



**Child Care Bureau**  
**Early Learning Opportunities Act Discretionary Grant Program**  
**Fiscal Year 2003**

On September 30, 2003, the Administration on Children, Youth and Families awarded Early Learning Opportunity Act (ELOA) discretionary grants to 43 Local Councils in 28 States, including a federally-recognized Indian Tribe and an Alaskan Native Regional Corporation. The awards range from \$254,519 to \$1 million. Eight of the FY 2003 grantees were also FY 2001 ELOA grantees. The project period for all of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 ELOA grants is September 30, 2003 through February 28, 2005 (17 months).

Each of the grantees will promote enhancing early childhood literacy<sup>1</sup> as part of their approved project. The other approved ELOA project activities will also include two or more of the following: promoting effective parenting<sup>2</sup>; helping parents, caregivers, child care providers, and educators increase their capacity to facilitate child development and promote learning readiness<sup>3</sup>; developing linkages among early learning programs and health care services for young children<sup>4</sup>; increasing access to early learning opportunities for young children with special needs<sup>5</sup>; increasing access to existing early learning programs by expanding the days or times that young children are served, by expanding the number served, or by improving the affordability of the programs for low-income families<sup>6</sup>; improving the quality of early learning programs through professional development and training activities, increased compensation, and recruitment and retention incentives for providers<sup>7</sup>; and removing ancillary barriers to early learning, including transportation difficulties and absence of programs during nontraditional work times<sup>8</sup>.

Listed below are the recipient Local Councils and their fiscal agents (if applicable), as well as the ELOA activities (by number above) that each grantee is implementing.

The Federal Project Officers for these grants are:

Region I: Brenda Coakley (202) 205-3572 [bbcoakley@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:bbcoakley@acf.hhs.gov)

Region III: Valerie Krajec (202) 401-5067 [vkrajec@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:vkrajec@acf.hhs.gov)

Region IX: Cathy Overbagh (202) 205-8531 [coverbagh@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:coverbagh@acf.hhs.gov)

Regions II, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, & X: Carol Gage (202) 690-6243 [cgage@acf.dhhs.gov](mailto:cgage@acf.dhhs.gov)

State	Grantee's Fiscal Agent	Local Council (ELOA Grantee)	Project Title and ELOA Activity Code	Geographic Service Area
Alabama	National Children's Advocacy Center on behalf of the	Children's Policy Council for Huntsville City and Madison County	<i>Building Blocks Project</i>	Huntsville City and Madison County
Region IV	256-327-3776	Huntsville, AL	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8	\$892,047

Project promotes a collaborative approach incorporating social services, child care providers, and local councils. These agencies' home visitation programs (United Cerebral Palsy, Madison County Library, United Way, Parents As Teachers, and Healthy Families) will address: one-on-one parental interaction, community-wide training, transportation, competent and caring parents, and an early learning marketing campaign. The project will utilize the national literacy training models—*Dialogic Reading Program* and *the Stony Brook Reading and Language Project*—to address its early learning and training objectives. Other childhood literacy and child development information will be available to child care providers through distance learning delivery methods. Early learning marketing strategies will include enhanced web sites and links, and information kiosks in public housing, recreation centers, grocery stores, libraries, and other public locations.

<b>Alaska</b>	Ilisagvik College on behalf of the	Community Child Care Council of the Artic Slope Native Association	<i>Early Learning Enhancement for the North Slope Borough of Alaska</i>	North Slope Borough
Region X	907-852-6180	Barrow, AK	1, 2, 6, 7	\$999,999
Project will provide workshops and training for educators and parents that promote and support family literacy and incorporate Inupiat language, culture, traditions, and values. It will also expand available early learning resources in this remote area by recruiting and sustaining reading volunteers.				

<b>Arizona</b>	Santa Cruz County Schools Office on behalf of the	Santa Cruz County Schools Consortium	<i>Santa Cruz County Early Learning-Learning Together/Aprendiendo Temprano-Aprendiendo Juntos Program</i>	Santa Cruz County
Region IX	520-375-7942	Nogales, AZ	1, 2, 7, 8	\$717,147
Project will extend opportunities for home and community-based family literacy and parenting courses through evening and weekend programs, home instruction, and cable television. Free professional development and training to preschool teachers and child care providers/caregivers will be provided. Awareness and participation in early learning activities will be promoted through the creation and distribution of a county-wide family child care/early learning resource guide in Spanish and English, and a public service campaign using print and electronic media.				

<b>California</b>	Merced County Office of Education on behalf of the	Merced County Local Childcare Planning Council	<i>CELO – Coalition for Early Learning Opportunity</i>	Merced County
Region IX	209-381-5945	Merced, CA	1, 2, 5, 7, 8	\$892,036
Project will provide early learning opportunities to low-income children and families in rural and home-care settings through home visits made by a Mobile Resource Center. Training will be provided for licensed and license-exempt providers, and kindergarten teachers, with participation encouraged through outreach, educational incentives, and access through workshops, the Internet, and educational television. A school-based, pre-kindergarten summer institute will involve students, parents, and caregivers in early literacy and school readiness activities.				

<b>California</b>	Napa County Office of Education on behalf of the	Napa County Child Care Planning Council*	<i>The EARLY II Project (Enhancing Accessibility and Readiness for Learning by Young children)</i>	Napa County
Region IX	707-259-5939	Napa, CA	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	\$464,889
Project will provide training, with Spanish translation, for child care providers/caregivers to implement effective early literacy programs. A seminar series will use an expanded "Early Words" curriculum that incorporates "Raising a Reader" provider training already in use. A Saturday Curriculum will be offered for college credit, with child care and educational incentives provided to encourage attendance. Parents will be supported in implementing early learning and school readiness strategies at home via community-based workshops and training offered in both Spanish and English.				

<b>California</b>	Butte County Office of Education on behalf of the	Butte County Local Child Care Planning Council	Beginning Early Learning and Literacy Success	Butte County
Region IX	530-532-5673	Oroville, CA	1, 6, 7	\$837,072
Project will facilitate parental access to early literacy information through the "Raising a Reader" program. Children from low-income families, including many with foreign-born and immigrant parents, will be offered an expanded number of days in participating early childhood education centers and an expanded kindergarten transition program. Provider education and training will be improved through development and promotion of courses satisfying requirements for a Pre-Literacy/Language Specialist Certification and/or Child Development Permits.				

<b>California</b>	Contra Costa County Office of Education on behalf of the	Contra Costa County Local Planning Council	<i>Contra Costa County Early Learning Project</i>	Contra Costa County
Region IX	925-942-2208	Pleasant Hill, CA	1, 2, 3, 7	\$1,000,000
Project will increase the capacity of early childhood educators and parents to facilitate early childhood development and promote learning readiness through professional development activities of training, mentoring, and compensation. Early childhood educators will be assisted to continue their education and remain in their current employment. Low-income parents of children ages 3-5 years will be trained through the Home Instruction Program for Pre-School Youngsters (HIPYP), an international bilingual program to enhance early childhood literacy.				

<b>California</b>	San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools on behalf of the	San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council*	<i>The San Mateo County Early Learning Project</i>	San Mateo County
Region IX	650-802-5709	Redwood City, CA	1, 2, 4, 7, 8	\$1,000,000
Project will increase the education/professional training and retention of the child care workforce by awarding stipends to workers for completion of coursework, certification, and remaining with their employer. It will also connect parents through the Raising A Reader (RAD) program, which rotates book bags into family homes and trains child care providers and home visiting nurses to support parent-child reading routines. RAD will also expand into Spanish-speaking neighborhoods, as a pilot effort to reduce language barriers to service access.				

<b>California</b>	San Diego County Superintendent of Schools on behalf of the	San Diego County Child Care and Development Planning Council	<i>Project MENTOR (Meeting Educational Needs Through Outreach)</i>	North San Diego County: Escondido, Vista, Oceanside, and Poway
Region IX	760-736-6363	San Diego, CA	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	\$999,848
Project will provide job-embedded, site-based, professional development opportunities for early childhood educators and staff of partner agencies. Participants from designated low-income communities will be identified through comprehensive outreach. Qualified mentor teachers will provide training on teaching strategies that support children's school readiness and parent-teacher communication, including ways to support parents in encouraging their children's literacy development.				

<b>California</b>	n/a	First 5 El Dorado Children and Families Commission	<i>Early Learning Matters</i>	El Dorado County
Region IX	530-672-8298	Shingle Springs, CA	1, 5, 7, 8	\$439,832
Project will use faith-based and community partnerships to extend early learning opportunities to targeted				

populations in this rural area. Satellite caregiver training with educational incentives, a pool and database of qualified substitute teachers/aides, outreach to families and providers by bilingual child development specialists, and links with libraries and other community resources will be provided. Services will be customized to meet the needs of foster children and their families, Spanish-speaking and rural/isolated children and caregivers, including homeless families and migrant farm workers.

<b>Colorado</b>	n/a	Summit County Child Care Resource & Referral Agency	<i>Summit County Reading Early Always Learning (R.E.A.L.) Project</i>	Summit County
Region VIII	970-513-1170	Dillon, CO	1, 7, 8	\$362,797
Project will develop a child-centered school readiness system that fosters early learning and facilitates healthy child development. Project goals are designed to increase young children's ability to succeed in school. Strategies include extensive teacher and provider training in literacy, literacy outreach and education to at-risk families, literacy service coordination, mentoring opportunities for teachers, expansion of Parents as Teachers for parents and child care providers, provider performance-based incentives, and tuition assistance for low-income families.				

<b>Delaware</b>	City of Wilmington on behalf of the	Wilmington Early Care and Education Center	<i>Wilmington Cares</i>	City of Wilmington
Region III	302-739-4288	Wilmington, DE	1, 2, 3, 7	\$592,242
Project will enhance early childhood literacy; promote effective parenting; increase caregiver and child care provider capacity to support child development and school readiness; and improve program quality in an urban area with a 36 percent child poverty rate. Strategies include: a public awareness campaign; creating an Early Care and Education Professional Resource Center; implementing <i>Parents as Teachers</i> in child care settings; offering <i>Care to Read</i> literacy training; and awarding provider scholarships.				

<b>Florida</b>	Orange County School Readiness Coalition on behalf of the	Mayor's Education Action Council	<i>Orlando's Pre-K Enrichment Project</i>	City of Orlando
Region IV	407-841-6607	Orlando, FL	1, 2, 6, 7	\$997,290
Project is a pre-kindergarten school improvement effort to achieve academic excellence and increase active parent and community involvement. Full-day, full-year, pre-kindergarten services will be expanded to serve an additional 320 children of low-income families. The design is research-based, and its structure includes: elements of parental involvement, highly qualified teachers, on-going teacher training and support, low student-teacher ratios, curriculum, learning, and assessment materials, and classroom equipment to support school readiness. Literacy is the dominant theme to be incorporated in classroom learning centers addressing five literacy goals: experiencing and developing reading and writing skills, developing language skills, communicating ideas, and acquiring an appreciation for literature.				

<b>Florida</b>	Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County on behalf of the	Pinellas County School Readiness Coalition, Inc.	<i>Pinellas Early Literacy Learning Community Program</i>	Pinellas County
Region IV	727-547-5615	Pinellas Park, FL	1, 2, 3, 7	\$634,294
Project provides comprehensive early literacy training and coaching opportunities for caregivers and teachers in public and private children's programs to increase their level of professional education, earn college credit, gain early literacy teaching skills, tools and materials for their classrooms, and promote healthy social-emotional development in the children they serve. A three credit, 15 week college course, supplemented with the national Heads Up! Reading curriculum, will be broadcast via satellite to 100 trainees at five sites and				

public schools throughout the region. Early childhood mental health prevention services will be provided by parent educators to promote children’s healthy social-emotional development, effective teaching and disciplinary techniques, and positive adult-child interactions.

<b>Georgia</b>	United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta on behalf of the	Central DeKalb SPARK Partnership	<i>Lighting the SPARK</i>	DeKalb County
Region IV	404-527-7288	Atlanta, GA	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	\$911,412
Project builds upon a multi-year Kellogg Foundation grant, <i>Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids</i> (SPARK). “Lighting the SPARK” will work with infants and toddlers from predominantly single female head of households representing refugees and immigrants, and multiple ethnic groups. A collaborative delivery model will be used that includes components of parent and caregiver training, child abuse prevention, male (fatherhood) outreach and involvement, and literacy development. 175 children and their families will be served and tracked over an eight year period by the two initiatives.				

<b>Iowa</b>	Hamilton County Auditor on behalf of the	Building Families	<i>Early Childhood Enhancement Institute</i>	Hamilton, Humboldt, and Wright Counties
Region VII	515-832-9639	Webster City, IA	1, 2, 6, 7	\$540,069
Project will provide: outcome-based training to center staff; training to family child care providers focusing on enrichment activities and in-home assessments; and The Program for Infant and Toddler Caregivers to family providers. Incentives and financial assistance (i.e., accreditation costs and tuition reimbursement) leading to a Child Development Associate certificate will be provided. A tool to assess the social and emotional development of young children. In-home visitors and librarians will be trained to use Iowa’s emergent literacy program entitled <i>Every Child Reads</i> (ECR). ECR techniques for story time and family reading time will be modeled to children, families, and caregivers. Preschool tuition scholarships will be provided to low-income families, wrap-around child care programs will be established/expanded, and provider compensation increased.				

<b>Kansas</b>	United Way of Greater Topeka on behalf of the	Topeka Area Child Care Advisory Council	<i>Topeka Links to Learning</i>	Shawnee County
Region VII	785-357-5171	Topeka, KS	1, 2, 7	\$760,621
Project includes a community awareness campaign focusing on how early literacy experiences and reading to young children impact children’s success in school. Professional development opportunities (e.g., scholarships and incentives) will be available for national credentialing, accreditation, and individual staff development to improve the quality of early learning programs. To invite and encourage community support at all levels, a website will be developed to allow interested parties to “fund” specific project requests from child care facilities. Adults will receive education on the importance of reading to children and how to offer age appropriate early literacy experiences. Books and instructional materials will be distributed to families and child care providers. <i>Ready, Set, Kindergarten</i> brochures will be distributed in English and Spanish.				

<b>Louisiana</b>	n/a	Children's Coalition for Northeast Louisiana	<i>Ouachita Parish Right Start Program</i>	Cities of Monroe and West Monroe
Region VI	318-323-8775	Monroe, LA	1, 2, 3, 4	\$444,398
Project is a community-focused systemic approach to school readiness that will develop linkages among neighborhood resources and increase community awareness of early brain development. Strategies include: home visiting ( <i>Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters and Parents as Teachers</i> ); <i>Right from Birth</i> , a series about early childhood development for parents and caregivers of children under the age of 18 months; <i>The Developing Skills Checklist</i> to assess skill development of preschool-age children; use of the <i>Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale</i> , <i>Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale</i> , and the <i>Family Day</i>				

*Care Rating Scale* to assess the quality of child care; and implementation of the *Creative Curriculum*.

<b>Maine</b>	Kennebec Valley Community Action Program on behalf of the	Kennebec/Somerset Alliance for Children's Care, Education, and Support Services (ACCESS)	<i>Project PLUS</i>	Kennebec & Somerset Counties
Region I	207-859-1613	Waterville, ME	1, 2, 5, 7, 8	\$998,029
This rural project will include early literacy activities for parents, caregivers, and child care providers; improve the quality of early learning programs through on-going professional development, staff credentialing, increased compensation, and recruitment/retention incentives; offer child care business development and management training; and increase services or families needing care during non-traditional work schedules.				

<b>Maine</b>	Coastal Enterprises, Inc. on behalf of the	Coastal Alliance for Children's Care, Education, and Support (ACCESS)*	<i>Coastal Early Care and Education Project</i>	Northern Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Waldo, and Know Counties
Region I	207-882-7552	Wiscasset, ME	1, 2, 5, 6	\$988,790
Project will enhance early literacy activities through the use of <i>Success by Six</i> volunteers, family literacy programming and early literacy training; expand options for local research-based curriculum training for center-based early care and education providers; increase quality in programs through professional development, mentoring, and accreditation supports; and expand early learning programming for young children with special needs. Training of child care resource and referral counselors and child care providers will increase their ability to be more responsive regarding inclusion settings for young children with disabilities.				

<b>Maryland</b>	n/a	Family Support Strategy Committee of the Family League of Baltimore City, Inc.	<i>Baltimore's Early Literacy for Families (ELF) Project</i>	Four Communities in East & West Baltimore City: Druid Heights/Reservoir Hill/Upton, Historic East Baltimore, Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park, Southwest Baltimore Consortium
Region III	410-662-5500	Baltimore, MD	1, 2, 4	\$824,554
Project will enhance children's literacy and language skills by improving the capacity of parents, early care and education providers, pediatricians, and home visitors to support early literacy development in the children of Baltimore City's six highest risk and <i>Success by Six</i> communities. Maximizing current resources, the objective will be achieved through training about and distribution of the <i>Born to Read, Reach Out and Read</i> , and other early language and literacy kits.				

<b>Maryland</b>	Queen Anne's County Office of Finance on behalf of the	Queen Anne's County Community Partnerships for Children	<i>Families First Play to Learn Center</i>	Queen Anne County
Region III	410-758-6677	Centreville, MD	1, 2, 3, 8	\$688,197
Project will increase children's literacy levels by targeting all family members through a literacy initiative, <i>Little and Literate</i> , based on the Kenan Family Literacy Model and through the <i>Mobile Learning Center</i> , a fully-equipped van used as a classroom that will provide early learning services on evenings and weekends, to isolated families throughout the 372 square mile rural county.				

<b>Maryland</b>	n/a	Southern Maryland Child Care Resource Center	<i>Southern Maryland Early Literacy Project</i>	Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties
Region III	301-290-0040	Charlotte, MD	1, 2, 3, 7	\$540,165
<p>Project targets children in three rural counties that rank in lower one-half in school readiness who are served by Head Start, home/informal care, and family child care. Project builds on current infrastructure and collaborative relationships to enhance early literacy, promote effective parenting, enhance caregiver capacity to facilitate child development and learning readiness, and to improve the quality of early learning programs through staff development/training, compensation, and retention incentives. Assessment of provider skills and impact on informal providers is included.</p>				

<b>Massachusetts</b>	Hampshire Educational Collaborative on behalf of the	Eastern and South Hadley Community Partnership for Children	<i>Early Learning Web Project</i>	Five rural communities in western Massachusetts; Belchertown, South Hadley, and Ware (Hampshire County) and Monson and Palmer (Hampden County)
Region I	413-586-4900	Northampton, MA	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	\$856,296
<p>Project will use technology to improve early literacy in homes, family centers, and early care and education programs in five rural communities. A literacy-based home visiting model will target families who are at-risk and not currently involved in an early care and education program. Attention will be given to early learning opportunities for young children with special needs and developmental delays. Early intervention services will be provided in an integrated setting to connect families and children with and without special needs. Expanded services for four and five-year old children who are currently on waiting lists or who do not qualify for or have access to a Head Start program will be provided. New no-cost services at family center-based facilities will be created.</p>				

<b>Michigan</b>	Lenawee Intermediate School District on behalf of the	Lenawee's CHILd Advisory Council*	<i>Lenawee's CHILd: Communities Helping to Increase Learning and Development</i>	Lenawee County
Region V	517-266-4825	Adrian, MI	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8	\$532,042
<p>Project will increase parents' daily early literacy strategies, improve literacy instruction and learning environments in early care and education programs, increase capacity for serving children with special needs, increase vision and hearing screenings and services for young children, establish a county-wide kindergarten readiness assessment, and facilitate improved parent-child interactions and learning opportunities for migrant families. Outcomes will be achieved by creating literacy rich home and preschool environments, conducting screenings, providing home-based infant mental health services, distributing traveling literacy kits for migrant children, and through on-site mentoring for providers.</p>				

<b>Michigan</b>	Southwest Counseling and Development Services on behalf of the	Family Support Team of Southwest Detroit	<i>New Steps - Organizing the Community for New Steps to Early Learning</i>	Wayne County
Region V	313-896-2808	Detroit, MI	1, 2, 3, 4	\$668,135
<p>Project will increase early learning and literacy development, increase parent and caregiver effectiveness, and will engage health and human service providers, businesses, and churches in early learning promotion and programming in a community with high poverty, unemployment, drop-out, teen pregnancy, infant mortality,</p>				

health problems, and parental incarceration rates. Objectives will be achieved by expanding early literacy programming, improving the quality of existing programs through staff development and training, facilitating integration of literacy activities provided by early childhood programs, businesses, and faith-based institutions serving children and families.

<b>Minnesota</b>	Dakota County Public Health Department on behalf of the	Dakota Healthy Families Steering Team	<i>Dakota Healthy Families Early Learning Project</i>	Dakota County
Region V	651-554-6370	W. St. Paul, MN	1, 2, 3, 4, 8	\$650,999
The Dakota Healthy Families Early Literacy Project will enhance early childhood program effectiveness in fostering early literacy, enhance immigrant and refugee populations' early learning activities and supports, and provide early intervention services within Dakota County. This will be achieved through linkages to early intervention services, home visiting, parent supports and early learning services, and by addressing barriers to collaborative service delivery.				

<b>Missouri &amp; Kansas</b>	Mid-America Regional Council on behalf of the	Metropolitan Council on Child Care*	<i>Kansas City Early Childhood Excellence Project Phase II</i>	Kansas: Johnson, Leavenworth, and Wyandotte Counties Missouri: Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray Counties
Region VII	816-474-4240	Kansas City, MO	1, 2, 3, 4, 7	\$1,000,000
Project will use a collaborative approach to improve childhood excellence. Strategies include: establishing a standardized quality rating system; developing site specific quality performance profiles to identify individualized needs/resources to improve quality and support school readiness; developing and distributing school readiness guides to parents; developing and piloting a director credential program; developing and piloting a training program to engage families; using a website to provide an interactive training search for providers and on-line training registration; expanding an early literacy training and technical assistance model for center staff; developing a manual for providers to foster support of parents with low literacy to be their children's first teacher; providing dental exams and service referrals of at-risk preschool children; providing health, development, and behavior education to center-based providers and parents; linking parents and other primary caregivers to support groups; and upgrading the Child Care Source Resource & Referral website.				

<b>New Jersey</b>	AlantiCare Foundation on behalf of the	United Way of Atlantic County Success by 6 Initiative	<i>Parents As Teachers</i>	Atlantic County
Region II	609-404-4483	Egg Harbor, NJ	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	\$434,681
Project will expand the Parents As Teachers (PAT) home visiting program; use a comprehensive strategy to provide a vast array of services for young children and parent advocacy; and promote early learning through literacy and child well-being. The PAT model is designed to enhance parents' involvement in their children's education as well as incorporate early learning activities into their daily lives. Parent support activities include home visits by trained parent educators. The PAT parent educator will be the key element in implementing the project's goal and ensuring the provision of needed services and assistance. PAT links with the school systems to reach both teen and adult parents of children under the age of six years.				

<b>New Jersey</b>	Community Coordinated Child Care on behalf of the	Union County Association of Child Care Providers*	<i>Union County Early Learning Opportunities Project</i>	Union County
Region II	973-923-1422	Hillside, NJ	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	\$703,664



Project will address the need for increased professional development, increased coordination among child care providers, and support and education for parents. The project will strengthen the infrastructure supporting early childhood services through the formation of an advocacy and professional development network, which will promote and educate the public about quality child care. The *Approved Home Provider/Parent Early Literacy* component will expand help to untrained, unregulated child care providers to learn how to enhance the early literacy for low-income children in their care, be trained in literacy/basic skills and English as a Second Language, and to ease the transition from home to child care and to school. Approved home child care providers will be visited twice during the project period, provided with books and other literacy and learning materials, and expected to participate in monthly provider/parent early literacy meetings, which will be conducted in Spanish and English.

<b>New Mexico</b>	United Way of Santa Fe County on behalf of the	Success by 6 Council	<i>Success By 6 Early Literacy Project</i>	Santa Fe County
Region VI	505-982-2002	Santa Fe, NM	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	\$616,238

A coordinated effort of 10 partner organizations will: create a list of master teachers and demonstration sites to provide on-site training/mentoring to providers; establish a pool of qualified substitute providers; provide caregivers with incentives/safety equipment to become registered/licensed; provide education materials to parents about importance of quality early learning programs; expand *Aim High*, New Mexico's quality improvement program to include accreditation/retention incentives/bonuses; add a parent education program, at a community college; initiate a literacy training program for providers including supplying books/materials; provide temporary crisis child care; establish a free preschool at an elementary school to demonstrate the efficacy of co-location; expand/enhance a volunteer literacy program to increase English proficiency and basic literacy of parents of young children; and support parents of infants by expanding a home visiting program focusing on social/emotional development and early communication skills.

<b>North Carolina</b>	n/a	Burke County Partnership for Children	<i>Asset-Based Literacy and Learning Initiative (ABLL)</i>	Burke and Catawba Counties
Region IV	828-437-5753	Morgantown, NC	1, 2, 4, 5	\$536,664

Project builds upon five successful, integrated projects to create a comprehensive Asset-Based Literacy and Learning initiative (ABILL). The goals of ABILL initiative are to increase language and pre-literacy skills of young children by using an asset-based approach in early care and education kindergarten settings; increase asset-based learning projects that support the development of children with special needs; promote effective parenting skills; promote smoother transitions to kindergarten; and provide part-day preschool experiences for children being cared for by relatives or in faith-based child care settings.

<b>Pennsylvania</b>	United Way of Wyoming Valley on behalf of the	Children's Alliance of Luzerne County	<i>Healthy Families of Luzerne County</i>	Luzerne County
Region III	570-552-3740	Wilkes-Barre, PA	1, 2, 4, 6, 8	\$254,519

Project targets families in a mixed rural and urban county with a high incidence of low-birth weight babies, juvenile delinquency, and out-of-home child welfare placements. The project goals are to increase overall childhood medical/developmental wellness, reduce the number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect, and increase the rate of high-school equivalency education among first-time, at-risk parents to improve employability and financial stability. In addition to home visits, effective parenting will be fostered through the *Nursing Child Assessment Satellite Training and Partners in Parenting Education*.

<b>South Carolina</b>	United Way of Greenville County of behalf of the	United Way of Greenville County Success By 6 Child Care Initiative	<i>STEPS (Staff-Training-Environments-Parenting-Scholarships)</i>	Greenville County
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Region IV	864-467-2690	Greenville, SC	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	\$1,000,000
<p>Project represents a fully-integrated intervention model focusing on staff training and professional development, early learning environments, parents, scholarships to 15 centers and 16 caregiver homes, whose populations consist of at least 30 percent high need children. Early childhood specialists and parent educators, utilizing a case management approach, will evaluate the quality of care provided, and provide mentoring and technical assistance (focus on early literacy) to: create literacy-rich physical learning environments; improve caregiver knowledge and skills through formal/informal professional development and NAEYC accreditation site observations; improve parenting knowledge and skills; and provide child care for 60 high need infants and children. Through mini-grants and incentives opportunities for caregivers will be provided to increase their skills and knowledge regarding the importance of the physical environment in child care and to purchase supplies to up-grade their classrooms and child care settings.</p>				

<b>Texas</b>	The Austin Project on behalf of the	Austin Child Care Council	<i>Ticket to Learn - Early Learning Opportunities Initiative</i>	Four contiguous zip codes within the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas: 78723, 78752, 78753, and 78758
Region VI	512-414-6980	Austin, TX	1, 2, 3, 4	\$997,704
<p>Project will increase neighborhood awareness of early learning needs, promote neighborhood support for early learning opportunities, improve the early learning and literacy system, and develop community support. Activities include: a public awareness campaign to promote early literacy including literacy-focused block parties, special events, and door-to-door outreach; ongoing development of an early learning system of care among providers including identification of providers, collaboration, and resource-sharing among providers; establishing new or expanding existing links between the public schools, early literacy providers, preschools, and parents; parent training classes on child development and literacy; mentoring of child care providers; home-based services; accreditation support for child care centers; and professional development opportunities for providers.</p>				

<b>Texas</b>	United Way of the Coastal Bend on behalf of the	Success by 6 Local Council	<i>Coastal Bend Early Learning Opportunities Project</i>	12-county Coastal Bend region of South TX: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kennedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio
Region VI	361-882-2529	Corpus Christi, TX	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	\$689,787
<p>Project's vision is to enhance, increase, support, expand, and better coordinate early learning opportunities for children and their families. Strategies include: increasing literacy-based educational training opportunities; providing distance learning with satellite downlink sites and Internet-based instruction of 15 child development/early childhood credit courses and eight hours of State-mandated pre-service instruction for operators of child care centers and their employees; providing tuition assistance and leadership incentive grants; increase access to early learning opportunities for special needs children by facilitating program coordination; and increasing community awareness of literacy needs.</p>				

<b>Texas</b>	Initiatives for Children on behalf of the	Greater Houston Collaborative for Children Governing Committee	<i>HELP (Harris County Early Learning Program for Kids)</i>	Harris County
Region VI	832-615-1139	Houston, TX	1, 2, 6, 7	\$868,579
<p>HELP for Kids is being implemented in a low-income, multi-ethnic neighborhood in Harris County. Project activities include: increasing access to early learning programs through the development of provider</p>				

partnerships; improving parenting involvement and effectiveness in their child's education through Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters, a home-based parent-as-teacher modeling program; providing a coordinated system of professional development activities for child care providers to improve early learning skills and to enhance early childhood literacy; increasing the retention of preschool teachers; and improving the quality of early learning programs through a system of tested initiatives.

<b>Virginia</b>	United Way Services Success by Six on behalf of the	Greater Richmond Early Child Development Coalition*	<i>Project EXCEL: EXcellence for Children and Early Learning</i>	City of Richmond and the Counties of Chesterfield and Henrico
Region III	804-771-5869	Richmond, VA	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	\$1,000,000
Project targets five communities in the Greater Richmond area facing high poverty, low education levels of parents, poor school performance, and a high prevalence of single-parent families. Objectives include increasing the literacy skills of young children through home visits and training for parents and caregivers, increasing access to learning opportunities for young children with special needs, improving the quality of learning opportunities through training, increased compensation, and scholarships.				

<b>Washington</b>	Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation on behalf of the	South Puget Council Tribal Local Council	<i>Tribal Early Learning Opportunities (TELO) Project</i>	Chehalis Indian Reservation and Skokomish Reservation
Region X	360-275-5911	Oakville, WA	1, 2, 3	\$922,732
TELO will address the issue of low literacy and how it leads to school disengagement by encouraging family literacy and building reading proficiency within tribal communities. The project will place an early literacy coordinator at two reservation sites, incorporate reservation community concepts and Native American learning styles into "family literacy," and integrate the READ RIGHT tutoring system into existing tribal child care and Head Start programs. Components of the approach include workshops to train staff on early literacy, literacy tutoring for young children, and building a community tradition of valuing literacy.				

<b>Washington</b>	Palouse Industries, Inc. on behalf of the	Early Childhood Service Council for Latah County, ID and Whitman County, WA	<i>Young Children and Family Programs of the Palouse</i>	Latah County, Idaho and Whitman County, Washington, an area geographically known as the "Palouse"
Region X	208-883-6454	Pullman, WA	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	\$897,340
This rural project will create a seamless early learning and development service delivery system. It will build the capacity of parents to facilitate early learning through Parent Resource Centers, library links, consultations with parents on child learning style assessment, home visiting, developmental screening, and family fun nights. The capacity of the community will be developed to support parents by training service providers, developing and distributing a community resource guide, conducting networking meetings and parent workshops.				

<b>West Virginia</b>	Youth Health Service, Inc. on behalf of the	Randolph & Barbour County Early Childhood Collaboratives*	<i>Appalachian Readers</i>	Randolph & Barbour Counties
Region III	304-636-9450	Elkins, WV	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	\$774,919
Project will promote quality in early care and literacy skill development in young children in a two-county rural Appalachian area through teacher training in early literacy, sign language instruction for children, family literacy activities, increased access to educational child care for at-risk children, respite care in inclusive settings for children with disabilities, and a media campaign in support of early literacy.				

<b>Wisconsin</b>	Child Care Resource and Referral, Inc. on behalf of the	Healthy Infant and Child Alliance, Inc.	<i>Quality Early Literacy Environments</i>	Calumet, Outagamie, and Waupaca Counties
Region V	920-734-0966	Appleton, WI	1, 2, 3, 4, 7	\$718,980

The Quality Early Literacy Environments project will enhance program quality and improve early learning services in child care programs in three counties in northeast Wisconsin. Programs will be evaluated, needs identified, followed by on-site consultation, training, and provision of resources. Follow-up assessments will be conducted to document improvements in the child care environment and caregiver practice and to monitor sustained program implementation.

<b>Wisconsin</b>	Eau Claire County Department of Human Services on behalf of the	Connect for Children Council	<i>Connect for Children Early Learning Project</i>	Eau Claire County
Region V	713-831-5709	Eau Claire, WI	1, 2, 3	\$567,342

Project will: enhance early childhood literacy; increase the capacity of parents, caregivers, and early care and education providers to support children's optimal development; promote effective parenting through public awareness campaigns; provide a wide variety of educational opportunities and projects that target literacy issues in Eau Claire County. Adult literacy and parent education, including parents who are incarcerated, will be addressed through materials and activities. Children's literacy will be addressed through distribution of books, tutors, and early childhood provider training, scholarships, and compensation.

	New States in FY03: AL, DE, LA, MD, NM, WI	*Also a FY 01 ELOA Grantee (N=8)	TOTAL	\$32,219,349
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