



# **Educare New Orleans**

## *Key Takeaways*

**2019**

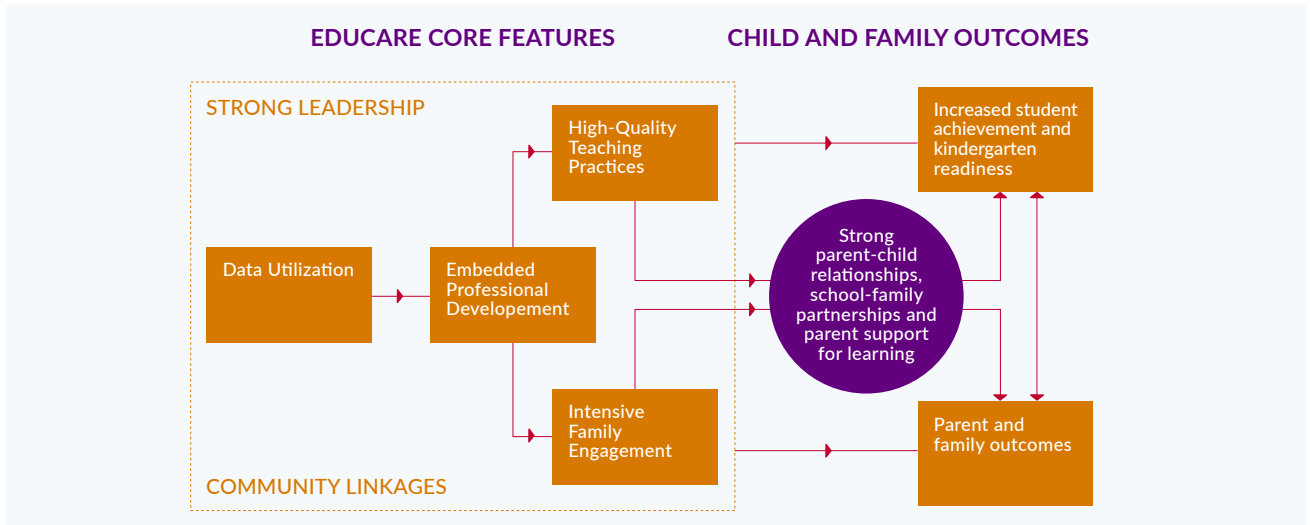


RESOURCE EXPERTS

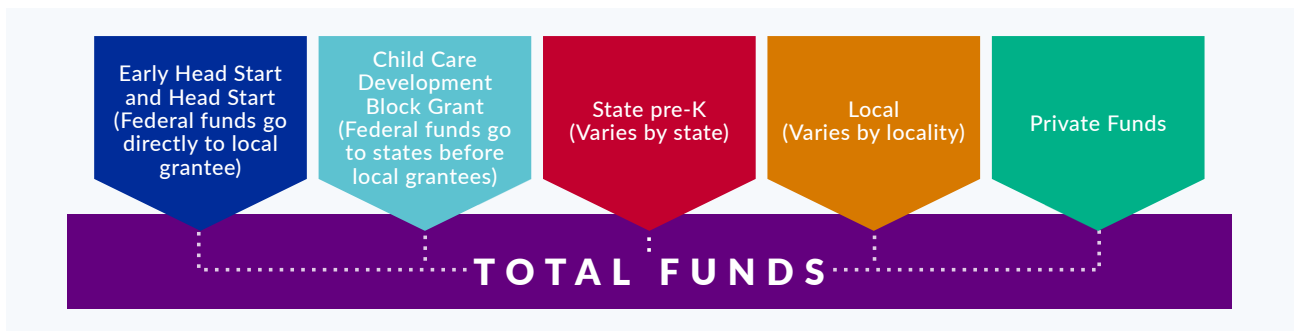
- ☑ **Elliot Steinberg**, Director, Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation
- ☑ **Dr. Rhea Williams Bishop**, Director of Mississippi and New Orleans Programs, W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- ☑ **Dr. Keith Liederman**, Chief Executive Officer, Kingsley House
- ☑ **Gerard Barousse**, Board President, Educare New Orleans
- ☑ **Angie Shorty-Belisle**, School Director, Educare New Orleans
- ☑ **Thomas Whitfield**, Family Support Manager, Educare New Orleans
- ☑ **Kristin Bernhard**, Senior Vice President, Advocacy & Policy, The Ounce of Prevention Fund
- ☑ **Jenna Conway**, Chief School Readiness Officer, Office of the Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
- ☑ **Rachel Schumacher**, Senior Advisor, Early Childhood, The Hunt Institute
- ☑ **Dr. Javaid Siddiqi**, President & CEO, The Hunt Institute

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Children thrive when their families are able to provide for them and communities afford equitable opportunity to all.
- The best way to advance early childhood education is to invest in high-yield strategies that ensure children enter **school ready to succeed**, so all students are academically successful and developmentally **thriving by third grade**.
- The educational **achievement gap** for children of color is attributed to a host of factors, including socioeconomic conditions, but there is strong evidence that early childhood education can help close gaps.
- The Educare model has **four key features** that help promote high-quality child care: **Data utilization, embedded professional development, high-quality teaching practices, and intensive family engagement.**



- The national Educare funding model relies on a number of **public and private sources, including:**





## KEY TAKEAWAYS (CONT.)

- For Educare New Orleans, in addition to Head Start and Early Head Start funding, federal food programs, state grants, and parent/educator tax credit programs are also utilized to cover the cost of services.
  - **Philanthropic support covers approximately 20 percent of the total operating budget.**
  - Federal funding for children with developmental delays is provided via IDEA Part C.
- Parents can find the process of selecting child care providers and **navigating public subsidies** difficult. New Orleans' **OneApp** seeks to streamline the process but there are still challenges with disseminating information and supporting all parents during these processes.
- Providers must **meet families where they are** to bring them into the process in a way that is most comfortable to them.
- Educare New Orleans seeks to provide **performance-based salary increases** to teachers to promote retention.

## RESOURCES

- **[Louisiana Tax Credits](#)** | The Hunt Institute has compiled a one-pager on the tax credits for teachers and families discussed during the funding conversations.
- **[Business Case for Racial Equity for New Orleans and Louisiana](#)** | The W.K. Kellogg Foundation released this report in September 2018 to stress the importance of racial equity as both an imperative for social justice and a strategy for economic development and growth.
- **[About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation](#)** | Learn more about the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's vision, mission, and priorities.
- **[Educare Locations](#)** | Educare Schools are located across the country; use this map to see if you have Educare in your state or community.

## ACTION STEPS FOR POLICYMAKERS

- Identify the **quality standards** required of child care providers in your state and consider how they align with the core features of Educare.
- Explore how child care is **funded** in your state and consider how this approach is understood and navigated from the **perspective of both parents and providers.**
- **Request an IDEA Part C waitlist** to understand how well your state is meeting the needs of young children with disabilities.
- **Engage multiple sectors and partners** to build a strong coalition to support the development or improvement of your state's early childhood system to reduce siloed work, increase sustainability, and improve services to children and families.



Students and their teachers gave guests a special welcome to start the morning.



Guests toured classrooms to understand how the school creates a high-quality learning experience.



Panelists shared details about the blending and braiding of funding needed to start and sustain Educare schools.