Elements of High Quality Early Childhood Education: Implications for Research & Practice

KSRE Multicultural Research Fellowship

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This research assessed the needs and capacity of North West Kansas for access to quality Early Child Care and engaging communities to build collaborations targeting sustainable Early Childhood Development initiatives. Bradford Wiles’ research team has been approved for the Center for Engagement & Community Development Grant so the next steps are moving forward with the grant in building resources toward proper child care center in the NW region. This region largely consists of low-income families and poor early child care education centers. The needs and resources will be assessed and put in place for the benefit of the low-income families, and accommodating to their financial and geographic situations. Some children who are raised in rural areas suffer from different risks such as poor nutrition, obesity, insufficient physical activity, and maltreatment. These risk factors can delay a child’s mental, social, emotional, and physical development. A quality early child care education center can help in many ways. It gives the parents time to work and handle other errands of the day while the child learns. Also children who are in quality child care settings have shown positive outcomes in cooperative play, language, creativity, self-control, and sociability. Ultimately early child care education centers prepares children to be cognitively, physically, and social-emotionally ready to begin kindergarten or first grade.