

ADDISON EARLY CHILDHOOD COLLABORATIVE

1

**PRESENTED BY LENNY RIVOTA, M.S.
PROJECT DIRECTOR**



**BRIGHT & EARLY
DUPAGE**

An Initiative of The DuPage Community Foundation

AECC

2

Who we are:

The Addison Early Childhood Collaboration is a group of over 30 committed Addison based and county wide community partners who are working collaboratively to meet the needs of families with young children who live in the Addison community.

VISION AND MISSION

3

VISION:

To ensure that all children from birth in the Addison community are safe, healthy and equipped to learn.

MISSION:

To ensure that coordinated and comprehensive quality early childhood experiences are available, accessible and utilized by the diverse families and young children of Addison so they can achieve their maximum potential.

HISTORY

4

- 2011 – Small number of highly committed community partners began to come together to identify and the needs in the Addison community to begin to work together to meet those needs.
- 2014 – received a partial grant from The DuPage Community Foundation.

TODAY

5

- 6/2014 – Secured grant funding from The DuPage Community Foundation’s Bright and Early Initiative.
- Bright and Early Initiative - “ A unique program designed to leverage area resources to ensure that all DuPage youngsters from birth to age 5 receive the comprehensive support critical in preparing them for success in kindergarten and beyond.”



THE NEED

6

Growing trends in DuPage County

- ❖ Increase in poverty and increase in diversity

Addison Community (2013-2014 School Year Data)

- ❖ Nearly 4,000 children under age of 5 (12% of pop.)
- ❖ 60 % ASD4 students are low income
- ❖ 30% limited English Proficiency
- ❖ 14% ASD4 children considered developmentally delayed

GOAL

7

Our overall goal is to ensure that families have all the resources and supports they need to help their children be kindergarten ready.

AECC OBJECTIVES

8

- Promote developmental screening for all children of Addison who are birth to five years old.
- Utilize common messaging on healthy child development and school readiness to ensure families are aware of the importance of early learning.
- Increase professional and community knowledge and understanding of child development and of families with children from of birth to age five.

AECC OBJECTIVES

9

- Increase coordination of services among professionals in order to ensure families with children from birth to five have access to early childhood education and resources.
- Increase professional and community capacity for effective collaboration.
- Support quality improvement in early childhood education and care in Addison

PROGRESS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

10

- ❖ **AECC Growth –**
- ❖ **Community Breakfast (3/26/14)**
- ❖ **Community Resource Fair (9/26/14)**
- ❖ **Community Resource Book**
- ❖ **Kindergarten University (April/May 2015)**
- ❖ **Kindergarten Symposium (2/28/15)**
- ❖ **Preschool Expansion Grant**



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Final Thoughts

11

We know that families have unique and complex needs. We also know that a child's development is influenced by many factors.

No one organization or entity could solely support a child's early learning needs fully and holistically, this requires a collective effort.

Our intent is to work collectively and collaboratively to support children and families in the Addison community.

Questions

12



Thank you!

13

For more information or to get involved please contact:

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