

# Roanoke Mixed Delivery Preschool Program Profile

## The Need

- The City of Roanoke has significantly higher than state average rates of key risk factors (e.g. poverty) related to kindergarten readiness and ongoing school success. Further, despite the large number of publicly funded slots, the publicly funded slot to eligible family ratio indicates that there are more families eligible than what can be served by these programs alone.
- In an effort to address the growing need for quality care for low-income families in the community, Roanoke Mixed Delivery Preschool Program (MDPP) will be targeting children who meet eligibility criteria for Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) but are not able to be served for a variety of reasons. A total of 36 at-risk 3-4-year-olds will benefit from the MDPP project through blended classrooms. MDPP will specifically focus on families living in the “Choice Neighborhoods” area – Loudon-Melrose-Shenandoah West (LMSW) - to allow them to take advantage of workforce development programs already serving these families, thus, leveraging it to implement a 2-generation approach.

## Project Goals

- The MDPP aims to provide access for 36 children and leverage partnerships to support a 2-generation approach for low-income families such as the workforce development program that exists in the targeted community.
- Additionally, the MDPP will support the provision of quality care and education in other programs participating in Virginia with the goal of ensuring that child-level outcomes are on par with those of publicly funded programs

## Project Plan

The MDPP plans to achieve these goals by:

- Following the Four Diamond Model for Improving the Quality of Early Education and Child Care to demonstrate equivalent quality
- Working with numerous partners (e.g. Roanoke Public Libraries branches, Housing Authority) to do effective outreach and education for parents about available quality care options
- Implementing a 2-generation approach by establishing stronger partnerships with existing workforce development and family support services
- Establishing a single point of entry and common registration across VPI, Head Start, and MDPP.

## Evaluation Plan

- The MDPP will use the ECERS and the Pre-K CLASS to measure quality. Additionally, Pre-K PALS student data will be collected.
- Additionally, the MDPP will assess additional family supports accessed through partners (workforce training, housing/rent, etc.), and its collective impact on the family unit; observable activities and behaviors related to the 4-Diamond model; and qualitative feedback from staff and teachers at the partner site, as well as parents regarding experiences with the project’s implementation.