

Did You Know?

Building Sustainable Communities begins with our youth. Investing in early childhood development centers is one way LISC helps to rejuvenate struggling communities across the country. LISC's Community Investment Collaborative for Kids (CICK) helps finance, design and build affordable, safe early childhood education facilities in under-served neighborhoods around the country. To date, **\$25 million** has been invested, leveraging **\$190 million** for the development and improvement of **160** centers.



LISC Project Profile:

Community Investment Collaborative for Kids (CICK)

Quality early childhood education is a proven means for preparing children for future success and closing the educational achievement gap for at-risk children. Yet virtually all lower-income communities have a limited supply of appropriate early childhood centers.

CICK provides support on individual project financing, architectural design practices and other technical assistance needs. Our multi-faceted approach also includes federal policy analysis and advocacy, state-level policy consulting, innovative financing tools, professional development workshops, and best practices publications.

CICK has helped to finance and build new early childhood centers in over **65** cities and towns across the country. As a result, each day **16,500** low-income children learn, play, nap and eat in safe, quality facilities while their parents work or attend school. Early childhood education is a cornerstone of every sustainable community: preparing children for school and life; supporting parents; and making it possible for families to improve their financial well-being.

CICK Snapshots *(clockwise from top right):*

The Good Shepherd Child Development Center *(Milford, Conn.):*

The first early childhood facility in the state designed to LEED standards.

Moore Community House *(Biloxi, Miss.):*

An early childhood center serving 75 children that replaces facilities that were destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

E Center *(Marysville, Calif.):* With an innovative modular design, the E Center provides a healthy environment for 52 children, many of which are from rural farm working families.

University Nursery School *(Duluth, Minn.):*

Duluth Mayor Don Ness cut the ribbon at the opening of this child care center, which serves 44 children in a new HOPE VI housing development.

For more information about the LISC CICK program, please contact Amy Gillman at agillman@lisc.org.



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