



## INVESTING IN CHILDREN IS SMART BUSINESS

“ We have an unexploited opportunity to raise America’s wealth and reduce inequality by investing in our greatest asset: our children. ”

JAMES HECKMAN  
Nobel Laureate and Henry Schultz Distinguished Service  
Professor of Economics, University of Chicago

### Early Investors:

David & Patricia Nierenberg  
Casey Thompson  
The Community Foundation for Southwest  
Washington  
United Way of the Columbia-Willamette  
Evergreen School District  
Clark County Public Health  
SELF Board of Directors

### In-kind Investors:

SELF Early Childhood Education Partners -  
\$18,000 of in-kind hours donated yearly

E-Manage -donated \$16,750 in IT services  
in 2013

SELF staff contributes office space, equipment,  
and supplies saving us \$15,000 yearly

**\$1 = \$7 ROI**

Join us as we create a community that values,  
invests in, and nurtures its children so they are  
ready for kindergarten on the first day of school  
... and all the other “firsts” in their lives.

Children Can't Wait is a movement designed to close the opportunity gap for children birth to 5 growing up in Clark County. Current data shows that a third and in some schools even half of our five year olds don't have the skills needed to succeed on the first day of school. When children start behind, they are very unlikely to ever catch up.

We know that investing in education is critical to the overall livability and economic stability of our community. Current research now inextricably ties investments in early childhood education to economic growth, yielding an unprecedented return on our investment. We must fill the gap between early childhood education and K-12.

### **Are You Ready To Invest In Your Future?**

#### **SELF Is Championing Children Can't Wait By:**

- Working directly with community leaders to create a county wide early childhood agenda.
- Advocating for change in priorities across all systems to include the early childhood agenda.
- Design and implement data and measurement strategies across all programs and systems to ensure changes are effective and moving forward.
- Build the public will to channel our collective strength in solving our common problem, the need to have Clark County children ready for school.

### **INVEST IN OUR CHILDREN!**

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**SELF** (Support for Early Learning and Families)

13504 NE 84th Street, Suite 103-137

Vancouver, Washington 98682

(360) 213.3486 | [Debbie.ham@selfwa.org](mailto:Debbie.ham@selfwa.org) | [selfwa.org](http://selfwa.org)

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