

Building our future: **Right from the start**

A community initiative of Visioneering Wichita Birth - K Alliance and United Way of the Plains,
in collaboration with Butler, Harvey, Sedgwick and Sumner Counties.

December 2009

Birth-K Alliance Early Childhood Block Grant Report to the Community

Visioneering Birth-K Alliance is pleased to share information to date on the community's investment related to the Early Childhood Block Grant for 2009. Upon receipt of an award totaling \$1.2 million for early childhood initiatives in the Wichita MSA, Alliance partners began the process of implementing grant objectives in Butler, Harvey, Sedgwick and Sumner Counties with two simple yet critical priorities:

Our highest priorities

- ✓ Increased access to child care and establish higher quality early care environments; and
- ✓ Increased access to mental health services for children with social, emotional and behavioral difficulties

Our status

The official evaluation report conducted by Wichita State University is expected by spring 2010. The report will detail the level of success in achieving our stated priorities. To date, the following report on grant outputs is offered to communicate the status of our activities.

Summary across four county MSA

<i>Number of individuals positively impacted</i>	<u>Annual Projected</u>	<u>Actual to Date</u>
Children ages 0-5:	774	979
Early Childhood Providers:	155	179
Professionals Trained:	70	101

Sumner County

- Providing technical assistance to license 2 new providers for quality early care
- Expanding infant, toddler and special needs slots through scholarships by 5
- Providing early childhood mental health training for 9 providers
- Providing 156 early childhood mental health screenings
- Providing 44 children with direct early childhood mental health intervention
- Increasing quality child care services for 40 children in Early Head Start and 6 children in Head Start

A story of transformation

"The story of our parent who was given access to quality child care exemplifies how this investment pays long term rewards. The mother is now going back to school and equipped for the first time with the resources she needs for her family to be successful. This seemingly small gift has given her family a life they never would have imagined or achieved."

--Shirley Theurer, Futures Unlimited, Inc.

Sumner County



Making Kansas the best state in the nation to raise a child.