



Lincoln



Omaha



Kearney



Medical Center

Educare: A Catalyst for Change

- Each Educare is a specially designed early learning school serving 140 to 200 infants, toddlers and pre-school aged children growing up in families facing very tough odds.
- Educare builds on the best of Head Start, Early Head Start, child care and preschool to ensure the level of quality care and education science shows is needed to change an at-risk child's lifelong trajectory.
- Each Educare is a catalyst for change – serving the children and families who cross its threshold while also helping to boost quality among other early childhood providers community-wide. Each Educare also functions as a “showroom” in which policymakers, business leaders and others learn about the wisdom of investing in the early years.
- 12 Educare schools are up and running across the United States, with two operating in Omaha. Six more should be under construction in 2011, including one in Phoenix already underway. At least another five are under discussion.
- Educare creates an effective early learning environment, in part by requiring master-degreed supervising teachers, bachelor-degreed lead teachers and appropriate adult-child ratios in each classroom, small group sizes, robust parent and family engagement activities, and rigorous evaluation.
- Educare is open for a full work day and a full year. Teaching is focused on improving language, literacy and social-emotional skills, which are the basis for all later learning.
- Independent evaluations show at-risk children who receive a full five years of Educare arrive at school on par with typical students. Each Educare participates in a national research project coordinated by the Frank Porter Graham Institute at the University of North Carolina.



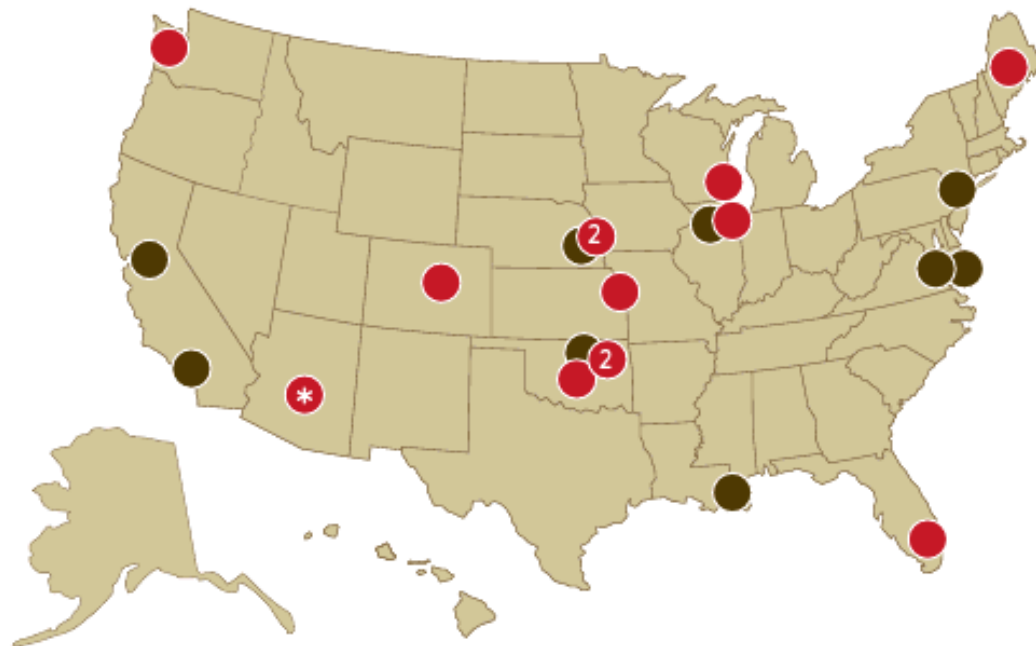
families. 1/3 of the space is devoted to community and parenting activities.

- Each Educare is a public-private partnership aimed at creating a more powerful – and ultimately more cost-effective – approach to early learning.
- Each Educare is a platform for broader change. In Nebraska, the development of two Educare schools so far has helped to marshal greater philanthropic investment in early childhood and helped early childhood advocates make the case to increase investments in early learning programs for 4-year-olds as well as the \$60 million Sixpence Early Learning Fund, an innovative, public-private initiative to create much-needed services across the state for families with infants and toddlers.
- With the late philanthropist Irving Harris, the Ounce of Prevention Fund created the nation's first Educare on Chicago's south side in 2000. The Buffett Early Childhood Fund created the first replication of Educare on Omaha's north side in 2002. Since then, the Buffett Early Childhood Fund and the Ounce of Prevention Fund have worked together to develop the coast-to-coast Bounce Network of Educare schools. Today, the network is supported by a group of like-minded philanthropists joining the Buffett Early Childhood Fund, including the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the George Kaiser Family Fund, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Irving Harris Foundation, and the JB and MK Pritzker Family Foundation.

www.EducareSchools.org

Educare

A coast-to-coast network



● Operational Schools

CHICAGO
OMAHA (2)
MILWAUKEE
TULSA (2)
DENVER
MIAMI-DADE
OKLAHOMA CITY
SEATTLE
KANSAS CITY, KS
CENTRAL MAINE (WATERVILLE)
ARIZONA (PHOENIX)*
* Under construction

● Schools Under Development

WASHINGTON, DC
NEW ORLEANS
WEST DUPAGE, IL
LINCOLN, NE
TULSA
BALTIMORE
SILICON VALLEY (SAN JOSE)
LOS ANGELES
NEWARK

As of December 2010