



Kalamazoo County Ready 4s

Every child in Kalamazoo County will begin Kindergarten **READY TO SUCCEED!**

The mission of KC Ready 4s is to advance fully accessible, high-quality pre-kindergarten education for every 3- and 4-year-old in Kalamazoo County through collaborative leadership with public and private providers.

What do we do?



Partner with 50+ licensed early care and education providers located throughout Kalamazoo County



Provide tuition assistance to income eligible families



Collaborate with community organizations to provide the needed services and supports to families not offered through KC Ready 4s

Top 10 2020-21 Highlights

1

GRATITUDE BONUS

In January, KC Ready 4s Provided **Gratitude Bonuses** to **all** Lead and Assistant Teachers in partnering programs. [Learn More...](#)

“WOW, thank you so much for the \$500! As a pre-K teacher, I hold tight to every little "thank you" or word of encouragement. But I must say, your acknowledgement takes my breath away! As do all teachers, I spend a lot on my class. With this money... I am helping to pay for new curtains in MY living room. They will be joyful and will remind me of my precious little people! - Pre-K Teacher”

2

UNLOCKING TALKING

KC Ready 4s' Speech Language Pathologists developed a video series to help families support their child's language development. These videos were shared on social media and YouTube, and viewed over 2,500 times!



DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION WORK

Staff participation in Michigan's Early Childhood System Racial Equity Leaders Cohort and ongoing Professional Development for teachers/directors in being anti-racist educators.

3

“KC Ready 4s has been a wonderful support system. It has been a challenging year and we are extremely appreciative for all of their support, willingness to provide resources and recognize the work that is done in child care centers!

We thank you! -Kristin S. ”

4

81 SUPPORTED CLASSROOMS

JOYFUL, INTENTIONAL, LIFE-CHANGING: THE POWER OF PRE-KINDERGARTEN!

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5

COMMUNITY RESILIENCY MODEL

Taught by our Coordinator of Family & Community Relations, a CRM Certified Trainer through the Trauma Resource Institute, who was the second certified trainer in the State of Michigan.



As of May 2021, **320** individuals, made up of teachers and community members, have been trained in the Community Resiliency Model.

6

MONTHLY GIVING PROGRAM



We announced our new monthly giving program! We look forward to growing this through our challenge match!

TUITION SUPPORT FOR 3- & 4-YEAR-OLDS

7

39 3-year-olds received assistance totaling \$265,278.
222 4-year-olds received assistance totaling \$355,768.

8

THANK-A-TEACHER

A new Volunteer opportunity was added this year to thank pre-K teachers for all they do! **23** Volunteers sent cards, emails, and treats to **28** teachers. We look forward to continuing this next year!

9

HIGH-QUALITY SUPPORTS

“KC Ready 4s helps me to be the best teacher I can be! -Candis E.”

- **Speech Language Pathologists:** 28 support requests
- **Behavior Support Specialist:** 14 children in 8 classrooms.
- **Teacher Mentors:** 3,083 hours of coaching support

10TH ANNIVERSARY

10

Throughout September, KC Ready 4s released 10 Videos to Celebrate 10 Years. The celebration wrapped on October 1st with a Celebratory Cheers event where we announced we **MET** our **Challenge Match** of **\$100,000!**



Ready 4 More! Be on the lookout in 2021 for:



Employee Assistance Program for ALL teachers at a partnering PLUS program beginning **July 2021**



Addition of **Occupational Therapy & Early Childhood Leadership Mentor**



\$100,000 Challenge Match
All corporate and new monthly donations are eligible to be matched! [Learn more!](#)