

An Early Learning & Childcare Center for Skagit County

SVC | SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE
Foundation



The Challenge Ahead

NEARLY 65%

of Skagit County children are NOT ready for kindergarten.

THERE ARE 7,398

children under 5 in Skagit County,

More than 350 current and future childcare workers

in Skagit County will need Early Childhood Education classes in the next 2-5 years to meet new State requirements and growing demand.

AND ONLY 2,159

childcare spaces available, which means more than 70% of children are cared for by Family, Friends or Neighbors.

Why Early Learning is SO important



85% of brain development occurs before age 5, but only **14%** of public education dollars are spent on early learning.



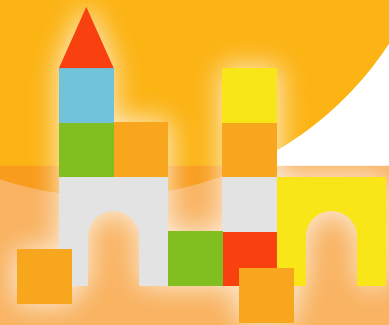
38% of third graders are reading below grade level and nearly **55%** of these kids do not graduate high school.



High school dropouts are **6 times** more likely to be arrested.



Every \$1 invested in early childhood education **can save \$7** through reduced remedial education, criminal justice and welfare payments.





Collaborations & Connections

A Solution that Benefits Everyone

An Early Learning & Childcare Center on Skagit Valley College's Mount Vernon campus that will focus on two vitally important areas:

A Childcare Center for SVC Students and Our Community

- ➔ Provide high quality early learning and childcare for students and our community.
- ➔ Classrooms for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers initially serving 44-56 children.

A Training Center for Early Childhood Education Students and Workforce

- ➔ Serve as a learning lab for SVC students.
- ➔ Meet continuing education needs and new State certification requirements for our region.
- ➔ Provide parent education and coaching to strengthen families.
- ➔ Enhance collaboration among organizations invested in Early Learning.

- ➔ This Center will serve as a hub for organizations to collaborate and share resources.
- ➔ United Way of Skagit County set a bold goal that ALL Skagit County children will be kindergarten ready by 2025, and they need our help to achieve this goal.
- ➔ SVC, EDASC and United Way are working together to organize the second Business Forum on Early Learning coming in spring 2019.
- ➔ SVC faculty and staff are involved in leadership positions with The Children's Council, Population Health Trust and other organizations focused on improving Early Learning for all children.
- ➔ Washington State Department of Commerce, Skagit Valley College, Sue Krienen and others have already pledged over **\$1,300,000** to complete this project.

Project Budget

Design, Consultants, Permits and Testing	\$362,088
Construction and Contingency	\$2,413,370
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$2,775,458
Funds Pledged	\$1,307,000
Funds Needed	\$1,468,458

Please join us today!

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