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658 Cedar Street  
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St. Paul, MN 55155-1050

**RE:** Annual Legislative Appropriation Report for [2023 Minn. Laws Chap. 54 Sec. 20 Subd. 21](#); Report on progress made to expand the executive function across generations curriculum

Dear Acquisitions Department,

The Family Partnership is very pleased to present this annual report for the legislatively approved appropriation for statewide pilots of EGG Toolkit, formerly known as Executive Functioning Across Generations, in early education, home visiting, and parenting programs across the state.

This report represents the period from the start of the MDE grant in December 2023 through calendar 2024.

The project is proceeding well and according to plan, and we are so appreciative of the legislature's investment in the development of strong executive function and self-regulation skills in 3-5-year-olds, as these skills are the cornerstone for school readiness.

Regards,

John Everett Till  
Chief Strategy Officer  
The Family Partnership



December 15, 2024

## **Report on progress made to expand the Executive Functioning Across Generations curriculum**

**Report prepared by:** John Everett Till, Chief Strategy Officer, The Family Partnership

**Purpose:** This report is in reference to [2023 Minn. Laws Chap. 54 Sec. 20 Subd. 21](#), a legislatively approved appropriation to scale pilots of The Family Partnership’s executive functioning curriculum (now known as EGG Toolkit) to six program sites across Minnesota. Per the appropriation, sites must be spread across the state and include rural, suburban, and urban early education and care providers, organizations providing home visiting services, or parenting groups in high-risk communities.

This report to the legislature covers the grant period from December 1, 2023-December 31, 2024.

**Background:** The Family Partnership’s [EGG Toolkit](#), formerly Executive Functioning Across Generations, is a Minnesota-grown early education curriculum designed promote school readiness and buffer young children against the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress – factors which erode the emerging executive function and self-regulation skills of young children ages 3-5. Since this is the age at which these skills are developing at the fastest pace with the least energy input, EGG Toolkit is an intentional strategy to protect children’s emerging executive functioning skills, promoting joyful classrooms and children’s readiness for kindergarten.

## Report on Progress in 2024

**Pilot Site Recruitment:** The Family Partnership’s goal is to scale EGG Toolkit to six program sites across Minnesota. We hired a project manager to lead this work in March 2024. In April 2024, we published an open application to recruit pilot sites, and conducted outreach meetings and presentations to early childhood and parenting program networks including: the Minnesota Association of for Family and Early Education (MNAFEE), Greater Twin Cities United Way’s 80x3: Resilient from the Start initiative, and Minnesota Association for the Education of Young Children (MNAEYC), as well as informational sessions with interested organizations.

By May 2024, 22 organizations had applied to be pilot sites, and 15 organizations were deemed to be qualified applicants. Scoring of applications identified a total of 9 highly qualified sites. Of the 9 sites, 7 organizations across the state moved forward to implementation. Recruited sites included 5 preschool locations (one organization has two preschool sites) and 3 Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) programs. Three (3) pilot sites are in Minneapolis/St. Paul, two (2) in Twin Cities suburbs/exurbs, and three (3) in Greater Minnesota. It is noteworthy that the Minneapolis/St. Paul sites are Greater Twin Cities 80x3 locations, which is significant because 80x3 has a strong focus on addressing trauma and ACEs, which can negatively impact the development of healthy executive function and self-regulation skills in 3–5-year-olds.

The pilot sites are:

- Egan-Apple Valley-Rosemont ECFE – a suburban/exurban location in the Twin Cities metro area
- New Horizon Academy – Rochester, Minnesota – an urban/suburban location in Greater Minnesota
- Noah’s Ark Preschool – Circle Pines, Minnesota – a rural location
- People Serving People – two preschools in Minneapolis
- Osseo Area Schools ECFE – suburban location in the Twin Cities metro area
- Wilmar Early Childhood Family Programs ECFE – rural Greater Minnesota location
- Wilder Child Development Center – St. Paul, Minnesota

**Training and Implementation:** In the summer of 2024, we submitted professional development training modules for EGG Toolkit to Develop, the statewide training platform for early education professionals. Our two training courses were approved so that we could offer 4.5 hours of professional development training on EGG for preschool teachers. During this time frame, we also submitted EGG Toolkit for approval as a Parent Aware curriculum (approval is pending at the time of this report). EGG Toolkit’s three curriculum formats (Preschool, Parenting Groups, and Home Visiting) were also submitted, reviewed, and accredited by national Council on Accreditation in the summer of 2024 under COA’s rigorous Counseling, Support, and Education standards.

The Family Partnership trained teachers and parent educators from pilot sites on EGG Toolkit from August 2024-January 2025. Preschool sites were trained in *EGG Children's Curriculum for Preschools*, the version of EGG intended for use in preschool classrooms, while ECFE programs were trained in EGG for Parenting Groups (the parent-facing version of the curriculum). The ECFE programs also requested copies of *EGG Children's Curriculum for Preschools*, because the ECFE model is a whole family approach in which there are whole family activities, parents-only activities, and children-only activities. This additional resource gave ECFEs more options for children-only activities, as well as parent-child interaction activities.

We are in ongoing communication with pilot sites on a weekly/biweekly basis to monitor progress and help solve problems. As well as communication through phone calls, email, Zoom and Microsoft Teams, each staff person implementing EGG Toolkit has access to dedicated Slack messaging channels built for EGG Toolkit so that they can ask questions and request resources.

Implementation start dates ranged from October 2024-January 2025. At the time of this report, all sites have a cohort of EGG Toolkit underway with children/families, and/or have completed a pilot cohort. We anticipate that all pilot sites will complete at least one cohort, and that one or more of the ECFE programs will complete a second pilot before the project ends in December 2025. If resources permit, we will encourage pilot sites to launch new cohorts in the fall of 2025.

**Evaluation:** Program evaluation is being conducted by the Center for Early Education and Development (CEED) at the University of Minnesota. CEED is well-qualified to carry out this evaluation as they have been involved with EGG Toolkit since its inception in 2017. CEED's evaluation design focuses on measuring the curriculum's impact, particularly in preschool environments, while also allowing us to identify curriculum enhancements that strengthen implementation and impact, including additional tools for parent/teacher engagement. We anticipate that results from the ECFE pilots will be available in the late summer 2025, and results from preschool pilots in December 2025.