



## PREPARED FOR KINDERGARTEN

**In order to be kindergarten-ready, young children need quality early education, strong relationships with families, a safe and secure home environment and regular health and developmental screenings and support.**

Today, we know without a doubt that quality early childhood education leads to more success in kindergarten and throughout life. For low-income children, early childhood education is one of the keys to upward mobility. It also leads to a stronger economy for all of us.

This work does not just involve preschools – success requires strong families, safe homes and timely screenings to ensure kids are meeting their developmental milestones.

### BY THE NUMBERS

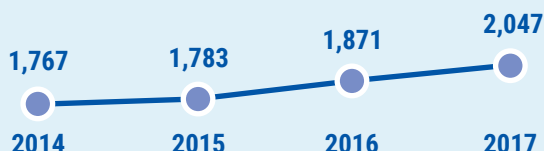
#### KEY INDICATOR

#### PALS-K BENCHMARKS (2017)



# 2,047 (16.7%)

**KINDERGARTNERS NOT MEETING PALS-K BENCHMARKS IN 2017**



**Note:** There is an added focus on PALS-K data by all area localities because it is now measured for accreditation standards. **Source:** Virginia Department of Education, Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) Office, University of Virginia.

#### RELATED INDICATOR

#### HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE (2017)



# 3,111

**CHILDREN (AGES 0-5) IN OUR REGION DO NOT HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE**

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, 2013-2017

#### RELATED INDICATOR

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (2017)



# 18,852 (55.4%)

**CHILDREN IN OUR REGION ARE NOT ENROLLED IN AN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, 2013-2017

#### RELATED INDICATOR

#### EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS (2016)

# 1,196

**CHILDREN SERVED BY EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS**

(Includes United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg Service Area as well as Emporia, Greenville, Hopewell, Prince George, Surry and Sussex.)



**Source:** Infant & Toddler Connection ([www.infantva.org](http://www.infantva.org))



## WHAT WE DO

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg understands the importance of school readiness, as well as the holistic approach required to truly prepare our young children for kindergarten. That's why we invest in programs that focus on family stability, early literacy, and social and emotional development.

- We are a founding partner with **Smart Beginnings Greater Richmond**, which coordinates organizations, businesses and citizens to ensure the region's children enter school healthy, well-cared for and ready to succeed in school and in life.
- We serve as the backbone of the **Petersburg City and Schools Partnership**, which works to create the climate and conditions for every child to succeed by providing a sustainable, coordinated system of supports and access.
- Throughout the year, we collect and assemble more than 1,000 **United Way Literacy Kits** that are distributed to students in our region. Each kit includes schools supplies, an age-appropriate book, information for parents and supplies for children.


## SUPPORTED PROGRAMS


United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg is proud to support the following programs:

- **Central Virginia Health Services** - Pediatric Care Coordinator
- **Greater Richmond ARC** - Infant and Child Development Services
- **Sacred Heart Center** - Family Literacy Project
- **ChildSavers** - Child Development Services (Petersburg)
- **Greater Richmond SCAN** - Circle Preschool
- **YMCA of Richmond** - The Sprout School
- **FRIENDS Association for Children** - Preschool
- **Greater Richmond SCAN** - Family Support Program

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

 **DONATE:** Give to UWGRP. Let us know you want your gift to help prepare young children for kindergarten.

 **VOLUNTEER:** Want to lend your time to supporting these efforts? Email [Volunteer@YourUnitedWay.org](mailto:Volunteer@YourUnitedWay.org) and we will help match you with the right opportunity.

 **CONNECT:** Parents, pediatricians and childcare providers can call **211** for information about developmental screening and early intervention services in your area..



United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg

**SUPPORT UNITED WAY TODAY**

   [YourUnitedWay.org](http://YourUnitedWay.org)