



# On My Way Pre-K October 2020 Report



Office of Early  
Childhood and Out-  
of-School Learning





### *Fiscal*

2. The total amount of funds budgeted for and spent under the prekindergarten pilot program during the immediately preceding state fiscal year:

The total amount budgeted and spent for Pre K in SFY20 was \$24,957,231.03.

- \$4,406,934.38 of 100% state funds were spent for admin costs.
- \$20,550,296.65 of both federal and state funds was spent for direct services. \$12,686,914.11 of this amount was state funding for each grant.

Please note, there will be some adjustments for the following two reasons below. This won't change the overall expenditures for the state fiscal year, but it will change the state and federal funding split.

- Due to CARE funding for Q2 and Q3, the FMAP was change for matching funds.
- Need to move direct service expenditures from 100% state funds to matching funds in order to meet our matching requirements.

3. The balance remaining in the pilot fund at the end of the immediately preceding state fiscal year.

At the end of the SFY20, there was an estimate of \$4,911,221 balance remaining.

## **Longitudinal Study**

For the past five years, in partnership with Purdue University, OECOSL has conducted a longitudinal study of three cohorts of children in the On My Way Pre-K program. This annual report also summarizes the study's implementation approach and program progress for child outcomes, Pre-K classroom quality and family outcomes.

As the first cohort in the longitudinal study was scheduled to conclude upon completion of third grade at the end of the 2019–2020 school year with comparisons of third grade assessments, the COVID-19 pandemic cancelled all spring 2020 assessments and permission was given to collect fourth grade assessment scores in spring of 2021 instead.





## Summary

Indiana's On My Way Pre-K has grown from a beginning pilot of five counties serving some small cohorts in January 2015 to a statewide program for the 2019–2020 prekindergarten year. With a robust 969 high quality programs in 71 counties in the fall of 2020, On My Way Pre-K has grown to provide a total of almost 14,000 low-income 4-year-old children a better start to their academic journey. Our research shows each year that while OMWPK children enter their prekindergarten program with skill levels below their typically developing peers, they finish strong alongside or sometimes even exceeding their peers—starting them on a successful social and academic journey as they enter kindergarten. And along with the great strides we've seen in the children's progress through the prekindergarten year, the impact has been felt by both the families and the communities where these children attend.

Since the inception of On My Way Pre-K, OECOSL has contractually employed OMWPK County Project Managers to help communities grow and understand the benefits of OMWPK for their families and communities. Providing another layer of support and connection for these families has helped many go back to school, find a new or better jobs working longer hours or be connected to the services they need within their communities. Many parents/guardians have been connected with "Counseling to Career" programs and English as a Second Language classes they would not have been aware of if they had not applied for On My Way Pre-K for their child. As we look to provide Healthy Opportunities Indiana, these connections and supports are crucial in helping provide a foundation for each child's academic success, health and general well-being.

And even though we ended the 2019–20 OMWPK year in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic, surveys to participating families still found almost 90% of families reported their On My Way Pre-K experience as "Extremely Pleased" (72%) or "Moderately Pleased" (17.6%) and feeling better prepared to send their child to kindergarten "Definitely Yes" (76%) and "Probably Yes" (13.9%). A very high percentage also felt OMWPK helped prepare their children socially and academically to be successful in kindergarten. FSSA and OECOSL continues to appreciate the participation of those providers and families in the program who have assisted the agency in learning more about the services being provided.