the state's Early Learning Initiative (ELI) to Montgomery County has not been accessed due to the lack of an early care and education infrastructure in this county.



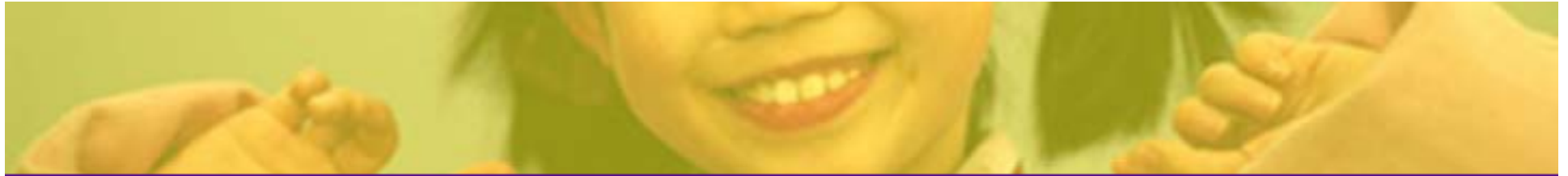
The reasons:

- **Lack of a well established infrastructure of support resulting in the inability to draw down funds within and among providers**
- **Insufficient professionals and financial resources to train and develop local providers**
- **Wide range of quality in providers**
- **Overall lack of awareness as to the importance of quality Early Care & Education**



Establish an
Early Care &
Education (EC&E)
system in
Montgomery
County

STRATEGY



OUTCOMES

To be completed by Summer 2008

- Establish an EC&E Collaborative and infrastructure
- Utilize Ohio's Step Up To Quality rating system
- Develop an EC&E Resource Center

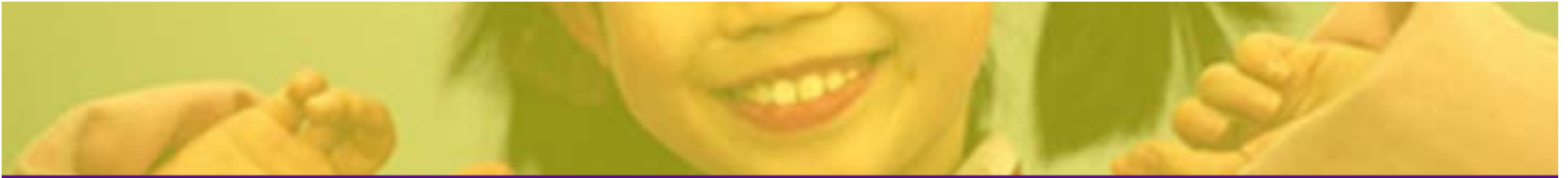


Intermediate (2008-2010)

- Implement a public awareness campaign
- Increase KraL and KraM scores
- Implement utilization of a kindergarten transition tool



OUTCOMES



Ultimately, our success
will be in better
preparing
Montgomery County's
children to be
successful
in school and in life.



Questions?

