

Economic Summit: Building the Case for Investments in Early Education

***Hosted by The Committee for Economic Development and
United Way of Wisconsin for Community Leadership Teams***

When: Monday, April 23, 2007
9:30 a.m. - Registration, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Summit
Complimentary Registration and Lunch

Where: Marriott West
1313 John Q. Hammonds Drive, Middleton WI
“Economic Summit” block of rooms saved through April 1, 2007.
608-821-2000

RSVP: Please register at www.wisbiz4kids.com by April 6, 2007
For additional information, contact us at info@wisbiz4kids.com

The Economic Promise of Early Education

Investing in high-quality early childhood education yields high returns for our state. Research shows that high-quality early education programs, starting at birth, provide a long-term economic payoff both for the individual and our economy through the following :

“The real question is how to use available funds wisely. The best evidence supports the policy prescription: invest in the very young.”

***James J. Heckman,
Nobel Laureate in
Economics,
University of Chicago***

- Improved academic outcomes
- Reduced need for special education
- Increased likelihood of high school graduation
- Increased probability of pursuing higher education
- Reduced need for welfare or criminal justice system involvement

Eight dollars are saved for every **dollar** invested in high quality early education programs. *Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

Economic Summit Sponsors

Committee for Economic Development
Buffett Early Childhood Fund
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Wisconsin Council on Children and Families
Wisconsin Early Childhood Association
Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners
Wisconsin Economic Development Association
Wisconsin Head Start Association
Wisconsin Women’s Council

Photo contributed by the Wisconsin Head Start Association



Summit Overview

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The purpose of this event is to support the creation of strategies to strengthen our economy through early education. Selected community teams will include eight to ten community leaders, representing business, philanthropy, finance, economic development, early education (Child Care Resource and Referral, Head Start, public schools), elected officials, media, etc.

Community leadership teams will be provided opportunities to:

- Engage in facilitated discussions to develop community strategies and begin action planning.
- Consider key issues in keeping our communities, states, and nation economically competitive.
- Learn about successful strategies for engaging business and community leaders in support of early education.
- Develop next steps for action, including use of an online resource kit.



Confirmed guest speakers will include the following:

- Mike Petro, *Committee for Economic Development*
- Steven Barnett, *National Institute for Early Education Research*
- David Lawrence, *Retired Publisher of The Miami Herald*
- Elliot Regenstein, *Illinois Early Learning Council*
- Mark Scally, *Minnesota Business for Early Learning*

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“Although education and acquisition of skills is a lifelong process, starting early in life is critical. Recent research...has documented the high returns that early childhood can pay in terms of subsequent educational attainment and in lower rates of social problems.”

*Ben Bernanke,
Federal Reserve Board Chairman*