

Research Spotlight

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Topic
Date

“Early Childhood Education for All: A Wise Investment”

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Findings:

- Proceedings of a conference held in April 2005 provide overview of short-term and long-term economic benefits of early (good quality) child care for all children.
- Long-term benefits include lower criminal justice and prison costs from reductions in crime.
- Report provides inventory of states where statewide economic impact studies have been conducted.
- Report points out that problems with school failure and related issues, including dropping out (with a high percentage of these youth turning to crime) are not limited to the below-poverty class, but that most of these problems involve children whose family incomes are above the poverty line.

Implications:

- Crime prevention advocates may find it useful to talk with early childhood education advocates in their areas.
- Crime prevention strategies include education, which should reach these youngest clients and their parents, to build a base for future prevention action.
- McGruff as a major asset may well be welcome in the early childhood environment with proper supporting materials.

Source:

“Early Childhood Education for All: A Wise Investment” – Recommendations arising from “The Economic Impacts of Child Care and Early Education: Financing Solutions for the Future.”

Available at www.familyinitiative.org