

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP GRANT TIER 2 IMPLEMENTATION

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I swear under oath, subject to penalty for perjury, that I am authorized to execute this document and assure that the attached application has been reviewed and approved for implementation by all stakeholders and the district will comply with all requirements, both technical and programmatic, pertaining to the Preschool Partnership grant. I acknowledge that failure to comply may significantly impact future funding, in addition to any applicable penalties under law.

Randy Poe

Superintendent

Rick Hulefeld

Child Care Director

[Signature]

Notary Public
Notary seal

8-24-16
Date

8/22/16
Date

11/21/2019
My commission expires

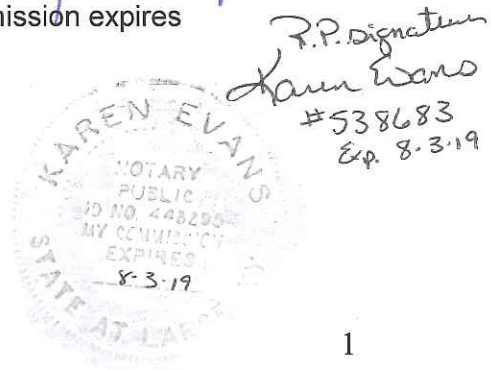
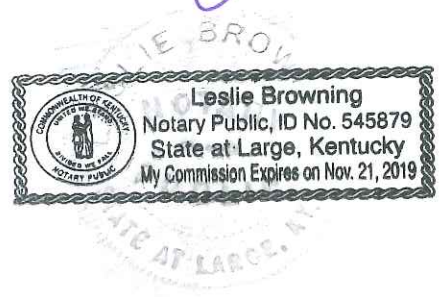


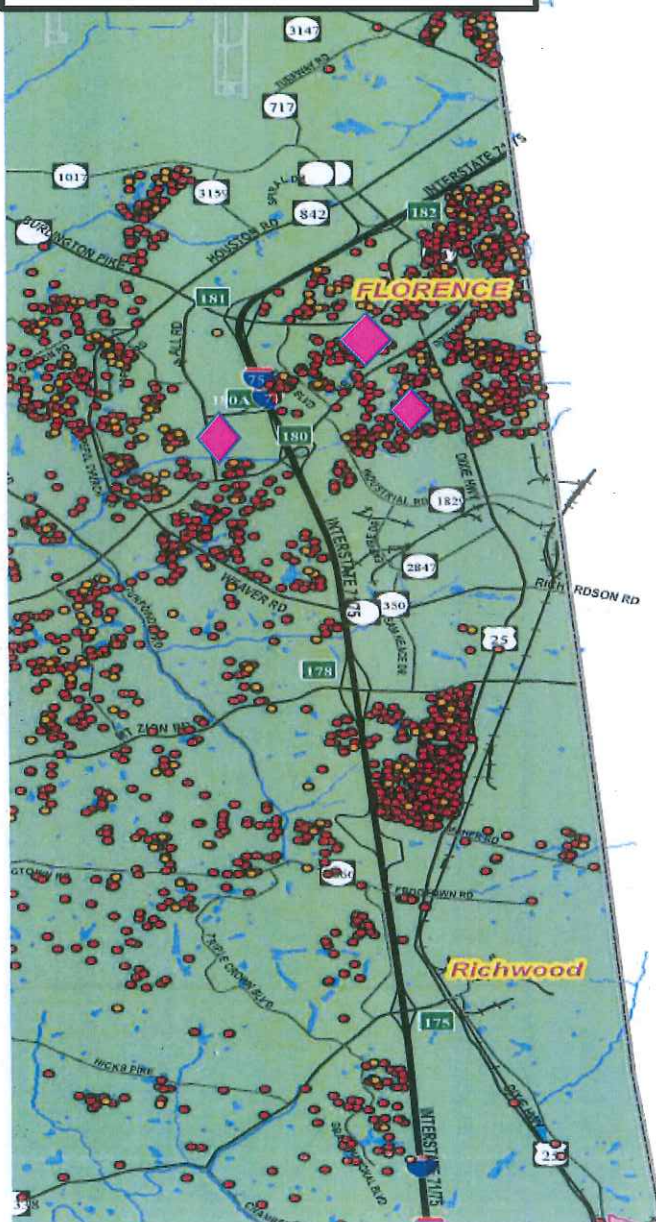
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Boone County Schools Preschool Partnership Tier 2 Implementation Grant

PART 1: NEED. For the past 30 years, even in lean times, Boone County has been a county of growth in: population, employment, housing, and schools. However, even with high demand, there has been limited growth in high quality early childhood education and childcare services. Childcare centers have popped up in empty buildings or church basements but few have stood the test of time or the demand for high quality. In Boone County there is a dearth of high quality early childhood education providers and that gap in service availability is most especially prevalent in low socio-economic areas of the county – along the US 25 corridor.

Public programs for Boone County's 9,000 children under 5 years old consist of only 1 Head Start program, and 13 public pre-school classrooms serving a total of 532 children (3 and 4 year-olds), just 15% of the county's estimated 3,575 pre-K (3 - 4 years old) population. Boone County is home to 61 privately licensed childcare centers. Only 39 of those centers serve pre-K children with limited capacity for full day care and only 574 CCAP children are supported in services. There is no doubt, additional preschool programs are needed across Boone County but in particular high quality preschool programs are needed within suitable access to low-income families particularly along the US 25 corridor and in the most western rural school attendance area of Kelly Elementary. Few early childhood centers are located-within these low-socioeconomic residential areas. Of the 61 licensed Boone County providers reported through the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Division of Child Care, only 9 are located within short driving distances of the US 25 corridor schools. There are no preschool or even childcare facilities located in the most rural reaches of Boone County. Collectively, the

Table 1: GIS Low SES Families

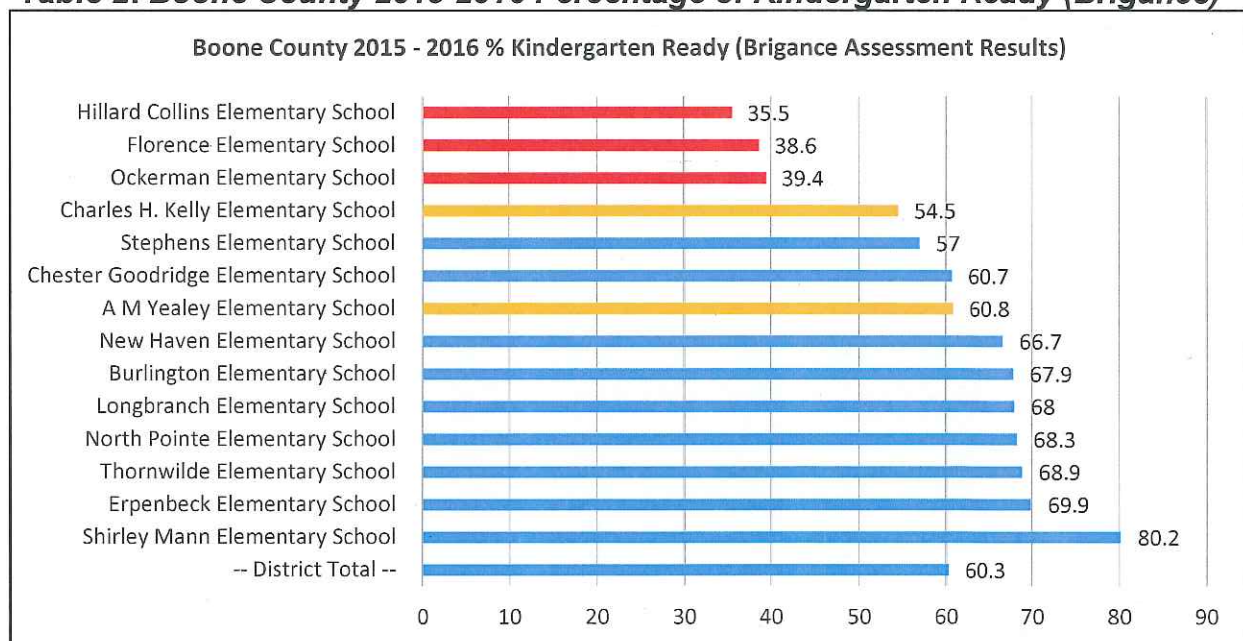
low-income children from these targeted locales are more likely to have immigrant parents, single parent or grandparent guardian households and are less likely to attend preschool or be exposed to enriching early experiences than their higher income peers.

Working with Boone County's GIS information provider, a visual of the geographic locations of low SES families (*Table 1*) was developed to determine a physical placement for the proposed new preschool partnership center. The location of early childhood centers and services is a primary driver for full participation of low-income working

families. The large diamonds represent feeder elementary schools and the red/yellow dots indicate the location of low SES families. With accessibility to safe, quality and welcoming centers within the community, families will more likely be connected to the educational program, to other families, to local resources and to their future schools. The Boone County Schools (BCS) serve over 21,000 students across 24 schools. Close

examination of geographic, demographic and academic assessment data from the elementary schools point out glaring inequities in school preparedness and related ongoing gaps. This lack of access to affordable high quality early childhood services launches an achievement gap prior to the start of a child's education and this gap then persists through K-12. This is evident in school readiness indicators – Brigance results. The gaps are most especially evident at three elementary schools – Collins, Florence and Ockerman Elementary which draw from populations along the US 25 corridor (**Table 1**) with high concentrations of poverty as reported through those schools' free/reduced rates of 85%, 80% and 64% respectively, compared to the district average of 36%. Brigance kindergarten readiness indicators from these schools: Collins 35.5%, Florence 38.6% and Ockerman 39.4% (**Table 2**), show potential learning gaps are already evident at the start of kindergarten and will continue to widen through K-12.

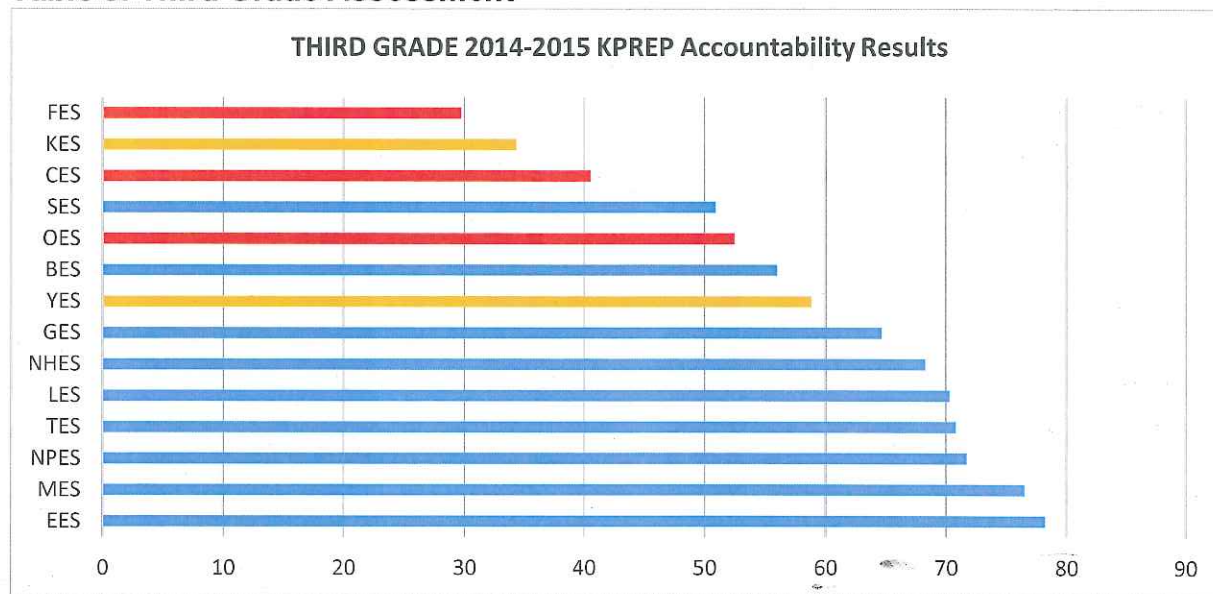
Table 2: Boone County 2015-2016 Percentage of Kindergarten Ready (Brigance)



This gap is then compounded by the fact that Boone County Schools (BCS) provide only half-day kindergarten services, limiting even further opportunities for quality early

experiences. The impact of missing quality early learning experiences plays out once again in an examination (*Table 3*) of third grade achievement levels.

Table 3: Third Grade Assessment



This proposal outlines the **new partnership programs** between the BCS and quality licensed early childhood community provider- Children Inc., establishing multiple new opportunities for CCAP children and their families:

- 1) **Two newly created** early childhood preschool programs set within full-day, year round early childhood classes located among the US 25 corridor in a new facility, addressing the gaps in readiness found at Collins, Florence and Ockerman Elementary Schools (see *Table 2*).
- 2) **Two new extended day** preschool programs at one current location and one moved location to provide full-day, year-round programs. One extended day program to be located at Yealey Elementary and the other to be located at the most rural area of Boone County – Kelly Elementary.

These programs, blending quality public preschool education with private quality early

childhood care, will target preschool eligible, CCAP 3-4 year olds, launching a new era in addressing the kindergarten readiness GAP in Boone County. Through the provision of quality educational experiences provided by school district IECE certified teachers and aligned with 3+ STAR-rated licensed private early childhood center services – ChildrenInc., students will enter school prepared to learn. These multi-location early childhood partnership programs will meet the need for high quality early learning accessible to families residing in low socio-economic income areas within our community and establish expectation for high quality educational experiences.

Link between identified needs and anticipated outcomes include: **Need:** Access to quality preschool and childcare programs driving low Kindergarten readiness in low socio-economic residential areas. **Outcome:** Effective quality preschool experience for all children. By January 20, 2017, the Boone County Schools (BCS) and Children Inc., through agreed upon MOAs, will create multiple public/private blended preschool and childcare programs to increase the availability of full-day, year-round, high-quality programs located in safe, accessible and inviting environments with the purpose of enriching the lives of participating CCAP children/families leading to improved Kindergarten readiness and successful school experiences for those residents along the US 25 corridor, at Kelly Elementary and at Yealey Elementary.

Need: Access to quality preschool and childcare programs in low socio-economic residential areas. **Outcome:** Families experience a coordinated preschool delivery system that works effectively on their behalf and have increased access to quality programming. By November, 2016 a community campaign to identify and inform families of CCAP eligibility and preschool availability will be undertaken by Boone

County Success-By-Six, the Boone County Schools and Children Inc. in collaboration with multiple community partners. The campaign will utilize resources provided by Boone County Success-By-Six and include: multi-level marketing, door-to door, social media, local TV news, local newspaper articles, faith-based and community festivals. Information will be provided by Boone County GIS data sources to reach families in residential areas, through pediatricians, health department, dentists, community laundry mats, eateries, gas stations, schools, churches and more.

Need: Low Kindergartner Readiness assessment results. **Outcomes:** All community stakeholders demonstrate commitment to and building awareness of early childhood education. Outcomes driven and continuous improvement process hold partners accountable to short and long term success. By October, 2018, Kindergarten readiness as measured by the Brigance, will demonstrate **30% improvement** in scores on Collins, Florence, Ockerman, Yealey and Kelly Elementary Schools' measures of Kindergarten readiness scores. Implementing and expanding services for preschool children in Boone County Schools, partnering with Children Inc. is expected to yield positive results for **80 preschool CCAP-eligible children** and their families.

PART 2: QUALITY OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. Over two years ago with data from Brigance assessments, the Boone County Schools recognized the gap in readiness among incoming kindergarten children. The superintendent has charged the district to address this gap by examining ways to work with community providers, families and the schools to eliminate this readiness gap. From this charge, the district has thoroughly examined the data to target school and community factors which can systematically and purposefully address the need for quality educational programming before the traditional

kindergarten years. Working with the Boone County CECC, public library, *Success-By-Six*, and other entities, the Boone County Schools and co-applicant - Children Inc. have committed to finding facilities, space, staff and outreach to address this gap. Boone County Schools and Children Inc. have a history of demonstrated capacity to build and execute high-quality programs serving the children of the community. For over 15 years Boone County and Children Inc. have successfully partnered at 11 different Boone County elementary schools to provide families with access to quality care for their children with preschool, before, after and/or summer programs. Boone County Schools and Children Inc. have extensive knowledge and relationships within the community – including its resources, and its needs in providing strong, safe and accessible elementary childcare programs. Together, as partners, Boone County Schools and Children Inc. have previously completed successful partnership projects in other areas of child well-being including: service learning, mental health/wellness and safety. For the past year, Boone County Schools and Children Inc. have been working with multiple partners (Boone County Fiscal Court, City of Florence, *Success-By-Six*, Boone County Community Early Childhood Council, Skyward, the public library, local businesses, Head Start, banks and more) and parent representations on a strategic plan to address sustainable solutions for needs around child well-being in Boone County and on support for the reduction of the readiness gap. A Pre-K Readiness Advisory council was established and meetings have been held monthly to carefully **examine the problem** – *low Kindergarten Readiness*, **define the need-** *accessible early childhood services in geographically defined areas*, and **craft solutions-***affordable high quality early childhood programs*. This Pre-K Advisory Council will serve as

additional community visioning and oversight for progress and expansion. ChildrenInc. has taken a lead in partnering for a viable solution and will work with the Boone County Schools in establishing a Florence Early Childhood Center with branch programs at Kelly and Yealey Elementary Schools. Assessment for quality programs will include mid-year review of participation, attendance, IEP needs, Brigance scores and ECERS review as well as financial analysis for stability.

Partnership responsibilities include: Boone County Schools will serve as fiscal agent and lead manager for the educational planning, development and implementation of high quality instruction. This includes bringing to the table: access to high standards of educational programming, program assessments, frameworks and guidelines for educator standards, curriculum, assessment, interventions, professional development as well as family engagement strategies and activities. **Boone County Schools will provide:**

- High quality framework and curriculum for implementation of educational standards;
- Evidence-based preschool programming to address the domains of early childhood standards;
- Employment of two new IECE certified teachers providing a student teacher ratio of not more than 20:1; (Continued services of preschool at Kelly and Yealey)
- Employment of two highly qualified paraeducators per class;
- Preschool screenings, assessment and interventions as required;
- Special need services to address IEP required services;
- Transition to school programs;
- Transportation by preschool school bus from home to preschool location;
- Participation in Kentucky All STARS including coaching, mentoring, training and technical assistance to achieve level 3 or higher;
- Coordination of cross-sector professional development and shared training to improve instruction and increase provider credentials;
- Participation in grant/state required metrics;
- Participation in monthly preschool meetings held the third Friday, monthly.
- School lunch;
- Family and community engagement programs to assist families in enhancing learning and language in the home;

- Tracking of all children served utilizing establish tools and methods that provide short and long term measures of progress;
- Identification of areas of continuous improvement;
- Coordination of technical assistance to align/integrate program requirements;
- Marketing to reach all families and
- Professional development services to increase and maintain high standards of instruction to demonstrate a model of excellence in early childcare programming.

Children Inc. will provide: Licensure and staffing to meet a 20:1 teacher, child ratio including lead childcare teacher, licensed childcare workers and center manager. The private preschool teacher will work full day including during the public preschool time, participate in professional development with the public preschool teachers to maintain the quality of instruction throughout the day. A Florence center manager will be responsible for ongoing communicate with the schools and parents.

- Extended school services at Florence Center, Kelly and Yealey preschool locations;
- New Florence facility location, development , facility utilities and outdoor space;
- Private care licensure, liability, insurance;
- Management of extended care, security and access to children at sites,
- Co-developed family and community engagement strategies and activities.
- Participation in Kentucky All STARS including coaching, mentoring, training and technical assistance to achieve level 3 or higher;
- Participation in grant/state required metrics;
- Participation in monthly preschool meetings held the third Friday, monthly;
- Communication with families;
- CCAP enrollment;
- Marketing.

Partners will provide a comprehensive and coordinate program with layered resource access to deliver a preschool system that works effectively on behalf of all families. This includes coordinated professional development and training of staff, recruitment of eligible preschool students, and family and community involvement strategies to enhance readiness of preschool children across the community. Together, partners will

work on enrollment and accountability processes while working together and with additional community resources to furnish and equip the facilities.

Both classrooms and instruction, preschool and childcare, will reflect quality evidence-based programming for children with emphasis on language and literacy meeting and exceeding preschool learning standards. Space and fixtures will be provided by Children Inc. and will be organized to include centers for: groups and individual instruction spaces; literacy, language and book center; dramatic play and learning; privacy, relaxation and comfort; numeracy and reasoning center; gross motor development; free time choices; science center; music center; personal care center as well as seasonal centers.

Deliverables and Milestones for Florence Early Childhood Center:

- By October 30, 2016, two IECE certified teachers will be hired to assist the development committee with outreach to the community to inform and enroll preschool eligible CCAP children.
- By November, 2016, the preschool screening process and outreach intervention will be initiated.
- By January, 2017, two new public preschool programs staffed with two IECE certified preschool teachers and two highly qualified paraeducators serving preschool eligible CCAP children 4 days per week, 3.5 hours per day with a student teacher ratio of 20:1 will be opened.
- By January, 2017, all auxiliary services (speech, nursing services, etc.) will be accessible to preschool students being served.
- By January, 2017, Children Inc. will provide two preschool classroom facilities to provide: before school, afternoon, and extended care services to all preschool children, (7 am to 7pm), with year-round services five days per week, staffed by licensed lead teachers, childcare workers and a center manager.
- By January, 2017 a schedule for student access to public school transportation to preschool programs, meeting the guidelines of the elementary preschool program bus schedules.

- By January, 2017 all participants will have access to school breakfast and lunch programs.

Deliverables and Milestones at Kelly Elementary

- By February 2017, Children currently enrolled in the Kelly Elementary Public preschool program will be **relocated to Kelly elementary** – the children's home school, meeting all Preschool standards for ½ day preschool 4 days per week with an IECE certified teacher and support para educator.
- By February, 2017, Children Inc. will provide full day, year round preschool services blended with district preschool services servicing children for the remaining portion of the day from 12:30 pm to 6 pm.

Deliverables and Milestones for Yealey Elementary

- By October, 2017, Children Inc. will provide extended day services to eligible preschool children enrolled in Yealey's preschool classes.
- By October, 2017, extended day services will be provided for all-day, year-round early childhood classes.

Deliverables and Milestones for ALL Preschool Blended Programs:

- By May, 2017, blended preschool programs will serve 80 children.
- By January, 2017, Children Inc. and the Boone County Schools will participate in the Kentucky All STARS program with coaching, mentoring, training and technical assistance to achieve a level three or higher.
- By January, 2017, a professional development program blending and servicing Boone County preschool teachers and Children Inc. preschool staff will be conducted to permit alignment of preschool curriculum, goals and high expectations in both public preschool portion and private preschool portion of the day. A year-round schedule of professional development will be provided to address adult learning to assist children in the areas of language and literacy development, social-emotional development, cognitive growth, and physical development,
- By May, 2017, a review and assessment of program implementation to-date will be conducted to inform the stakeholders of the programs progress.
- October, 2017, a review of kindergarten Brigance scores will be conducted to evaluate program progress and impact participant readiness.

- October, 2018, a review of kindergarten Brigance scores will be conducted to evaluate program progress and impact participant readiness.
- By January, 2017, parent engagement programs will be scheduled, published and accessible to families of children being served. These family engagement programs will provide adult learning opportunities to include: language development activities, transition to preschool and kindergarten, assistance with developmentally appropriate activities that can be done in the home to continue learning, connecting with community resources and adult learning. Family engagement programs will include one-to-one assistance and connectivity to Family Resource Centers, home visitation, goal setting and assessment, technology delivered programs such as “Ready Rosie,” and school delivered programs to evoke a sense of ownership, community and volunteerism.

Sustainability: Continuity and continuance is vital to the purpose and goals of preschool partnerships. With outcome driven activities and a continuous improvement process which hold partners accountable to both short and long term success, the program will weave sustainable practices into its vision. The Advisory committee will work to ensure that all children and families served through the program will be tracked to provide both short and long term data of progress and assists in the identification of programs and processes that support the longevity of the program. Initial programs fully anticipate continuance beyond the scope of this grant. To that end, preschool programs will adjust their enrollment (morning/afternoon) to meet the needs of families wishing to enroll children into all day programs. Children Inc. will also established multiple full day 2 year-old classes at the Florence Early Childhood center to assist families and insuring continuity for the 3- 4 year old programs. With the success of this program further blended programs may be established throughout the county in cooperation with the schools and other early childhood providers.

PART 3: COMMUNICATION. Boone County Schools have a large media presence in the area and will utilize that presence and connectivity to inform and attract families to

participate. Similarly, Children Inc. is an established provider with a very positive presence at many of the elementary schools. Together, with multiple other partners, there will be both initial and continuous outreach to inform the community through:

- **Preschool Screenings:** Regularly schedule preschool screenings (monthly);
- **Social Media:** Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, School and District Websites;
- **E-News:** Weekly School and District newsletters via email;
- **Traditional:** Newspaper and magazines: Local newspaper feature article and advertisement (Boone Recorder) and *What's Happening* –delivered to all residents in Boone County;
- **Bulletins:** Local church weekly bulletins, Social Services newsletters;
- **Flyers:** Professionally developed information flyers posted at local groceries, bus stops, businesses (Walmart, Kohls, Mall);
- **Door-to-Door Campaign;**
- **Informational sessions and community conversations held at the public library; and**
- **Accessible translation services to reach all families removing barriers of communication.**

All family engagement recruiting and communication will be provided in multi-media formats that are understandable and accessible to all families including translations.

The partnership program will not supplant or otherwise adversely impact efforts of local preschool centers to provide preschool or extended care services. The district is open to working with other providers at a later date. Private centers will be contacted via phone, mail or email to apprise them of this new partnership and services to parents. The district works with local private providers in the transportation of children to and from private locations, informing them of parent engagement/professional development opportunities and calendar/snow day notifications. The school district also provides (with appropriate consent) the distribution of information about these private providers to families. Families not eligible for preschool services or CCAP utilize these private services. However, this new partnership will serve as a MODEL for all pre-K and childcare centers.

**PRESCHOOL PARTNERSHIP GRANT – TIER 2
Budget Summary Form**

DISTRICT: Boone County Schools CO-APPLICANT: Children Inc.

1	2	3	4	5
MUNIS CODE	ITEM	EXPLANATION OF EXPENDITURES	GRANT Funds	MATCHING Funds
0110	Cert Salaries	2 Cert. teachers Oct. 2016- June, 2017	\$59,000	
0120	Substitutes	PD programming, sick-days	\$1,500	
0130	Class.salaries	2 para educators Oct. 2016- June, 2017	\$25,000	
0150	Classified subs	sick days and PD during school day	\$1,000	
0221	Social Security	Social Security contribution 0.062 rate	\$1,550	
0222	Medicare	Medicare 0.0145 rate	\$1,218	
0231	KTRS	Retirement	\$1,770	
0232	CERS	Classified Retirement	\$1,250	
0553	Marketing	Materials printing- flyers, ads, paper	\$ 6000	
0531	Postage	Postage for direct mailing marketing	\$ 2,000	
0580	Travel	PD, door to door campaign, home visitations	\$ 2,500	
0338	Registration	Fees for PD in early childhood programming	\$ 2,500	
0610	Supplies	Crayons, paper, pens, sand, paint, art supplies, posters, bulletin boards	\$ 5,000	
0643	Curriculum	High Scope Curriculums, ST Math early numeracy, Active Parenting, Lunch & Learn	\$ 8,860	
0643	Curriculum materials	Numeracy kits, Magnetic tiles, blocks & carts, books, charts, art station, puppet, puzzles, dolls, music set, parachute, fine Motor sets, sensory Balls, stackables, science, sorting kits, bean bags, doll house, toys, gross motor sets, dress me cubes, etc.	\$ 20,842	
0695	Small furniture	Easels, storage Bins, shelving, book carts, Sensory Tables, water tables, sand tables	\$ 11,010	
0695	Small furniture	Child Tables, child chairs, Kidney tables, storage cabinets, Pre K Coat Rack/storage, cots, sheets, blankets, balance tables, kitchen sets, outdoor gross motor equipment, mobile drying racks,		Community Partners (City, County, private) \$ 75,000
O650/ 0651	Technology	iPads, iPad covers, TVs, Projectors, SMART Boards, teacher laptops, installation		\$70,000
0643	Curriculum	Children's educational activity sets: magnetic building sets, dolls, vehicles, varied playground balls, sound boxes, weight cylinders, sort and match sets, sets,		\$ 25,000
		TOTAL	\$150,000	\$ 170,000

PART 4: BUDGET Narrative. The budget supports the initiation of two district preschool classes at the new partnership facility in Florence as well as extended care at two currently established district preschools. Grant funded support totals \$150,000 and community partners have committed to no less than \$175,000 to launch these programs. Grant funded costs are as follows: Personnel costs, \$92,288, reflect average salaries, associated benefits/fixed costs and pro-rated for the grant period of October, 2017 to June 30, 2017 for the Florence center only. All other costs include support for 2 classes at the Florence center and 2 expansion classes at Kelly and Yealey. Funding will support communication costs to provide marketing to reach families in an accessible format - \$8,000, includes: funding for marketing materials- printing of flyers, posters, cards, newspaper/magazine ads, as well as, postage costs for direct mailings to family homes. Professional development for public and private partners to assure quality programs includes funding for registration \$1500 and travel costs \$2500 for regional and national conference. Curriculum purchases for instructional framework and direct instruction guides for all classes include: High Scope early childhood- \$3,000; family engagement curriculums- Active Parenting and Lunch & Learn, for \$3,300; and ST Math early childhood numeracy and problem solving \$2560. Funding for start-up consumable supplies – paper, art supplies, crayons, etc. will be limited to \$5000. Instructional materials- \$29,702 and small furniture items-\$11,010 will create the basic classrooms. Community partners will assume purchases including: classroom furniture fixtures- \$75,000, technology-\$70,000 and curricular materials including gross motor supplies and outdoor learning equipment-\$25,000. These materials have been selected to address quality programming for use in child focused classroom centers.