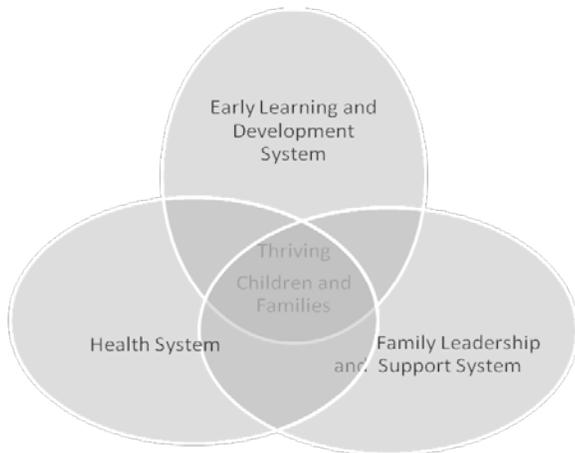


Elgin Partnership for Early Learning Fact Sheet



The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning (EPEL) was formed as a community collaborative to ensure the healthy growth and optimal development of young children in the context of their families through local systems development in Elgin.

- EPEL operates at the intersection of the three ovals in this schematic ensuring connection to all the services, organizations and coalitions that work in these ovals.
- Committing to work in EPEL includes a willing to address comprehensive systems change for a joint impact addressing the wide differences in experiences and skills of young children and the complexity of preparing children for kindergarten
- The organizations and coalitions serving families of children from birth to five in Elgin can be mapped across these ovals.
- Services, organizations and coalitions may be Elgin based and specific to Elgin or function at a county or regional level, the uniting factor is their role with Elgin families
- These services, organizations and coalitions comprise the broad base of members of the EPEL collaboration.

Vision: Engage the whole community in preparing children to succeed in school and in life.

Mission: The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning collaborates with partners to ensure that children are supported in becoming ready for Kindergarten.

Purpose:

- Ensure a shared vision for young children in the Elgin community is clearly held, broadly disseminated and acted upon
- Support awareness and access for families to quality child development and early learning experiences
- Coordinate efforts across all birth to five programs to increase impact and efficiency
- Support quality improvement and capacity building of birth to five professionals and organizations
- Respond to Elgin community data about strengths, needs and gaps

How?

The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning adopted an approach called collective impact to leverage commitment to sustainable outcomes on shared goals and activities by a broad, diverse collaboration of partners. The principles of collective impact include:

- share main ideas and common messages widely to reach all families and community members;
- agree on and implement outcome measurement related to child and community progress;
- choose and jointly act upon activities to promote the community goals;
- communicate frequently;
- provide support to maintain the collaboration approach.

EPEL uses these principles as a basis for the theory of change currently under development. The theory of change and corresponding logic model will include population based outcomes, the child and family outcomes and professional and systems outcomes which are necessary to track impact of the collaboration and demonstrate movement on the identified issue areas.

EPEL structure

The work of EPEL, from initial creation in 2011 to planning and building the collaboration, is guided by an Executive Committee. Representatives from the following organizations serve on the Executive Committee:

Kane County Health Department AOK
Gail Borden Public Library
Grand Victoria Foundation
One Hope United

U-46 School District
United Way of Elgin
YWCA Elgin
Civic Leaders

A subcommittee structure maximizes participation in the collaboration work of EPEL. The areas for work of the subcommittees are outlined below. These subcommittees will be used to implement the strategies and work of the goals and purpose of EPEL. The subcommittees reflect the full range of early childhood care and education providers, community based organizations, government, and the broad array of community stakeholders.

