

# LRSD Pre-K Program Updates

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2019-2020

# History of Little Rock School District Pre-K Program

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## **Kramer Center for Early Development and Education “*The Kramer Project*”**

First official early learning (Birth-5) center in Arkansas.

Kramer gained national attention as the site of the Center for Early Development and Education established by Dr. Bettye Caldwell, Professor of Education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The center, often referred to as "The Kramer Project," opened in 1969 and closed in 1978. The decision was made to move the center to the new school, Rockefeller, which opened in 1979. Rockefeller opened to early childhood and intermediate students (grades 4-6) in August 1979 with an enrollment of 563. The school currently serves children ranging in age from 6 weeks through 5th grade.

Year	ABC Grant Award	# of Slots	Year	PDG Grant Award	# of Slots
2011-2012	5,321,700.00	1095	2015-2016	2,375,280	260
Expansion	97,200	20	2016-2017	2,375,280	260
			2017-2018	2,375,280	260
			2018-2019	2,375,280	260
2012-2013	5,321,700.00	1095			(260 expansion)
Expansion	97,200	20			(138 improvement)
2013-2014	5,525,820.00	1115			
Expansion	106,920	22			
2014-2015	5,525,820	1137			
2015-2016	5,525,820	1137			
2016-2017	5,525,820	1137			
2017-2018	5,632,020.00	1137			
2018-2019	5,866,020	1207			
2019-2020	6,128,044	1234			

# Arkansas Better Chance Funding

- Began in 1994:
  - 78 Center-Based Slots
  - 40 Home Visit Slots

# Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Grant Renewal Years

Year	ABC Grant Award	# of Slots Awarded	PDG Award Preschool Development Grant	# of Slots Awarded	Total Funded Slots
2015-2016	\$5,525,820	1137	\$2,375,280	260	1397
2016-2017	\$5,525,820	1137	\$2,375,280	260	1397
2017-2018	\$5,623,020	1157	\$2,375,280	260	1417
2018-2019	\$5,866,020	1207	\$2,375,280	260	1467
2019-2020	\$6,123,044	1234	<b>CCDF Funding</b>	<b>233</b>	1467
ABC funding per child: \$496.60					

# 2019-2020 Pre-K Enrollment

(as of 6-12-19)

Schools	# of Student Assigned	# of Available Seats
Booker	45	5
Brady	40	0
Carver ECC	94	58
Chicot ECC	223	7
Dodd	56	2
Fair Park ECC	196	0
Forest Park	40	0
Fulbright	60	0
Geyer Springs ECC	242	46
Gibbs	20	0

Schools	# of Student Assigned	# of Available Seats
Jefferson	40	0
MLK	93	3
McDermott	22	18
Rockefeller ECC	141	11
Romine	56	0
Stephens	44	14
Terry	60	0
Washington	40	36
Western Hills	35	2

# Child Care Development Grant (CCDF)

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## Funding Source: Child Care Development Block Grant-Federal Award

- Will fund 233 of the 260 former PDG slots
- Will fund per child, per day according to specific eligibilities
- Payment is contingent upon attendance
- If student absences exceed CCDF requirements, the family will be responsible for payment for any additional days missed or LRSD will absorb the cost of absences.

## Currently utilizing CCDF funding for Pre-K Summer School

- Awarded 460 Student Slots w/340 slots filled
- CCDF funding per child for Pre-K Summer School is \$27.30 per child, per day.
- If a child misses more than 5 days, LRSD or the family will be responsible for cost per absences.

# Requirements for CCDF

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- State Median Fee Chart is used to determine income eligibility

## State Median Income

- Employed at least 30 hours a week **and/or**
- Attend college at least part-time, trade school, or substance abuse treatment programs

# Additional Method for Funding

## Federal Poverty Level Sliding Fee Scale

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- During the 2018-19 school year, LRSD was responsible for approximately 245 families who were ineligible due to household incomes exceeding the FPL.
- [Sliding Scale Link](#)



# 2018-2019 Enrollment

19 Pre-K Sites  
(Elementary and  
Early Childhood Centers)

School	20% PF	40% PF	60% PF	80% PF	NON ABC - 100% PF
Booker	0	0	0	0	1
Brady	1	1	1	0	5
McDermott	0	0	1	0	5
Carver	2	1	0	0	2
Fair Park	2	3	3	4	112
Forest Park	1	0	0	1	25
Gibbs	0	0	0	1	3
Chicot	0	0	1	0	2
Western Hills	0	0	0	0	1
Jefferson	0	2	0	1	24
Dodd	0	1	0	0	0
MLK	1	1	0	0	3
Rockefeller	0	0	0	2	14
Geyer Springs	3	1	0	1	2
Romine	0	0	0	0	2
Stephens	0	0	0	0	1
Washington	1	1	0	0	2
Terry	2	0	1	3	11
Fulbright	0	0	1	1	31
Total # Students	13	11	8	14	246
Fee Per Child	\$97.20	\$194.40	\$291.60	\$388.80	\$486.00
Monthly Total PF for all students	\$1,263.60	\$2,138.40	\$2,332.80	\$5,443.20	\$119,556.00
School Year Total PF for all students	\$11,372.40	\$19,245.60	\$20,995.20	\$48,988.80	\$1,076,004.00
Grand Total for All PF for School Year	\$1,176,606.00				

# Implementation of Sliding Fee Scale 2020-2021

## Implications for Little Rock School District

### Opportunities

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- More families will have access to quality Pre-K
- Enrollment may increase; program will become larger
- LRSD would no longer fund the additional 240 seats
- Families will remain in our K-12 program
- Sliding scale provides flexibility that private does not; based on household income
- Better quality and lower cost than private; **Better Beginnings Scale-Level 3 (High Quality Level)**
- Certified teachers; credentialed support staff
- Well-trained in the latest research methods and practices

### Obstacle

- Enrollment may decrease; families choosing private schools
- Additional staff needed to manage CCDF and Sliding Scale

# New ABC Grant Requirement 2019-2020

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- Trauma-Informed Training for all Pre-K staff
- No Suspensions/Expulsions in Pre-K (not new to LRSD)

In addition:

- Follow ABC Guidelines for 24 hour removal
  - Must have clearance from Director and ABC Specialist before 24 hour send home

# Pre-K and Trauma-Informed Classrooms

*How is LRSD Pre-K addressing the need for teacher training in helping children acquire social and emotional well-being after experiencing trauma?*

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## **Professional Development provided to all LRSD Pre-K Staff**

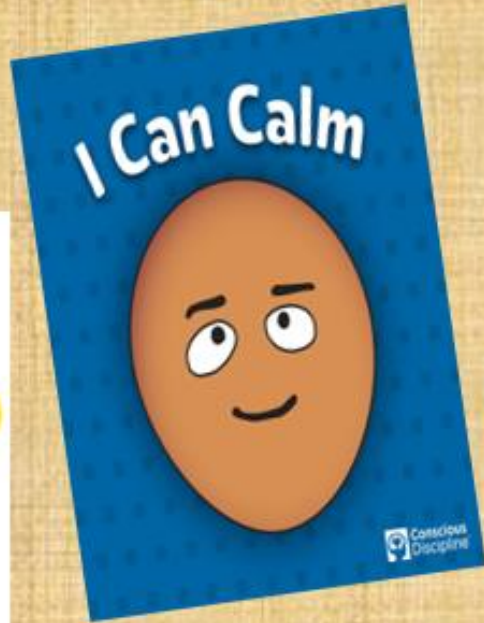
- Trauma informed Care-Awareness: Webinars purchased for each center
- Conscious Discipline professional development-Building skills and strategies to support teachers in helping all students; especially those suffering from trauma
- Classroom materials to support teachers in their implementation
- Parent Support and Training offered at the school level
- Conscious Discipline parent workshops: National Presenter

# Improving the LRSD Pre-K Program

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- LRSD is working with ForwARd Arkansas to collect data that will:
  - Improve quality for all Pre-K programs across the state
  - Potential to increase funding for Pre-K programs in Arkansas
- Collaborating with Winthrop Rockefeller & Arkansas Grade Level Reading
  - Increase services to families in need through **Excel By Eight Initiative**
- Continuously build capacity within the pre-k program that will ensure sustainability (teachers training and supporting each other)

# LRSD Conscious Discipline for Pre-K



## Welcome to a Wonderful Opportunity!

Conscious Discipline workshops are popular across the nation and internationally. You will be introduced to best practices that will equip you to integrate social-emotional learning, discipline and self-regulation so you spend less time policing behavior and more time teaching vital life skills.

### Professional Development Dates:

<b>July 29-30</b>	<b>Geyer Springs First Baptist Church</b> (12400 I-30, Little Rock, AR 72210)	<b>8:30-3:30p</b>
<b>August 7-8</b>	<b>Fellowship Bible Church</b> (1401 Kirk Rd, Little Rock, AR 72223)	<b>8:30-3:30p</b>
<b>Oct 31-Nov 1</b>	<b>Geyer Springs First Baptist Church</b> (12400 I-30, Little Rock, AR 72210)	<b>8:30-3:30p</b>



Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based, trauma-informed approach. The Harvard study's authors say, "Conscious Discipline provides an array of behavior management strategies and classroom structures that teachers can use to turn everyday situations into learning opportunities."

The Early Childhood Department has much more to offer! You will receive Conscious Discipline materials and tools for your classroom throughout your training.