



PRE-K OUR WAY

Prepared for school, ready for success.

www.prekourway.org

PRE-K OUR WAY NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER **JANUARY 2016**



Happy New Year from Pre-K Our Way! Your support in 2015 harnessed public voices in support of pre-k, shared the visible benefits of both immediate and long-term impact of pre-k on 3- and 4-year-olds, and educated our legislators and other leaders on the value of New Jersey's existing high-quality program. As *NJ Spotlight's* John Mooney wrote on December 15, "the proposal [on December 14 to the New Jersey State Senate] could be the first noteworthy expansion of the state's landmark program since the late 2000s....". Pre-K Our Way is excited to have been part of the process throughout the past months, and we're excited about a busy 2016!

Watch your email for news and information. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and email to receive breaking news — and encourage your family, friends and colleagues to sign up today for Pre-K Our Way!

BRINGING PRE-K YOUR WAY

December marked an important milestone for expanding preschool access in New Jersey. On December 14, the New Jersey State Senate announced a multi-part investment plan for New Jersey that included pre-k expansion. The plan, to be introduced into the State Senate early in 2016, demonstrates the importance of pre-k to a child's future and underscores the direct investment high-quality pre-k provides in our state's future.

Your voice is making a difference—our children won't have access to New Jersey's existing high-quality pre-k unless our elected leaders know we want it. Thank you for your important support, and here's to a busy 2016!

Want to bring pre-k your way? Let us know about events in your community—PTA/PTO meetings, back-to-school nights, Chamber of Commerce meetings, Rotary or Women's Clubs or other events. Contact our Community Organizer, Milan, at milan@prekourway.org.

HELP BRING PRE-K TO YOUR COMMUNITY—BE PART OF LOCAL ACTION

Individuals and organizations from across New Jersey are showing their support for expanding high-quality preschool access to more of New Jersey's 3- and 4-year-olds.

In the coming weeks, Pre-K Our Way will work with the growing list of advocate organizations — currently numbering more than 50 — to hold local community meetings to get the word out and to make our voices heard. Working with the United Ways and YMCAs across New Jersey, Pre-K Our Way will co-host local community meetings and workshops on how to bring New Jersey's existing high-quality pre-k to your community and make it yours. Visit prekourway.org to stay updated on

local community events and to watch for a meeting near you! You can also contact milan@prekourway.org if you or your organization is interested in co-hosting a community meeting.

You can learn more about our advocate organizations, other supporters and their commitment to helping New Jersey expand our high-quality preschool program at prekourway.org/our-supporters.

IN THE NEWS

[Sweeney Calls for Investing \\$165 Million in Pre-K, Early-Childhood Programs](#)

"New Jersey's long history of state-funded preschool may have opened another chapter yesterday." State Senate President Steve Sweeney calls for New Jersey to expand access to its high-quality pre-k.

[NJ Spotlight Series](#)

Pre-k is on the statewide agenda, and is part of the Trenton and elected leader discussion. Ending in December, *NJ Spotlight* featured a six-part series on pre-k in New Jersey, and included quotes from several of our Leadership Group members, including Brian Maher, Ceil Zalkind and former Governors Kean and Florio. In addition, the last article in the series includes an interview with Sam Crane of Pre-K Our Way.

SPREAD THE WORD

Encourage others to help bring pre-k our way. Use our videos and handouts to let others know how important a strong start is for New Jersey's children. Need help using our materials? Contact us at info@prekourway.org and we'll be sure you have what you need.

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: It's time for more New Jersey communities to have access to high-quality pre-k programs. Show your support for the education of New Jersey's 3- to 4-year-olds by signing up at prekourway.org today.

Tweet: NJ needs more high-quality pre-k. Support the education of New Jersey's 3- to 4-year-olds by signing up at prekourway.org today.

Have questions? Contact us at info@prekourway.org

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