



PRE-K OUR WAY

Prepared for school, ready for success.

www.prekourway.org

PRE-K OUR WAY NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER **SEPTEMBER 2015**



What did Pre-K Our Way do this summer? Thanks to your support and support in many communities across New Jersey, you're helping to expand pre-k for more kids in our state. This summer, people and organizations all over New Jersey have been taking action to expand access to our high-quality preschool program to more 3- to 4-year-olds. Here's what's happened over this action packed summer.

PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE POWER OF PRESCHOOL

In late April and early May, people from more than 300 different communities representing all 21 counties came together for three regional forums. Their ideas and opinions inspired two new [videos](#) released this past summer: [Why Pre-K](#), and [Woodbine Elementary School](#). If you haven't seen these short stories—each less than three minutes—check them out today and share them with friends, colleagues and family members. Be sure to follow us on Twitter at [@PreKOurWay](#) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/PreKOurWay](https://www.facebook.com/PreKOurWay) for new content coming soon!

GROWING LIST OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT PRE-K OUR WAY

Over the summer, a number of organizations have shown their commitment to bringing Pre-K Our Way. Check out www.prekourway.org to see who is showing a public commitment to expansion of pre-k in New Jersey through Pre-K Our Way. In coming weeks, we'll showcase additional organizations. To start off September, we're delighted to feature three different United Way organizations: United Way of Central Jersey, United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey and United Way of Hunterdon County. Each of these organizations encourages its community partners to support Pre-K Our Way. Creating public will in support of access to affordable high-quality pre-k is a high-level public policy and impact agenda item for each organization.

Across New Jersey and the nation, United Way is dedicated to improving the lives and outcomes for the people and communities they serve. They mobilize supporters around the area and assist them in creating the most productive programs towards a common good. United Way has also exemplified their commitment to early learning throughout New Jersey by boosting early education and literacy rates through programs that reach thousands of students, both preschool- and primary school-aged, numerous classrooms, and multiple cities and counties throughout the state.

United Way of Central Jersey: "United Way Central Jersey aims to increase the capacity of children who enter kindergarten healthy and ready to learn. All children deserve to reach their fullest potential in a safe and nurturing environment."

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey: "United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey has an early education agenda that is focused on ensuring children enter Kindergarten ready to learn. Creating public will in support of access to affordable high-quality pre-k is a high-level public policy and impact agenda."

United Way of Hunterdon County: "United Way of Hunterdon County envisions a community where all individuals and families achieve their full potential through income stability, healthy lives and education."

IN THE NEWS

New Jersey residents are sharing why preschool is a top priority issue across the state by submitting letters to media outlets, advocating for pre-k program expansion, and gaining support throughout their communities by igniting the conversation about expanding preschool. Here are just a few stories highlighting the action New Jersey is taking towards expanding high-quality pre-k access to more 3- to 4-year-olds around the state.

[Advocates Want Pre-K Funding Available for All School Districts Throughout the State](#)

NJTV News

NJTV News recently published a report on how New Jersey residents are working with Pre-K Our Way to expand pre-k access across the state. New Jersey residents are increasingly looking to Trenton to make pre-k a priority issue.

[Pushing for More Pre-K Education in Clifton and State](#)

Clifton Journal

Clifton school district and Pre-K Our Way are both dedicated to expanding preschool access to more 3- to 4-year-olds in New Jersey. Clifton school district recently expanded their preschool program "Clifton Early Learner Academy," and has plans to continue their leadership role in the pre-k expansion arena in the coming years.

[Three Southern Bergen County Districts Offer Pre-K, Fourth Considering for Next Year](#)

South Bergenite Times

Lyndhurst, Carlstadt, and East Rutherford communities align with Pre-K Our Way's initiatives to expand preschool access to more 3- to 4-year-olds. In recent years, each of these school districts opened preschool programs and participation continues to grow with every passing year. The communities are increasingly demonstrating the fact that preschool is a priority issue for their preschoolers.

[Pre-K Our Way Leads the Way in Preparing Kids for Kindergarten](#)

The News of Salem County

Sue Dyer, a member of the leadership group for Pre-K Our Way, a 2014 Salem County Teacher of the Year and a preschool teacher in the Woodstown/Pilesgrove school district gives her opinions on why preschool expansion should be one of the top issues for New Jersey residents and Trenton. Her experience with preschoolers gives her first-hand experience with the benefits preschool gives to a child preparing for academic and life success.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Pre-K Our Way values the insights of supporters of expanded pre-k access. Share your opinion about why you want to expand pre-k access to more of New Jersey's 3- to 4-year-olds at prekourway.org/share-your-story. Your story could be the inspiration for others to become advocates for expanded high-quality preschool.

LET'S GET SOCIAL

Want to show your support? Share one of our pre-drafted posts or tweets and inspire others in New Jersey to bring pre-k their way.

Facebook Post: Back to school means more kids are getting a strong start. I want to make sure more of NJ's 3- to 4-year-olds receive theirs with NJ's high-quality preschool program. Help bring @PreKOurWay today.

Tweet: I want to make sure more of NJ's 3- to 4-year-olds receive a strong start with NJ's high-quality pre-k. Help bring @PreKOurWay today.

Have questions? Contact us at info@prekourway.org

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