

Early Childhood in America Smartfund

The Early Childhood in America Smartfund provides an opportunity to maximally leverage a gift intended to support children and their families at an early and crucial point in their development. Goodnation vets all our recommended nonprofits, taking into account the investments of the most rigorous professional foundations while also assessing the current financial health and governance of the organization. *Photo credit: Room to Grow*

The 20% of children who are poor in America are more at risk for toxic stress than their non-poor counterparts, which leads to worse outcomes in learning, health and behavior throughout their lives. Interventions that provide early learning opportunities and reinforce supportive relationships between children and their parents can prevent or reverse this damage. First Five Years Fund; Urban Institute

Direct Service: 60%



LIFT works to break the cycle of poverty for families. They help families build the strong personal, social and financial foundations to secure immediate, critical needs and to achieve long-term goals and aspirations. They connect hardworking parents and caregivers of young children to the people, tools, and resources they need to achieve greater economic security and well-being.



Power of Two brings the science of attachment to communities through dissemination of Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC), an evidence-based, in-home parenting program developed at the University of Delaware and implemented in a community setting by Power of Two; and simultaneously connects caregivers to needed resources—such as housing, employment, financial support, childcare and mental health services.



Room to Grow families enroll in Room to Grow during a mother's third trimester and then attend 2-hour visits at our warm, welcoming family center every three months until their child turns three. During each visit parents receive one-on-one coaching based on an evidence-informed curriculum, material goods such as books, toys and clothing (up to a \$10,000 retail value over three years; sourced at zero-cost from supporters), and community referrals (e.g. mental health, early intervention).

Leveraging Community Solutions: 20%



JumpStart for Children provides language, literacy and social-emotional programming for preschool children from under-resourced communities and promotes quality early learning for all. They're working to strengthen the pipeline of diverse, well-prepared early educators by providing our volunteers with at least 40 hours of training, hands-on practice in the classroom and an inspiring community service experience.

Systems-Level Change: 20%



National Head Start Foundation provides support for the entire Head Start community by advocating for policies that strengthen services to Head Start children and their families; by providing extensive training and professional development to Head Start staff; and by developing and disseminating research, information and resources that enrich Head Start program delivery.