

Child Development/ Parenting Prospects

Prospect	Location	Alignment
Annie Casey Foundation	Maryland	<p>The Annie E. Casey Foundation has a long history of supporting child wellness, with a focus on "advancing child welfare and juvenile justice," "promoting economic opportunity for working families," and "creating community change for kids and parents. The foundation works mainly with child welfare agencies, policymakers, and legislators, providing empirical support for funding and legislation supporting underserved and at-risk children. The foundation runs many in-house programs and initiatives that aim to improve policy and increase funding for early childhood programming and services. This funder shares its research findings openly with nonprofit and governmental organizations, but does not accept unsolicited proposals for funding.</p> <p>The Casey Foundation conducts extensive work in the early childhood field through its child welfare, KIDS COUNT, and research and policy initiatives. The child welfare program prioritizes children who have been abused or neglected, and runs an in-house Child Welfare Strategy Group, which consults with welfare agencies at the state level to implement practices that improve outcomes for abused and neglected children. Casey's KIDS COUNT initiative provides "state legislators, public officials and child advocates with reliable data, policy recommendations and tools needed to advance sound policies that benefit children and families."</p> <p>In the area of research and policy, the foundation invests in studies that evaluate the "ideas and approaches" that are the most effective solutions for ameliorating the lives of children in the U.S. and disseminates its findings to inform decisions about funding and policy.</p>
Brady Foundation	Wisconsin	<p>The Brady Education Foundation works with existing early childhood and K-12 programs and qualified educational researchers. Recent funding has prioritized projects "that have the potential of helping to close the opportunity and resulting achievement gaps between children living in under-resourced communities and/or from under-represented populations and other children."</p> <p>Currently accepting applications for Program Evaluations, the foundation is inviting proposals focused on the evaluation of programs with the potential to help close opportunity and resulting achievement gaps between children living in underresourced communities and/or from underrepresented populations and other children.</p> <p>The primary aim of the proposal must be related to evaluating the effectiveness of programs designed to promote positive cognitive and/or achievement outcomes for children (birth through 18 years of age) from underserved groups and/or low-resourced communities (such as minority ethnic groups or low-income families). Secondary aims may focus on one or more of the following: variations in program effects; mechanisms through which such effects occur; and/or comparisons of the total costs of the program (start-up and ongoing operational costs) with its estimated monetary benefits to determine net cost or benefit. Projects are for up to 3 years.</p>
Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood	Lock Haven, PA	<p>The Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood is intended to be an incubator of promising research and development projects that may ultimately enhance the development, health, safety, education or quality of life of children from infancy through seven years of age across the country. Each of its grants is made with the expectation that a successful project outcome will be of significant interest to other investigators or developers, within the grantee's field of endeavor, and will be amenable to beneficial application or adaptation elsewhere.</p> <p>Early Childhood Welfare: Children can only reach their full potential when all aspects of their development, intellectual, emotional and physical, are optimally supported. Providing a safe and nurturing environment for infants and preschoolers is essential, as is imparting to them the skills of social living in a culturally diverse world. We support programs that research best child rearing practices and identify models that can provide creative, caring environments to ensure all children thrive.</p> <p>Early Childhood Education and Play: Research shows that children need to be stimulated as well as nurtured, early in life, if they are to succeed in school, work and life. That preparation relates to every aspect of a child's development, from birth to age seven, and everywhere a child learns – at home, in childcare settings and in preschool. We seek to improve the quality of both early childhood teaching and learning, through the development of innovative curricula and research based pedagogical standards, as well as the design of imaginative play materials and learning environments.</p> <p>Parenting Education: To help parents create nurturing environments for their children, we support programs that teach parents about developmental psychology, cultural child rearing differences, pedagogy, issues of health, prenatal care and diet, as well as programs which provide both cognitive and emotional support to parents.</p>
Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation	OK	<p>The foundation is headquartered in Tulsa, Oklahoma and aims to "improve lives, strengthen communities and reduce inequality." Its three main funding initiatives are the Jewish community and Israel, national education and local initiatives for communities in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Jerusalem, Israel.</p> <p>The foundation's education program aims "to dramatically increase the number of students of color, especially from low-income communities, who graduate high school prepared for college and the workplace." Schusterman's education subinitiatives are teacher preparation, professional learning, instructional materials and "beyond teaching." The teacher preparation and professional learning initiatives both aim to increase the quality of instruction through innovative teacher education and professional development programs. The instructional materials program funds the development and distribution of high quality, research based materials, and the beyond teaching program funds organizations that are concerned with organizational and contextual factors that influence education success.</p> <p>Beyond Teaching:</p> <p>Ensuring student success demands a holistic look at the many factors that influence a student's education. We believe excellent instruction is critically important for helping students achieve their full potential. We also recognize that there are many other facets of a child's education and beyond that have a significant impact. To complement our work in other areas, we fund organizations that are making an impact on the field of education, including charter schools, parent and teacher voice organizations, diverse leadership pipeline organizations and workforce development.</p>

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Heising-Simons Foundation	Los Altos, CA	<p>For more than 10 years, the Heising-Simons Foundation has made grants that reflect our deep care for, and interest in, young children and their education. It's a child's early years of life that are especially formative and we, among many other champions of early childhood education, recognize that this is the time to lay the foundation for the future.</p> <p>All children deserve access to opportunities that support them to thrive—in school, at home, and in the community. Yet, for millions of children, their families, and their communities in the United States, access to such opportunities is curtailed by historic and present-day policies and practices that work in reinforcing ways to perpetuate racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic inequities. Gaps start early and result in much lower rates of college completion and social mobility for children from families with low incomes and children of color. While we do not believe that our work—or even the whole education system—can by itself close such gaps, we do believe that philanthropy has a responsibility to focus its resources on reducing these disparities.</p> <p>The Foundation's work focuses on both California and the United States. The program's strategy spans birth-to-3rd-grade and recognizes that early learning happens in many settings, both within the formal education system and outside of it—most notably, within families.</p> <p>Our two complementary portfolios include initiatives that focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -enabling systemic conditions for high-quality adult-child interactions and positive learning environments; and -supporting effective practices that foster these interactions within the systems and settings in which children from low-income families and children of color develop and learn. <p>Current initiatives include the Stabilizing the Early Childhood Education Workforce initiative, the Data for Action initiative, and the Creating Coherent Early Math Instruction in California initiative. New initiatives will continue to be defined for each of these two portfolios.</p>
Irving Harris Foundation	Chicago, IL	<p>The Irving Harris Foundation specializes in early childhood education education and mental health grants. Harris is the founder of one of Chicago's most popular early education programs, the Ounce of Prevention Fund. Before the research was there, Harris believed that the best way to break intergenerational cycles of poverty was to intervene during children's first five years of life. Although the Irving Harris Foundation was established back in 1946, it didn't create major waves through the city until Harris began awarding grants to early education teaching training programs at the Erikson Institute, the Beethoven Project, the Early Childhood Study Center at Yale University, Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies at the University of Chicago, and 500 Head Start programs across the country.</p> <p>Our strategic grantmaking, special initiatives, and field leadership are rooted in Irving's holistic vision for an early childhood field that fosters equitable access to high-quality care and opportunities for healthy development for all young children and their families.</p> <p>Our focus is on the youngest children, and our approach to early childhood incorporates the full constellation of care that surrounds and supports their families and communities to nurture them, from prior to conception forward. We are particularly focused on the infant and early childhood mental health field, which we help to advance through innovative programs, leadership training, research, public policy, and grassroots movement building.</p> <p>We also carry forward Irving's understanding that women's reproductive health and their ability to determine if, when, and how they choose to become parents are critical components of their ability to raise healthy children who will be successful in school and in life.</p>
Novo Foundation	NY	<p>NoVo was founded by Warren Buffet's youngest Son, Peter, and is a major player in funding Social and Emotional Learning. The foundation believes that Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), brought to scale, can and will play a significant role in shifting our culture of systemic inequality and violence toward a new ethos that values and prioritizes collaboration and partnership.</p> <p>SEL aligns directly with NoVo Foundation's intention to nurture a new generation that will break cycles of competition and domination, employing skills and motivation to build a more equitable, cooperative, and just world. NoVo embraces our collective responsibility to help all girls and boys realize their full potential. And we believe, based on strong social science evidence, that SEL has particular power to unlock a broad range of human capacities—intellectual and emotional—which prepare children to co-create a kinder, more interconnected, and equitable future.</p> <p>NoVo's strategic approach is ambitious and multilayered. Our SEL strategy emphasizes:</p> <p>The importance of schools as institutions that reach most children: We seek to integrate SEL programs and practices into the very heart of education, through formal SEL curricula, re-imagining school structures, and improving school climates. We work with large school districts in the U.S. seeking better outcomes for their students. Over time, we plan to work with a range of school systems and with community institutions serving youth.</p> <p>Evidence-based Social and Emotional Learning Program Providers: SEL program providers have a historic opportunity to scale their work by building both effectiveness and capacity to respond to growing demand. Strong evidence of effectiveness, both developed and nascent, guides our partnerships and investments.</p> <p>Continuous Learning guides program development: Active monitoring and evaluation of efforts to bring evidence-based SEL to more children will allow us to correct and refine strategies midcourse. We place a premium on collaborating dynamically with grantee partners, who are also learning and improving.</p> <p>Field building: We expect our work to raise consciousness about SEL as an education reform strategy with wide-ranging benefits. Communications efforts will help build demand, both within the education establishment and among the public. Identifying compatible education reform efforts, and working alongside them, will be crucial to achieving our goal. A core strategy is to also raise awareness and develop strong partnerships within philanthropy.</p> <p>PARTNERS CASEL logoCollaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) is the lead Social and Emotional Learning practice, policy, and research organization in the United States, and a core partner in NoVo's efforts to advance and scale SEL. NoVo supports the Collaborating Districts Initiative, which involves the planning for, and implementation of, district-wide SEL in eight of the largest school districts in the U.S.</p>

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Overdeck Family Foundation	NY	<p>We seek to open doors for every child in the U.S. by measurably enhancing education both inside and outside the classroom. In order to succeed, children need access to strong foundations for early learning, exceptional educators, innovative schools, and engaging out-of-school opportunities. We support organizations and researchers that work toward these goals, providing funding to scale evidence-based projects and help early-stage initiatives develop and validate their evidence base.</p> <p>Overdeck Family Foundation provides funding across five focus areas, encompassing the whole child from birth through graduation both inside and outside the classroom.</p> <p>Early Impact Support families, caregivers, and communities in accessing and using evidence-based parenting practices proven to make a difference in the early lives of children.</p> <p>Exceptional Educators Empower K-12 teachers by providing them access to evidence-based preparation, high-quality instructional resources, and ongoing professional learning and leadership opportunities.</p> <p>Innovative Schools Partner with schools to create student-centered, evidence-based K-12 learning environments that are responsive to learner and community needs.</p> <p>Inspired Minds Improve access to out-of-school STEM opportunities, allowing children to unlock their curiosity and explore mind-expanding challenges.</p> <p>Data for Action Increase the connectivity and usability of data in order to accelerate insights that improve practice and policy for children and families.</p>
Richard W. Goldman Family Foundation	Washington, DC	<p>The Richard W. Goldman Family Foundation promotes equality and reduces barriers to opportunity across generations for our nation's most disadvantaged. It does this by increasing access to education, health, and financial resources for families during children's early years.</p> <p>Guided by our mission, vision, and values of social justice and equal access to opportunity, we concentrate our efforts on supporting children and their families during a child's early years. We aim to increase access to high-quality early childhood development experiences that prepare all children to succeed emotionally, physically, and academically. We believe that providing high-quality learning, health, and economic supports to families and children before birth and through their early years offers the best opportunity to influence children's future trajectories. Research shows that effective early interventions for undeserved children can promote positive development, increase opportunity, and greatly reduce the likelihood of negative outcomes later in life, such as disease, unemployment, and incarceration.</p> <p>Yet too few children who could benefit are not getting these supports. We know that only 2.2 million children—fewer than half of the 4.6 million children in poverty under the age of six—have access to early learning programs. For example, from 2012 to 2016, 60 percent of three- and four-year-old children living significantly below the federal poverty level in the United States were not enrolled in preschool. Research also demonstrates the impact a parent's education, economic stability, and overall health has on a child's learning and development trajectory. For example, studies show that an extra \$3,000 in parents' annual income when their child is young often leads to a 17 percent increase in the child's future earnings. For these reasons, we support two-generation approaches (targeting parents and children) to early childhood work at the national level, focused on increasing access to quality early childhood interventions for families who are least likely to have these opportunities.</p> <p>Specifically, we have funded evidence-based service programs, advocacy to effect policy change at the state and federal levels, work to advance and connect early childhood data systems and infrastructure, efforts to improve the quality of early care and education, and research that can advance the field. We also make mission related investments (MRIs) from the foundation's corpus to advance early childhood success through health, education, and community development. We prioritize impact and mission alignment in our investments and aim to provide flexible, patient capital to develop the field of early childhood investing.</p>

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation		<p>From a growing body of research, we know that much of our most critical development takes place long before we ever walk through a kindergarten door. From our earliest years, nutritious foods, energetic play, and positive social and emotional environments are critical to our health and well-being. Unfortunately, many children across our nation lack some or all of these basic necessities, which affect their health at every stage of life.</p> <p>Childhood Obesity Bringing about changes in public policy, community environments, and industry practices that help children achieve a healthy weight.</p> <p>Early Childhood Working with schools, families and communities to provide children the best foundation for a healthy life.</p> <p>Child and Family Well-Being Advancing programs and policies that help achieve healthy, safe, and stable environments for all children and their families.</p> <p>At RWJF, we support programs which are helping to address these unacceptable disparities, and provide all children the building blocks for lifelong health. For instance:</p> <p>Helping kids grow up at a healthy weight; Teaching kids social and emotional skills at home, in child-care settings and in the classroom; Creating schools where education and health are linked; and</p> <p>Empowering families, educators, providers, and other caring adults to create safe and healthy environments where kids can grow, learn, and succeed.</p> <p>Current open call for Evidence for Action (E4A), a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), funds research that expands the evidence needed to build a Culture of Health. Evidence for Action (E4A), a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), funds research that expands the evidence needed to build a Culture of Health. A Culture of Health is broadly defined as one in which good health and well-being flourish across geographic, demographic, and social sectors; public and private decisionmaking is guided by the goal of fostering equitable communities; and everyone has the opportunity to make choices that lead to healthy lifestyles. E4A is an investigator-initiated research funding program, and as such does not pose a specific set of research questions, topics, or categories for funding. This call for proposals (CFP) offers guidance and clarification about the types of projects that are likely to be a good fit with the program's general goals and objectives. Research examples highlighted in this CFP are intended to provide context and stimulate thinking, not serve as rigid guidelines or restrictions. Investigators are encouraged to submit innovative proposals using any appropriate combination of research designs and methods</p>
The Foundation for Child Development	New York, NY	<p>The Foundation for Child Development believes that the quality of early care and education programs and the strongest outcomes for young children depend on early care and education professionals who are well-prepared, appropriately compensated, and supported in their professional practice. The early care and education workforce plays an integral role in promoting children's learning — especially through their interactions with children and through the enriching and nurturing learning environments they create. These professionals include lead teachers, teacher assistants, home-based providers, coaches, master teachers, and administrators. The quality of programs and positive child outcomes we seek will not be realized without a much more strategic focus on unifying, preparing, and compensating these practitioners.</p> <p>Within this frame, we are committed to a grantmaking strategy dedicated to supporting the ECE workforce and to identifying and promoting research, policy, and practice that will:</p> <p>Professionalize and advance the status of the early care and education workforce; Improve preparation and ongoing professional learning; and, Enhance the quality of professional practice through implementation research.</p>
W.M. Kellogg Foundation	Detroit, MI	<p>Children are at the heart of everything we do at the Kellogg Foundation. Our goal is lasting, transformational change for children. As a grantmaker, we recognize that children live in families and families live in communities. Therefore, our three areas of focused work – Thriving Children, Working Families and Equitable Communities – are dynamic and always interconnected.</p> <p>Achieving strong outcomes for children happens by connecting what families need – at home, in child care settings, at school, at work and in their communities. As a foundation, we use a variety of change-making tools – grantmaking, impact investing, networking and convening. With our support, grantees and partners work together to make measurable improvements in children's lives.</p> <p>Our Interconnected Priorities:</p> <p>Thriving Children: We support a healthy start and quality learning experiences for all children. Working Families: We invest in efforts to help families obtain stable, high-quality jobs. Equitable Communities: We want all communities to be vibrant, engaged and equitable.</p> <p><u>Thriving Children:</u> To ensure children thrive, the foundation focuses on improving access to high quality, early childhood education and education systems, where families are engaged in schools and practices are rooted in community's cultures and languages. The foundation advances models that are proven to support healthy birth outcomes, quality maternal and infant health care and children's early development.</p> <p>Two-thirds of grantmaking goes to priority areas include Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, New Orleans, Mexico, and Haiti.</p>