

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

Nelson Mandela



IMAGINE



Every child on the Peninsula is educated, healthy, and safe



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The Early
Childhood
Venture Fund

The Need for Action

The Peninsula Community Foundation believes that our communities prosper as a direct result of the investments made in our children's early development. Research consistently demonstrates that a child's experiences in the first five years of life can influence and predict his or her success in school and later in life. Unfortunately, not all of our children have access to healthy, safe, or enriching environments. In 2016, 41% of children in Hampton and Newport were born into poverty.

- 19% of students in Newport News and 25% in Hampton entered kindergarten with no preschool experience.
- The infant mortality rate and the percent of children born at a low birth weight in Hampton and Newport News were above the state and national average.



Key Issues

After reviewing the data, three key issues emerged as areas where significant strategic collaboration could greatly impact the quality of life of our children. These were:

1. Health
2. Child Care and Early Education
3. Families Efficacy

The Fund

The Early Childhood Venture Fund will kick-start a Collective Impact initiative to improve the quality of life for Peninsula citizens under the age of five. In its initial cycle, the Fund will focus on convening key stakeholders so that we can collectively decide what must happen to create a better community for children.

Then, the Fund will make grants to help create community-wide shifts in how our community interacts with its youngest citizens.



Get Involved

By making a contribution to the Early Childhood Venture Fund, you will be helping to change the lives of families and children living on the Peninsula. Together, we can radically alter the trajectory of our children's futures, a result that will pay dividends in the social and civic structures of our communities.

Transforming early childhood development on the Peninsula will also have the benefit of increasing student performance in our public school systems by ensuring all students are ready for a quality education.

At the Foundation, we understand that investors often want to play an active role in managing their philanthropy. Because of this, the Venture Fund will include many opportunities for investors to contribute their time and expertise to the initiative if they so choose.

Help be the change our children need. Call us now to donate or participate.

