

PRE-K OUR WAY NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JULY 2016



Preschool expansion: a priority in the New Jersey Legislature's 2016-2017 budget.

PRE-K EXPANSION GAINS TRACTION AS BIPARTISAN PRIORITY

As the book closed on another school year, \$25 million for pre-k expansion was included in the 2016-2017 legislative budget—a testament to how your voices are being heard and that Trenton is listening. The Governor's July 1 line-item veto of more than \$300 million included the expected veto of funding for pre-k expansion.

The real headline: this year's legislative budget is proof of the growing, bipartisan support for pre-k expansion. It's only fair. With your voice, Pre-K Our Way remains committed to bringing NJ's high-quality pre-k to 3- and 4-year-olds in more communities.

Help build on our collective success! Sign up on our website and social media to stay current throughout the summer as we expand the effort to bring pre-k your way in Fall 2016 and through the 2017 gubernatorial election season.

MORE THAN 80 LOCAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS EXPAND COMMITMENT TO BRINGING PRE-K YOUR WAY

Pre-K Our Way's <u>local community meetings</u> kicked-off with six Ocean County communities in mid-February's snow and concluded with three Union County communities under late-June's sunny skies. In between, we met with parents, educators, business people, elected officials, providers, family members and others from more than 80 communities across nearly every county in our state. Thanks to the numerous co-host organizations and attendees who gave their time to share ideas and commitment!

Special thanks to all of the pediatricians from <u>New Jersey Chapter</u>, <u>American Academy of Pediatrics</u> who passionately conveyed their support for pre-k expansion (and better health) for 3- and 4-year-olds in more communities. Where a child lives shouldn't determine whether or not a child has access to high-quality pre-k.

Didn't get a chance to attend a meeting? Want to know how you can join your community's efforts to bring pre-k your way? Contact our Community Organizer Milan at milan@prekourway.org.

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LET'S GET SOCIAL

Want to show your support for pre-k in NJ? We're working throughout the summer to expand the growing network of 20,000+ people to raise a voice for pre-k expansion in more communities. Do you know a 3- or 4-year-old who benefits from NJ's high-quality pre-k? Share one of our pre-drafted posts or tweets and let others know that you're working to bring pre-k their way.

Facebook Post: Pre-k is a legislative priority—and I support it. It's time to expand access to more kids in NJ. It's only fair! @PreKOurWay #NJpreK

Tweet: Pre-k is a legislative priority—and I support it. It's time to expand access. It's time to bring pre-k our way. @PreKOurWay #NJpreK

Have questions? Contact us at info@prekourway.org
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