

Franklin First

EVERY CHILD, EVERY CHANCE, EVERY DAY



Introduction

Franklin First stands for Franklin Parish Early Childhood Network. Franklin First network is a community network comprised of early care and education programs which include the school system, Head Start, and child care centers. Franklin First network’s goal is to provide and improve family access to high quality early learning experiences for children in Franklin Parish to ensure kindergarten readiness. The network will also work with program partners to increase program support and community engagement.

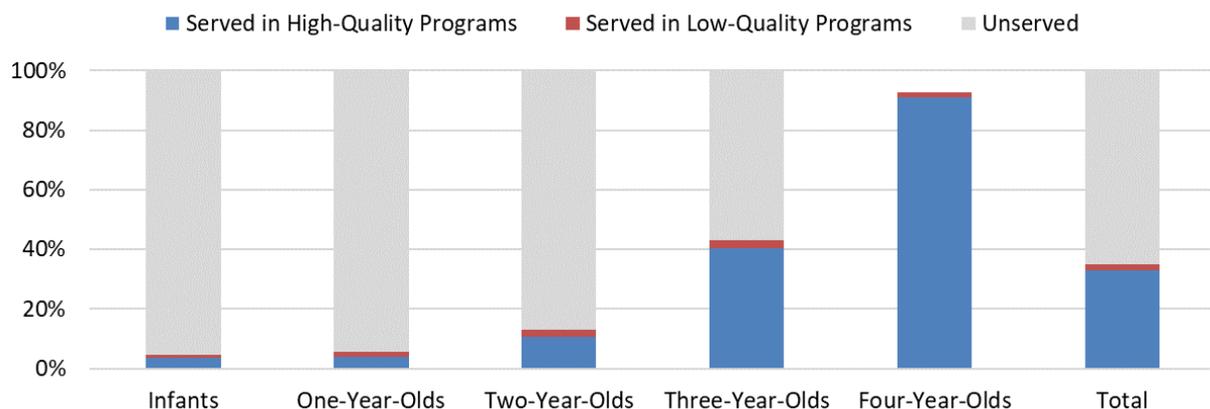
In 2012, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 3, the Early Childhood Act. Act 3 requires BESE (the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education) to create a unified system to manage all publicly funded EC programs. All publicly funded early childhood programs must comply with Act 3. These programs include: public school programs (LA 4, 8g, Title I), special education programs, Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Steps, and the Nonpublic School Early Childhood Development (NSECD) program. The Franklin Parish program partners came together in 2015 – 2016 for Year 3 network pilot.

The primary goal of the Franklin First network is to provide and improve family access to high quality early learning experiences for the children in Franklin Parish to ensure kindergarten readiness.

Franklin Parish has critical gaps in access to quality early care and education for our communities’ youngest learners.

Early Childhood Access & Access to Quality

Data from Franklin Parish Network Performance Profile 2018 -2019



Guiding Statements

Vision: Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

Mission: To provide and improve family access to high-quality early learning experiences for children in Franklin Parish to ensure kindergarten readiness. To increase EC program support for teachers and directors, and to increase knowledge of the community members about the importance of early childhood.

Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Improve quality of the early care and education opportunities.

Strategies:

- Coach for all programs (CLASS, Curriculum, TS GOLD)
- All EC centers with Tier 1 Curriculum for Infant/Toddler/PreK
- High - quality materials for Centers in child care centers.

Resources:

- Existing: Received the Infant CLASS Supports Grant for Infant CLASS training.
- Needed: Training for curricula

Performance Metrics: Performance Profiles/CLASS scores – All programs will achieve High Proficient or an Excellent rating

Progress Made: All programs have received performance profile ratings of proficient or higher for 2019 -2020. All sites now have Tier 1 curricula.

Goal 2: Increase access to Early Care and educational opportunities for Infants, Toddlers, and 3 – year old children.

Strategies:

- Evaluate availability of Infant, Toddler, and Three-year old seats by age and location with Quarterly child count.
- Identify potential sites to add additional slots
- Request Preschool Development Grant (PDG) funding for B-3 seats.

Resources:

- Existing: Several child care centers with space to provide care for Infants, Toddlers, and Threes.
- Needed: PDG funding to fund available spots for Infants, Toddlers, and Threes.

Performance Metrics: Increased enrollment of Infants, Toddlers, and 3 – year olds by 20 children overall.

Goal 3: Increase the parent's and community's awareness on Early Childcare options when choosing a program for their children.

Strategies:

- Marketing Campaign – Newspaper Ads, Social Media, Posters, Flyers
- List of available Early Childcare options in Franklin Parish

Resources:

- Existing: Templates exist for flyers and posters. Partnerships exist with community businesses.
- Needed: Updated flyers and posters.

Performance Metrics: Survey data