

THE RAINIER VALLEY EARLY LEARNING CAMPUS

PURPOSE

Deliver positive and socially just outcomes for children and families by transforming the early care and education workforce locally and across the country.

THE ISSUE

The Rainier Valley Early Learning Campus (RVELC) will address the most pressing issues in early learning:

- Lack of access to affordable, culturally relevant, high-quality care and learning for children and families.
- Extreme shortage of qualified early education teachers, particularly educators of color.
- Shortage of facilities to provide community-embedded quality early care and education.

THE SOLUTION

The RVELC will address these issues by providing:

- Access to quality care and education to approximately 160 early learners and families each year.
- Workforce training to hundreds of students to pursue careers in early childhood care and education.
- Professional development to over 60,000 practitioners across Washington State and the U.S. through UW's [Cultivate Learning](#), a proven and nationally known incubator for early learning tools.
- Inclusive, prevention-focused services for children and families across the state through multi-disciplinary collaborations with physicians, mental health specialists and nurses.
- Community-embedded facilities adjacent to the Mt. Baker LINK light rail station, co-located in a City of Seattle affordable housing development.

IMPACT

The RVELC will boost social-emotional learning, kindergarten readiness and other critical outcomes for young learners by putting the proven research-based practices of early learning into the hands of families, aspiring educators, and a broad range of multidisciplinary practitioners. Expected outcomes include:

- More children enrolled in childcare and preschool services are prepared to enter kindergarten.
- Children who received services can read at grade level in the 3rd Grade, a key predictor of high school graduation.
- Early learning educators graduate and secure classroom employment and current practitioners receive professional development services to strengthen their practice.
- Early learning practitioners successfully diversify, increase credentialing, and receive increased compensation.
- Families offered holistic care and learning services.

INVESTMENT

Start-up costs to launch RVELC require a \$43 million capital construction investment. To date, \$15 million from government funding sources has been raised, leaving **\$28 million yet to be raised**. *(Separately, a \$37.7 million grant has been secured to support the early educator workforce programming).*

To learn more, contact: **Jessica Norouzi (jnorouzi@uw.edu)**, Assistant Dean for Advancement, UW College of Education.