



Oak Park Integrated Early Childhood System • **Key Outcomes and Benchmarks**

As part of the strategic planning process engaged in during 2008-2009, the Collaboration adopted benchmarks for the Oak Park Early Childhood System. The benchmarks were chosen because they are relevant, measurable and provide data that can be used and acted upon to further system development and better prepare children for success in school and in life. The benchmarks allow for targets and dates to be specified. The Collaboration will define these measures in increasing increments, based on funding levels. Upon establishing a baseline, all benchmarks can be read as: *By Year Y, X% of children will...*

Child Outcomes: Every child arrives at kindergarten healthy, safe, ready to succeed, eager to learn.

Benchmarks:

- Children identified through screening as needing assessment and or services receive them
- Children in Oak Park Preschool for All and Head Start programs demonstrate age-appropriate proficiency in each domain of development in accordance with the Illinois Early Learning Standards
- Children entering kindergarten demonstrate age-appropriate proficiency in the kindergarten readiness assessment administered by District 97

Service Delivery Outcomes: Parents and children receive the early childhood care and education and parenting education and support services they need.

Benchmarks:

- Kindergarten students with Free or Reduced Price Lunch assistance have a history of participation in Preschool for All/ Head Start, a National Association for the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC) accredited program or a program meeting the Illinois Quality Rating System of 3 or 4
- Teen parents and families receiving All Kids Level 1 health insurance for their child under age 3 receive referral to intensive parent education program
- Referred parents participate in the intensive parent education program
- Kindergarten/1st grade students with Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) have documentation of receiving services in early childhood (if they lived in Oak Park during their early childhood years)

System Outcomes: Oak Park has a high quality, coordinated early childhood system.

Benchmarks:

- Families with children under age five are included in the voluntary database and receive developmental information and an early childhood resource directory
- Teachers and directors in Oak Park early childhood programs have above minimum state educational requirements for their role
- Teachers and child care providers have more than the state-mandated 15 documented hours of continuing professional development each year
- Preschools and child care centers and homes are engaged in the Illinois Quality Rating System, and improve their scores each year.