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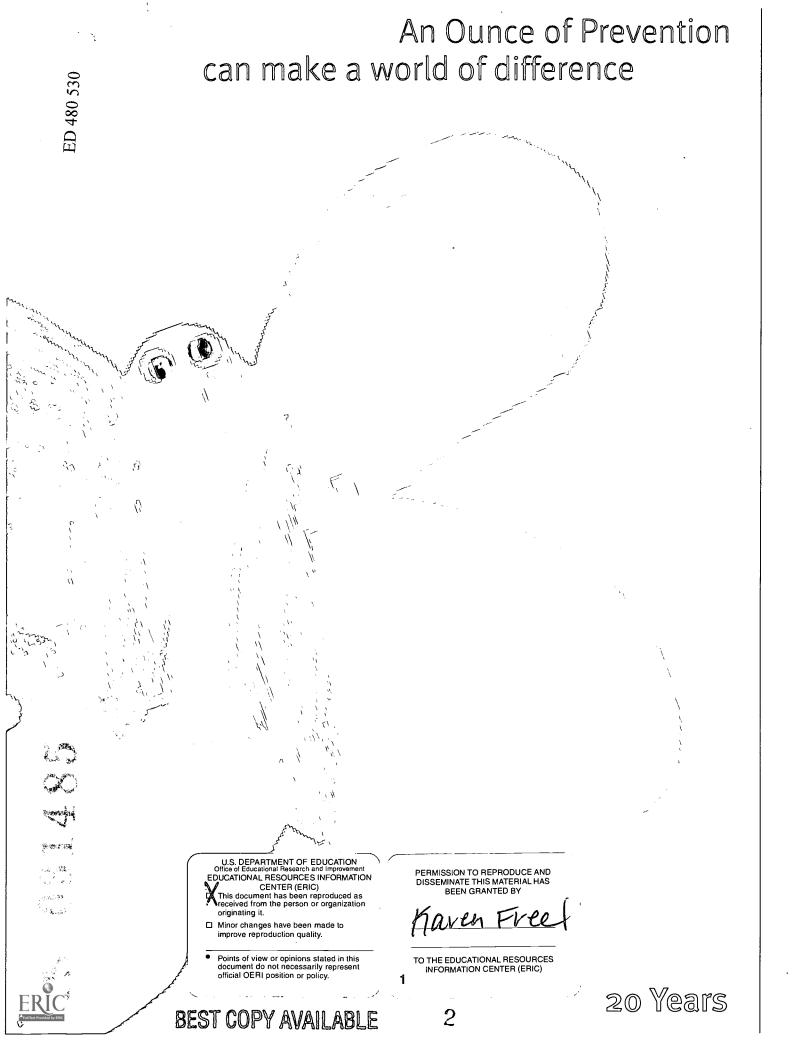
IDENTIFIERS *Ounce of Prevention Program IL; Public Private Partnership

Programs

ABSTRACT

Since its inception 20 years ago as a public-private partnership, the Ounce of Prevention Fund (OPF) has cultivated promising ideas in early childhood development, has used private funding to test those ideas in real life settings, and has leveraged public funding to support and expand innovative programs that advance the health and well-being of children and families. This twentieth anniversary report describes the formation of the public-private partnership; outlines its mission to invest in the health and well-being of children and families through a dynamic cycle of direct service programs, advocacy, research, training, and replication; and highlights program accomplishments over the past 20 years. The report also examines the OPF's approach to serving children and families, and highlights the progress during 2002 of ideas at work in: (1) replicating the Educare Center; (2) expanding the doula network across Illinois; (3) helping families promote healthy development and early learning of their young children through the Birth to Five Project; (4) helping children develop decision making skills through the Straight from the Heart program; and (5) creating enriched learning experiences for children, families, and staff through the arts. The report continues with a statement of operating revenues and expenses and a list of donors to the organization, and concludes with a list of OPF sites and delegate agencies. (KB)







The importance of the first years of life was not a subject one heard much about in 1982, unless one was fortunate enough to spend time in the company of Ounce of Prevention Fund co-founder Irving B. Harris. Along with a discerning sense for business, Irving also perceived what it has taken many others the last two decades to catch up with—that all of our children need good care and nurturing from their very earliest days if they are to have the best chance to succeed in school and throughout life.

Because of Irving Harris' wisdom and social conscience, the Ounce of Prevention Fund came into being twenty years ago, and has grown into a pioneering organization dedicated to meeting the needs of young children and families in challenging communities. What started as an entrepreneurial idea to provide the Pittway Corporation's employees with family support resulted in Irving's fortuitous collaboration with two other champions for children, Greg Coler and Bernice Weissbourd, and ultimately led to a public-private partnership with model programs touching the lives of children and families in Illinois and across our country. But more of that story a little further on in our twentieth anniversary report.

Now, as the Ounce continues its mission to invest in the health and well-being of children and families through a dynamic cycle of direct service programs, advocacy, research, training and replication, we look for "windows of opportunity"—the times in the lives of children and families when innovative and effective programs really can change a child's life. Over the past two decades, the Ounce has served thousands of children and families in Illinois through its direct service programs and delegate agencies, and reached many more through the advocacy efforts of Kids PEPP—the Kids Public Education and Policy Project. What's more, groundbreaking Ounce initiatives like the "Beethoven Project" and "Heart to Heart" have served as model programs that have been replicated across the nation.

While many organizations are just learning the benefits of public-private partnerships, it is worth noting that the Ounce of Prevention Fund has been one since its beginning. For the past twenty years, private dollars—first from the Pittway Corporation and subsequently from many other generous foundations, corporations and individuals—have allowed the Ounce to pursue promising projects that might otherwise never get off the ground, demonstrate their effectiveness in real-life community settings, and then attract the public funding necessary to reach more children and families in need.

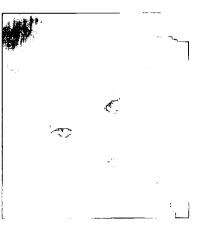


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The other absolutely essential ingredient in the Ounce's effective work over the last twenty years has been all of the dedicated people who have wanted to make a difference for the better. People like founding Executive Director Judith Musick and past Executive Director Judy Langford, all of the past and present members of our Board of Directors, the hundreds of Ounce staff members and staff at the delegate agencies with whom we have had the opportunity to work, and, of course, the children and families we have had the privilege to serve.

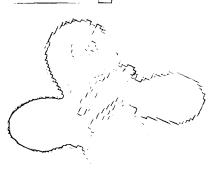
Today, the Ounce is continuing to take the best ideas in early childhood development, test them in real-life circumstances, and promote model programs throughout the field. Some highlights of our work:

- o Replicating our Educare Center in new communities. This state-of-the-art early childhood center continues to attract national attention.
- o Expanding our Doula Network across Illinois. This promising program is already showing impressive results in giving more babies a better start in life.
- Moving forward with the Birth to Five Project. This groundbreaking effort seeks to ensure that all young children and families in our state receive the care and support they need.



"The best evidence supports the policy prescription: invest in the very young."
Dr. James Heckman, 2000 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences.
"Invest in the Very Young"





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- Sharing the lessons of Heart to Heart and Straight from the Heart. These innovative programs are designed to break the cycle of child sexual abuse and to help older children develop skills that better prepare them to make positive choices in their lives.
- Promoting early learning and school readiness through our Arts Program.
 This comprehensive approach to the arts fosters creative self-expression,
 language development and other traits that are essential for school success.

At a time when investments of many kinds seem to be coming up short, investing in the well-being and future of America's children through high quality early care and education continues to pay the highest dividends for everyone. Whatever work the Ounce pursues over the next twenty years, we know it will be innovative, grounded in what really works for children and families, and dedicated to making sure that all of our children have the opportunity to enjoy the best start in life.

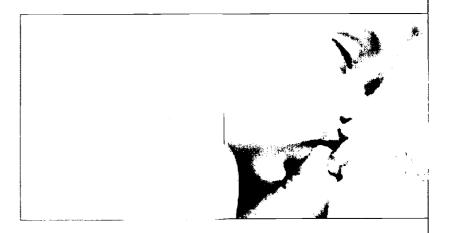
Harriet Meyer

President

Robert Heaton

Rabert Heaton

Chairman







The Vision Then

Although good ideas can evolve unexpectedly, nothing is ever accomplished without people who are willing to go the distance. Greg Coler, Irving Harris and Bernice Weissbourd are three such people, and in 1982, each already had proven track records as champions for children and families in need. While Greg Coler was serving as the Director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Bernice Weissbourd was helping to establish the family support movement through her landmark work with Family Focus, Inc. As a longtime "social venture philanthropist," Irving Harris, then Chairman of the Pittway Corporation, had been a driving force in supporting pioneering organizations like the Erikson Institute and the Yale Child Study Center.

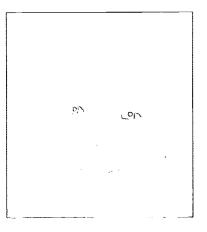


"We chose the name Ounce of Prevention Fund because we believe it's more caring and cost-effective to promote healthy child development than to treat problems later in life." Harriet Meyer, President of the Ounce of Prevention Fund, White House Conference on Early Childhood, 1997





When the Pittway Corporation wanted to do something to help the families of its employees, Bernice and Irving arranged a meeting with Greg seeking support to help start a Family Focus drop-in family support center near the company's manufacturing facility in Aurora, Illinois. From Pittway's point of view, a support center that could address the issues of family stress and poor child development outcomes would serve the interests of the state of Illinois as well as those of the company. Irving and Bernice asked Greg for a grant of \$75,000 a year for three years, during which time Pittway would contribute \$225,000. In words that would have a profound effect on the lives of many children and families, Greg answered: "I'm not interested in giving you a grant of \$75,000 a year. I'll give you \$400,000 if you will match it and we'll start several centers in Illinois and we'll see if prevention really works in this state."



"There is no more important contradiction in social policy than this: From the child development research we know that the first few years of life play a crucial role in shaping a person's lifelong mental, emotional, and physical abilities. And yet it is for this stage of life that we seem to make our social investments most grudgingly and tolerate the greatest

deprivation...Simply put, our knowledge is not being applied."
"The Common Good: Social Welfare and the American Future: Policy Recommendations" issued by the Ford Foundation in 1989





With his characteristic leadership, Irving returned to the Pittway board and persuaded them to agree to match the broader concept that Greg had described. With that, the Ounce of Prevention Fund—under a name created by Irving—was born.

Twenty years later, the Ounce still benefits from its founders' wisdom and expertise as Bernice, Greg and Irving continue to serve as leaders on the Ounce Board of Directors. And for twenty years now, the Ounce has pursued its mission to invest in the healthy development of babies, children, adolescents and families. For twenty years now, we have used private dollars as venture capital to launch innovative programs and to leverage public funding. For twenty years now, we have served as a place where the best academic theories are tested in real-world circumstances and turned into best practices for the entire early childhood field.



"A baby's brain is a work in progress, trillions of neurons are waiting to be wired into a mind.

The experiences of childhood, pioneering research shows, help form the brain's circuits for music and math, language and emotion."

Newsweek Magazine,
February 19, 1996

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Twenty Years of Innovation Ounce of Prevention Fund founded 1982 Parents Too Soon expands to 22 sites across Illinois 1983 Peer Power and ADAM (Awareness and Development for Adolescent Males) after-school enrichment programs begun 1984 DuSable High School adolescent health center opens as one of the first on-site clinics in Chicago Public Schools 1985 Ounce of Prevention Fund becomes one of only three Head Start grantees in Chicago 1985 Center for Successful Child Development/ Beethoven Project initiates on-site comprehensive early childhood center in Chicago public housing 1986 Heart to Heart program to prevent child sexual abuse developed 1986 Orr High School adolescent health center opens 1986 Kids Public Education and Policy Project initiated by the Ounce and Family Focus, Inc. 1987 The New York Times hails the Beethoven Project as a "Head Start on Head Start" 1987 Crane High School adolescent health center opens 1987 "Child Sexual Abuse: A Hidden Factor in Adolescent Sexual Behavior" published 1987 "Facts of Life: A Training Manual for Adults Working with Adolescents" published

ERIC 87 The pioneering Developmental Training and Support **BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

Program piloted 1987 Ounce programs are featured in "Focus on the First Sixty Months" produced by the National Governors Association and the Center for Policy Research 1987 The National Commission on Children is formed 1987 Family Literacy Project launched 1989 Wells Community Initiative established with the Chicago Housing Authority, Ida B. Wells Local Advisory Council, Metropolitan Planning Council and Centers for New Horizons 1990 "Policies for Families: Next Steps" developed by Kids PEPP 1991 "Success for Every Teen" special report published 1992 "Toward Teen Health" special report published 1992 Parents Too Soon at 36 sites across Illinois 1992 "Family Planning Perspectives" published 1992 Family Service Center begun at St. Paul Church in Grand Boulevard 1992 "Head Start on Head Start" special report published 19994 American Psychological Association honors the Ounce's Developmental Training and Support Program as a model program in service delivery 1993 Early Head Start program authorized by the federal government 19994 "Heart to Heart" special report published 1995 School-based

ERIC ealth center opens at Beethoven Elementary School

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1995 Parents Too Soon expands with the creation of Healthy Families Illinois 1995 Doula Project pilot program initiated with the Chicago Health Connection, Alivio Medical Center, Christopher House and Marillac Social Center 1996 "Starting Smart" special report published 1996 White House Conference on Early Childhood 1997 Kids PEPP efforts advance the creation of the Illinois Early Childhood Block Grant 1999 Straight from the Heart program launched 1997 Birth to Three Project created 1998 "Brighter Babies, Stronger Families" special report published 1999 Hayes Family Health Center opens 1999 Ounce featured in BBC documentary, "Bringing Home the Revolution" 1999 Educare Center/ Chicago opens 2000 The Chicago Tribune declares that the Educare Center "provides a humanistic model for the pressing national problem of improving day care" 2000 "From Neurons to Neighborhoods: The Science of Early Childhood Development" is released by the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies 2000 Arts Program introduced 2000 "Safe

art" special report published 2000 Doula services

added to Parents Too Soon programs at Kankakee Community College and Easter Seals Children's Development Center in Rockford 2000 Campaign for Early Childhood Innovations launched 2001 Doula services are initiated at the Educare Center/ Chicago 2001 "Straight from the Heart" special report published 2001 Doula services introduced at Parents Too Soon sites La Voz Latina in Rockford and Children's Home in Peoria 2001 White House Summit on Early Childhood Cognitive Development 2001 "Invest in the Very Young" special report published 2002 Educare Center/Omaha groundbreaking 2002 "Toward the ABCs" special report published 2002 Doula Network expands to 4 new sites in Illinois—Aunt Martha's Youth Service, Fayette County Health Department, Greater DuPage MYM and Visiting Nurses Association of Fox Valley 2002 "Birth to Three Best Practice Briefs" published 2002 Pilot testing of OunceScale, a new performance-oriented developmental assessment 2002 Ounce co-sponsors the national Safe Havens Training Project to help children and families confronted with community violence 2002

ducare Center/Atlanta scheduled to open in Fall 2002



Educare Center

Building on what works by replicating our innovative early childhood center

The Ounce of Prevention Fund takes promising ideas—and uses private dollars—to develop new and innovative early childhood projects. By testing these ideas in real-life community settings, we have the chance to see what really does work for children and families by developing model programs and sharing our findings with others.

However, the best ideas in any area of endeavor are rarely realized without years of effort. The evolution of the Educare Center began with the introduction of on-site comprehensive early childhood services in Chicago public housing—the "Beethoven Project"—in 1986, but it took 14 years of commitment and investment by many public and private partners before the Educare Center opened on Chicago's south side in 2000.

What is it that makes the Educare Center worth replicating in other communities? Over the last two years, the Educare Center/Chicago has been providing families with a place, program and partnership designed to promote their children's well-being and school readiness.

"This place is helping my kids get everything they need—and really giving me peace of mind."

A mother at the Ounce's Educare Center in Chicago



"Babies raised by caring, attentive adults in safe, predictable environments are better learners than those raised with less attention in less secure surroundings."
"Starting Points:
Meeting the Needs of Our Youngest Children,"
1994 report of the Carnegie Task Force



Launched with private funds and built through a unique partnership with the federal government, the state of Illinois, Chicago Public Schools, private supporters and community residents, the Educare program is a pioneering effort to prepare children to learn and flourish in school and in life.

With generous support from the Pritzker Cousins Foundation and the Walter and Mary E. Tuohy Foundation—and with the participation of the Susan A. Buffett Foundation and the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention—the latest steps in Educare replication are moving swiftly. Educare Centers are now in various stages of development in Omaha and Atlanta, and a steady flow of visitors are exploring the possibility of replicating Educare in their communities. Along with the lessons we continue to learn at Educare Center/Chicago, these new centers will add their own unique contributions to create a blueprint for developing high quality early care and education across the country.



"How young children feel is as important as how they think, particularly with regard to school readiness." Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D., opening statement at the release of the 2000 report, "From Neurons to Neighborhoods:
The Science of Early Childhood Development"



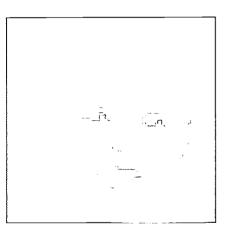


Doula Network

Giving children the best start in life by expanding the Doula Network across Illinois

Making sure that young mothers and their babies are physically healthy and emotionally supported can make all the difference for that child. We now know that children's very earliest experiences have a decisive influence upon their brain development and their intellectual, social and emotional growth. We also know that early social and emotional capacities have a profound effect upon children's ability to develop the self-assurance, sense of curiosity and trust that are essential to learn and thrive.

To ensure that babies in Illinois have the best start in life, the Ounce of Prevention Fund is expanding its Doula Network to new sites across the state. Doulas, from a Greek word for "birthing assistant," work within voluntary home visiting programs like Parents Too Soon and Healthy Families.



"I thought she was an angel sent to me from heaven so I could have my baby."
A young mother in Chicago talking about her Doula

"The years from the crib to the classroom represent a period of intense language and cognitive growth.
Children grow from babies with no language skills to children who can express themselves."
First Lady Laura Bush, the 2001 White House Summit on Early Childhood
Cognitive Development



Doulas are specially trained women from the community who provide expecting teens with the critically important information and support that they and their babies need. By linking families to prenatal care, encouraging young mothers through labor and delivery, and supporting them during the demanding postpartum period, doulas are able to build the confidence, credibility and relationships needed to have a lasting impact upon teen moms.

Impressive results from these valuable perinatal services include decreases in Caesarian deliveries and the use of epidural anesthesia as well as dramatic increases in breastfeeding rates among teen mothers. Most heartening, doulas also foster the bonding relationship between mother and babies. This year, with generous private funding from the Harris Family Foundation, The Harris Foundation, and The Oprah Winfrey Foundation, the Ounce is looking forward to reaching even more communities as we expand our Doula Network to more sites across the state of Illinois.



The results of a seven-year national evaluation of the federal Early Head Start program demonstrated its positive results: "The program improves the chances for our youngest and most disadvantaged children to grow up

healthy, to learn, and to prepare for school, while providing support to mothers and fathers to improve their parenting and other skills." Tommy G. Thompson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, June 2002



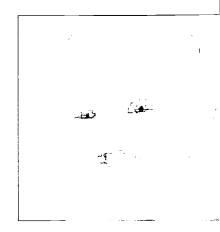
Birth to Five Project

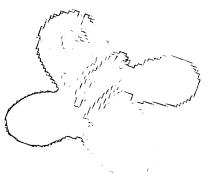
Helping families promote the healthy development and early learning of their young children through the Birth to Five Project

Making certain that all young children and families receive the care and services they need should be the highest priority in every state. Illinois is serving as a model for the rest of the nation through its participation in the Birth to Five Project. With significant investments from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative, the Ounce of Prevention Fund is pioneering this ambitious, multi-year effort to ensure the availability of and access to vital prevention services for our state's youngest children and their families. By bringing together policymakers, advocates and those who provide services, the Birth to Five Project is building a coordinated statewide system of programs, services and policies that will better prepare children for success in school and beyond.



"Children are born 'ready to learn,' but we must also attend to their social and emotional development ... We cannot prepare children to be ready for third grade by treating 2- and 3-year-olds like third graders." J. Ronald Lally, Ed.D., a national expert on early childhood



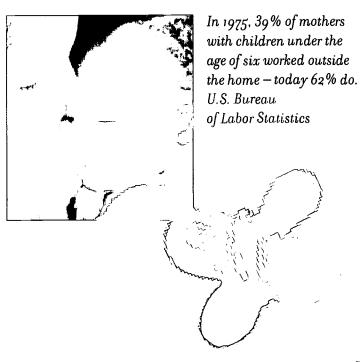




To carry forward the grassroots work of the Birth to FIve Project and help all Illinois children and families receive the best start in life, the All Our Kids Networks have been operating in ten communities across the state since 2000 to better coordinate early childhood services. Funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services, each local network benefits from the contributions of parents, providers who serve young children and other community members.

By promoting access to a broad array of services like prenatal care, well-baby check-ups, early care and education, parenting education, and a variety of specialized services, each network community is creating a system of necessary services for young children and expecting families through developmental screenings, information and referral services, coordination of care, public education, and early childhood staff training.

The Birth to Five Project is coordinated by the Ounce's advocacy division, Kids PEPP (Public Education and Policy Project). Over the past fifteen years. Kids PEPP—which is funded entirely by private donations—has been a leading voice in expanding early education, child care, home visiting and other services for low-income children and their families.



"Don't just do something stand there and pay attention. The child is trying to tell you something." Sally Provence, M.D., Yale Child Study Center







Heart to Heart/Straight from the Heart

Answering the challenge of keeping children healthy and safe through Heart to Heart and Straight from the Heart

Although there are no easy answers to the challenge of helping children develop the decision-making skills they need to grow and mature in healthy ways, the Ounce of Prevention Fund's "Straight from the Heart" program is offering a new and promising approach.

Building on important lessons learned from "Heart to Heart," an earlier Ounce initiative to break the tragic cycle of sexual abuse, "Straight from the Heart" is an intensive prevention program aimed at helping children from age eleven to fourteen years develop the critical thinking skills and self-esteem that allow them to make positive choices in their lives.

"Straight from the Heart" has been developed with private funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation as a model initiative that can be effectively replicated to reach out to increasing numbers of children and families across the country.



"We recommend that all children, from the prenatal period through the first years of life, receive the care and support they need to enter school ready to learn—namely, good health care, nurturing environments, and experiences that enhance their development."

"Beyond Rhetoric: A New American Agenda for Children and Families," the final report of the National Commission on Children released in 1991

"We want our children to spend their very early years in a safe, healthful and stimulating environment. If we ignore those early years, we increase the chances that children will eventually drop out of school. And that's a ticket to a low-paying job, the welfare rolls or the criminal justice system."

Mayor Richard M. Daley,
City of Chicago



Arts Program

Creating enriched learning experiences for children, families and staff through the Arts

The Ounce has established a program that weaves the arts into early education and recognizes the exciting role that music, drawing, dance, and drama have in promoting school readiness. Since its inception in 2000, our Arts Program has integrated the arts into our curriculum, helping our children develop critical thinking skills and allowing each child to bring her own unique interests to the process.

While creative self-expression is being encouraged, our comprehensive approach—involving lessons, live performances, classes for families and resident artists—is also helping to develop language and communication skills essential for school success. Importantly, the arts are serving as a learning process for families and staff as well. Funding is being generously provided by an anonymous foundation, the Educational Foundation of America, the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, the Sage Foundation/Brighton, Michigan, and The Farny R. Wurlitzer Foundation.

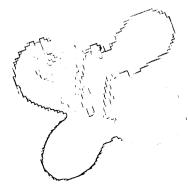


"My two granddaughters are in the arts program at Educare, and it's really helped them.

A lot of kids have a born talent—but they don't know about it. This program makes them aware, brings it out."

Ray Head, a grandparent at the Ounce's Educare Center in Chicago

"Children truly are the future of our nation. We owe it to them, and to our nation, to ensure that all children are born with the best possible chance to live, love, grow and excel." Irving Harris, co-founder of the Ounce of Prevention Fund, author of "Children in Jeopardy: Can We Break the Cycle of Poverty?"



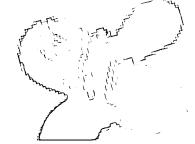


Statement of FY'02 Operating Revenues and Expenses Financial Report Ounce of Prevention Fund

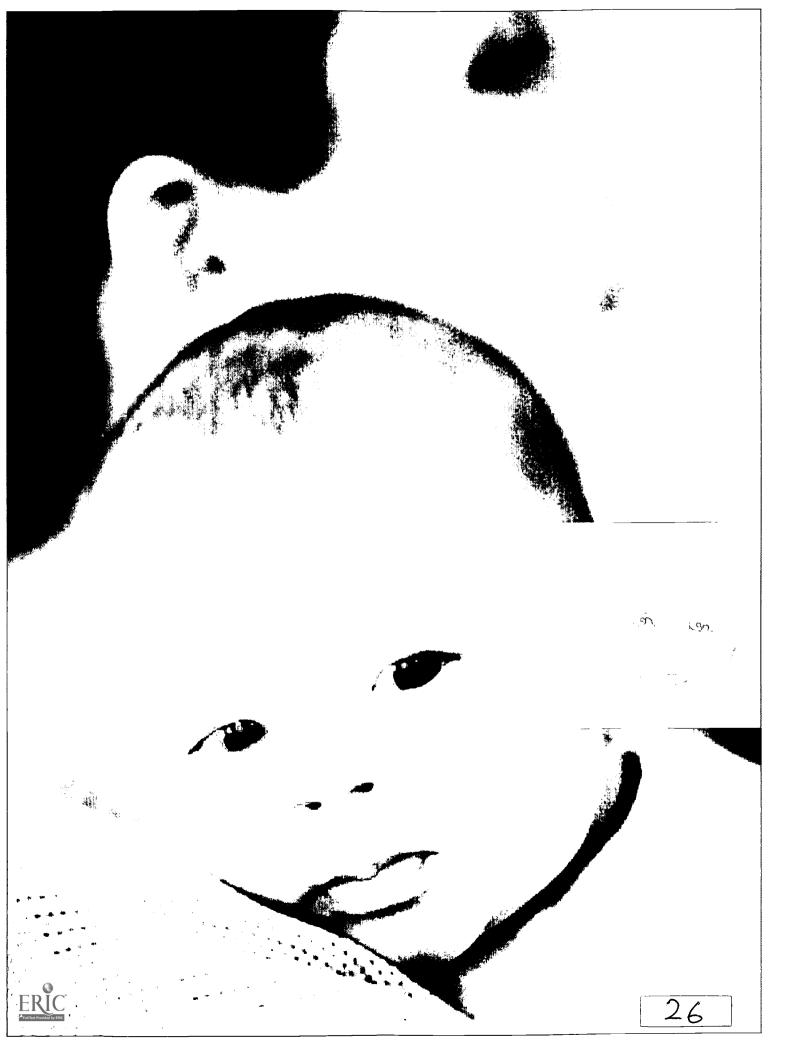
Revenues* (includes several large. restricted, multi-year awards recognized in fiscal year 2002)	July 1, 2001–June 30, 2002
Illinois Department of Human Services	\$12,387,796
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services	38,166
Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affa	airs 316,990
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	10,786,091
U.S. Department of Agriculture	155,204
Chicago Public Schools	355,000
Corporations, Foundations, Trusts and Individuals	3,072,372
Interest, Investment Income, and Other Revenue	288,988
Total	\$27,400,607
Expenses	
Child and Family Support Services	\$12,801,510
Parents Too Soon	9,517,991
Kids PEPP	1,195,202
Research	762,046
Toward Teen Health	413,891
Other Programs/Special Projects	912,455
Total	\$25,603,095

 $An \ audited \ statement \ is \ available \ upon \ request.$





^{*}Does not include \$3.593.454 in Board designated and donor restricted contributions and pledges to the endowment fund.



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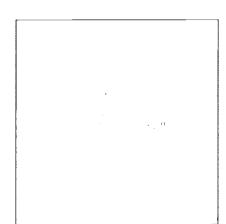
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Family Focus Evanston** 2010 Dewey Avenue Evanston, Illinois 60201 847.475.7570 Family Focus Lawndale*** 3517 West Arthington Chicago, Illinois 60624 773. 722.5057

Family Service Center of Sangamon County* (HFI) 1308 South 7th Street Springfield, Illinois 62703 217.528.8402

Harris YWCA*(HFI) 6200 South Drexel Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60637 773.363.7903

Kankakee Community
College* (HFI) (D)
1065 South Washington Avenue
Kankakee, Illinois 60901
815.937.0493

La Voz Latina* (HFI) (D) 814 North Court Street Rockford, Illinois 61103 815.965.1245

Latino Youth, Inc.* (HFI) 2200 South Marshall Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60623 773.277.0400

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois** 1901 1St Avenue Sterling, Illinois 61081 815.626.7333

Marillac Social Center* (D) 212 South Francisco Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60612 773.722.7440

New Moms, Inc.* 2825 West McLean Avenue Chicago, IL60647 773-252-3253

Provena Behavioral Health at Centerpoint* 1801 Fox Drive Champaign, Illinois 61820 217.398.8080

Scholarship and Guidance Association* (HFI) 1012 North Noble Street Chicago, Illinois 60622 773-395-9320

United Methodist Children's Home* (HFI) 2023 Richview Road Mt. Vernon, Illinois 62864 618.242.1070



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