

A Message From Our Executive Director

“Répétez s’il-vous-plaît, ‘*plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose*’...”

Mme F. started our high school French class with a favorite routine – verbal recitation of a well-recognized idiom from the culture we were all there to study. And on this day, we were reminded that ***the more things change, the more they stay the same***. [Read more](#)



"Let Their Greatness Grow" Campaign Launched



FREE developmental checks.

Get Ready to GROW - Young children in the City of Rochester and surrounding area now have access to free developmental checks that can help families better understand their child's strengths and possible needs for healthy development. Only 20-30% of children with health, behavioral, and development problems are identified and receive appropriate interventions prior to entering school. Children's Institute, with Causewave Community Partners and a collaborative of child-serving organizations, announced a new community campaign to ensure families are aware of the benefits and availability

of screenings. [Read the press release](#)

Links to press conference media coverage :

- [13WHAM](#)
- [WHEC News 10](#)
- [Spectrum News](#)
- [Minority Reporter](#)
- [Facebook Live/press conference](#)

[Click here for more Get Ready to GROW highlights](#)

New Resources from the Whole Child Connection of Children's Institute

Implementing NYSED's Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education - Framework Resources for PreK-2nd Grade Teachers

**CULTURALLY
RESPONSIVE-
SUSTAINING
EDUCATION**



[This user-friendly resource](#) integrates social and emotional learning and equity practices and demonstrates how they can, together, be woven throughout the schedules and routines of the early childhood school day. [Read more](#)

[Toolkit for coaches: Social Emotional Learning Practices to Enhance Athletic Performance](#)

[Youth Voices Aren't Too Little: We Are Today's Tomorrow - Watch the main event and listen to voices of youth leaders](#)

Recent Highlights

Children's Institute began offering our staff voluntary **Racial Justice Lunch and Learns** in April 2020. To date, we have met over 35 times. Attendance has been consistent and strong; some staff attend regularly; others attend occasionally; we all have something to share and we are all learners. In recent months, we began inviting Children's Institute Board Members and our colleagues at ROC the Future and Common Ground to join us as we work toward our personal and collective Cultural Humility goals. With funding from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation, we are making the content and format of these learning sessions accessible to the community. [Read more and access meetings for your organization](#)



The practice of Cultural Humility continues to be at the core of the work at Children's Institute. Our Cultural Humility Workgroup continues its work on the strategic actions and has completed an internal environmental scan to assess organizational readiness for racial justice and in equity work at Children's Institute. [Read more](#)

Let's Celebrate the Parents!



As if parenting young children isn't hard enough. Add the pandemic, remote learning for preschoolers, all kinds of added stress - we know that parents could use a celebration of all they've been through. The Rochester City School District's Early Childhood Program celebrated 80 parents on June 15, 2021, who participated in the **Rochester Area Parent Program (RAPP)** of Children's Institute. [Read more](#)

Primary Project Research Efforts



We are excited to share that Children's Institute is conducting a **randomized controlled trial of Primary Project** examining the effectiveness of this long-standing school-based intervention.

In the spring of 2021, we invited schools to join us in one of four informational meetings about the research study. We are thrilled to partner with 5 districts/11 schools in the coming school year for these research efforts. We anticipate enrolling over 250 students during Year 1 of this study.

[Learn more about Primary Project](#)

Ways to Support Children's Institute

Please remember Children's Institute on November 30 and **become a "Roc Star"** when you make a donation! All donations, large or small, will help our work to improve the wellbeing of children and youth here in our community and beyond. Visit: www.roctheday.org/Causes-to-Support/Children-s-Institute



We truly value your commitment to Children's Institute and your continued passion for children and families. Please **support our Annual Appeal today** by making an [online donation](#); your gift will benefit every aspect of our mission: **Joining together to raise every child's complete wellbeing.**

Visit [Rochester's community wishbook](#) for a list of items to donate to support our programs and services.

Thursday, January 27, 2022: SAVE THE DATE to attend our biannual Coterie Breakfast from 8:30-10:00 am to honor a select group of individuals who have provided significant, sustained, and very special support to the mission of Children's Institute - Joining together to raise every child's complete wellbeing. The event is planned to be in-person in accordance with state and local laws and regulations and will include the opportunity to review highlights of Children's Institute's collective efforts.



Celebrating Dirk Hightower's Retirement

Children's Institute is celebrating Dirk's 39 plus years with news of his retirement from the University of Rochester in January, 2022. As he transitions his faculty role to a retired academic, he will consult on some of Children's Institute's key projects in the coming year such as Get Ready to GROW and RECAP.

[Learn more about our new Research Scientist Erinn Duprey, Ph.D.; Get Ready to GROW Navigators, Jackie Robbins and Teresa Medero; and other staffing updates.](#)

A Tribute to Former Board Members

We'd like to pay tribute to former Children's Institute board members who have recently passed away – **Mary L. Consler**, **David N. Broadbent**, and **Edward 'Ted' Boucher**. Mary and David were both Children's Institute Coterie Inductees, a group of special friends whose contributions have been ongoing and significant. Examples of such contributions include intellectual property, financial property, volunteerism, or a combination of the above. [Read more](#)

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