

BUILDING STRONG LIVES FROM THE START

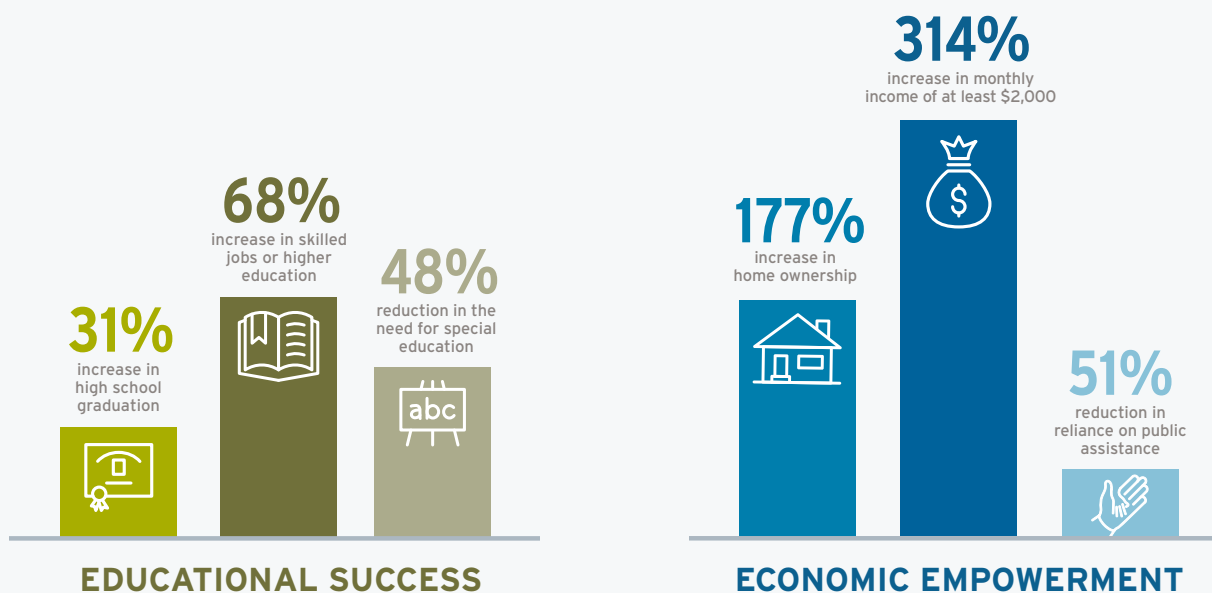
The LA Partnership was created for funders who want to make investments that strengthen low-income families with young children and support lifelong learning, health and well-being.


The most important years of a person's life start at the beginning. Children's behavior and learning patterns are well established by the time they reach five years old. These earliest stages of life have significant impacts on a child's education, health and well-being.

Too often, low-income families who are predominantly Black and Latino, lack equitable access to the resources and support all children deserve for a strong, healthy start. As a result of systemic racial inequities, families often cannot access fair wages, quality healthcare and stable childcare – supports they need to raise healthy children.

The LA Partnership for Early Childhood Investment is changing LA County's early childhood landscape to give all young children and their families a fair chance at living healthy, fulfilling lives.

WHEN WE INVEST IN THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN in low-income communities from birth to age five, we reap the biggest returns in preventing problems later in life.



A photograph of two hands holding a pencil, with a yellow-green overlay. The hands are positioned as if writing or drawing on a surface.

Focused on families with children birth to age five that are working hard to make ends meet, the LA Partnership blends the resources of many individual foundations and provides a platform to magnify the impact of a single individual member's giving.

Founded in 2003 as the only public-private funder collaborative focused on children birth to five years old in LA County, the LA Partnership consists of more than 25 foundations, First 5 LA and county agencies and school districts that serve the youngest children. The LA Partnership identifies system and policy issues impacting children's well-being and designs and promotes solutions, funding and policies that nurture the lifelong health, education and economic stability of LA County's youngest children and their families.

THE LA PARTNERSHIP EMPLOYS THREE STRATEGIES:



EDUCATE

Provides information, resources and expertise to private- and public-sector leaders and funders on the value of investing in communities struggling with underinvestment in a space where all are welcome and free to exchange ideas and learn from each other.



INVEST

Curates public and private dollars and aligns investments in long-lasting, promising and proven community-based solutions that can be replicated across LA County and the nation.



LEAD

Leverages relationships, networks and all of its assets to promote comprehensive systems change that supports all of LA County's youngest children.

A photograph of a stack of money with a white text overlay. The text reads: '\$10,000,000' in large white font, followed by 'Since 2012, we've leveraged \$10 million to support infants and toddlers in LA County's low-income communities so they get the best possible start in life.' in yellow font.

\$10,000,000

Since 2012, we've leveraged \$10 million to support infants and toddlers in LA County's low-income communities so they get the best possible start in life.

THE LA PARTNERSHIP'S APPROACH

With a team bringing 50+ years combined experience in early childhood, communications and impact investing within public and private sectors, the LA Partnership is a deeply trusted source among public and private institutions and an active ally to the communities it serves. The LA Partnership's **member renewal rate is 95%** among 25 foundations, government agencies and private entities with new members joining each year.

“The LA Partnership is phenomenal in how they keep a finger on the pulse of what’s relevant to children 0-5 years in LA County. ”

- JACQUELINE CHUN, THE CARL & ROBERTA DEUTSCH FOUNDATION

GUIDED BY STRATEGY & INNOVATION

The LA Partnership is strategic and innovative in how it funds solutions and systems change in early childhood.

- **Raised \$300,000 to launch and run** a series of public education campaigns, *Choose Children LA*, designed to build early childhood champions among candidates for local office, and engage voters on 0-5 issues magnified by COVID, the economic downturn and racial injustice.
- **Funded first-of-its kind, full-time early childhood reporting team** at NPR's LA County affiliate, KPCC, to create a steady drumbeat of early childhood news coverage, from child care to maternal mental health and more.

“The LA Partnership is research and development for the public sector – a space where we come up with innovations that stimulate the public sector through policy and systems change.” - DAVID RATTRAY, UNITE-LA



CENTERS RACE & EQUITY

The LA Partnership makes equity for justice a priority by giving those with the lived experience a voice in how grantmaking investments are deployed.

- **Created a public-private-community partnership** alongside the LA County Department of Public Health to reduce Black infant and maternal mortality in the county by 30% by 2023, raising **\$2 million to date** and giving Black-led, community-based leaders power to decide giving priorities from the outset.
- **Raised over \$10 million** for its grantmaking vehicle, the Baby Futures Fund, to create sustainable and equitable outcomes for children and their families.



TRANSFORMS SYSTEM CHANGE

The LA Partnership is changing how LA County's systems support young children and their families.

- **Raised \$1 million** with eight funders to ensure children birth to age eight (the hardest to count population) were counted in the 2020 Census.
- **Made 0-5 an issue in the 2018 governor's race** and in the 2020 LA County election, putting pressure on lawmakers to invest in stronger paid family leave policy.
- **Supported the creation and ongoing work of a coalition** of home visiting providers to advocate for more funding and create a shared referral system for families that collects key data, leading to millions more public dollars invested in the home visiting.



CATALYZES GRANTMAKING

The LA Partnership creates new ways for funders to support young children.

- **Leveraged \$10 million** since 2012 to support systemic changes that benefit children birth to five and their families.
- **Coordinated a multi-funder investment** in the nation's first ever, full time early childhood reporting team at LA's public radio station, KPCC.

CREATES LEARNING FOR ACTION

The LA Partnership's meetings cultivate connections across sectors and give participants action plans to invest in the youngest children.

- **Speakers have included:** Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, California's inaugural Surgeon General; Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles; Ann O'Leary, former Chief of Staff of Governor Gavin Newsom; Holly Mitchell, Los Angeles County Supervisor; and Dr. Jack Shonkoff, Director of the Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University.

"The LA Partnership shepherds the group toward action. They make recommendations and get buy-in – they put a plan in place. It's not learning just for learning's sake."

- PIPER KAMINS, THE RALPH M. PARSONS FOUNDATION



If you would like to learn more about the LA Partnership and how you can support LA County's youngest children to live their best lives, please contact us at Partnership@investinkidsla.org.

