



FSSA News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2019

**FSSA announces recipients of early education capacity-building grants
*Over \$870,000 in funding will increase high-quality early childhood education in
 counties where On My Way Pre-K is newly available***

INDIANAPOLIS—Indiana’s Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning recently awarded early education capacity-building grants totaling more than \$870,000 to 14 applicants representing 19 prekindergarten programs in 13 Indiana counties. All recipients are located in counties whose residents are eligible for the [On My Way Pre-K program](#) for the first time in the 2019/2020 school year. On My Way Pre-K was expanded statewide as a result of House Enrolled Act 1628, signed by Governor Eric J. Holcomb in May of 2019.

On My Way Pre-K is Indiana’s state-funded prekindergarten program for low-income children. The program, which is free to families who qualify, is currently enrolling eligible 4-year-olds for the 2019/2020 school year. Families may check eligibility and apply [here](#).

The capacity-building grants are awarded to early learning providers and county coalitions to serve more prekindergarten children and increase the quality of early education opportunities provided in Indiana.

The following applicants were awarded funds:

OECOSL Early Education Capacity Building Grant Awards		
Applicant	County	Funding Awarded
Brown County Schools	Brown	\$90,349.95
Camden Early Childhood Center	Carroll	\$33,250.00
Clay Academy, LLC	Shelby	\$22,710.59
East Washington School Corporation	Washington	\$73,106.20
Lakeland School Corporation	LaGrange	\$136,760.00
Max's Playhouse	Starke	\$54,646.38
Mt. Vernon Early Learning Academy - Mini-Marauder Preschool	Hancock	\$17,416.70
North White Elementary School	White	\$177,214.04
PACE Early Learning Coalition	Pulaski	\$69,256.00
Perry Child Care	Perry	\$23,486.64
Pine Ridge Elementary School	Dubois	\$5,838.46
Shelbyville Central Schools	Shelby	\$144,811.32
The Growing Patch Learning Center	Jasper	\$20,502.03
Tik Tock Daycare	Sullivan	\$6,877.50

OECOSL Early Education Capacity Building Grant Awards		
Applicant	County	Funding Awarded
	TOTAL	\$876,225.81

Capacity-building grants may be used for the following purposes:

- Training and professional development of teaching staff;
- Classroom materials that demonstrate increased outcomes for children or increased instructional practices for educators;
- Evidence-based curriculum or instructional materials including professional development for teaching staff to utilize the curriculum;
- Family engagement activities or materials and/or marketing and communication materials; and
- Other relevant needs to help expand capacity and/or improve quality programming to help programs reach [Paths to QUALITY™](#) level 3 or 4, which is the requirement for a provider to be eligible to be an On My Way Pre-K provider.

Grant awards are for one year with the option to request a no-cost extension if additional capacity-building activities remain that have not been completed after one year. Nonprofit applicants interested in receiving funding for items not allowable had the opportunity to apply for a limited pool of separate grant funding from [Early Learning Indiana](#).

All applicants were required to secure matching funds—between 5 and 50% of total budget—from local businesses or other stakeholders who will benefit from the community improvement associated with these capacity-building grants.

The Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning is a division of the [Indiana Family and Social Services Administration](#). Follow us on Twitter [@FSSAIndiana](#) or on Facebook at [OnMyWayPreKIndiana](#).

MEDIA NOTE: Additional resources including [photos](#) and [B-roll video](#) are available.

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Families may call 800-299-1627 for assistance from an early learning referral specialist or for other questions about On My Way Pre-K.