

A Message From Our Executive Director

As we close the month of June, many of us are experiencing transitions such as the end of the school year, when we honor a commencement or a new beginning. Like the new year holiday, transitions provide an opportunity to reflect back while looking forward – often with a new resolution or intent as we stand at the threshold of one door that leads to another.

[Read more](#)



Recent Highlights

April 2022: Attendees, including Children's Institute board members from around the country, enjoyed the **Community Breakfast and Coterie Award Celebration** at the Century Club with a theme of "Community Gems," showcasing the power of play and recognizing the child within us all. Congratulations to Coterie inductees Jackie Campbell, Dennis DeLeo, Charlotte Landhuis, and Serge Lossa. [Read more and pictures](#)

[READ MORE HIGHLIGHTS](#)

Children's Institute Welcomes New Staff

William Brien, MPA has joined Children's Institute as Director of Finance and Operations. Bill's experience includes years of management including serving in senior leadership roles at several human services and healthcare organizations. Most recently, he has worked with medical practices to implement strategies and projects that support their transformation into patient-centered care models. This work included mentoring and coaching practice leaders and staff; team building; selecting and implementing quality initiatives; and developing the capacity to use data to drive improvement.

Mahreen Mustafa George has joined Children's Institute as Associate Director of Equity and School Services for the Whole Child Connection team. She will also be working with Earl Greene on racial equity and family engagement efforts across Children's Institute.

[Read the blog post](#)



Children's Institute is excited about transforming our research and evaluation group with new leadership from **Joseph McFall, Ph.D.**, who comes to us from SUNY Fredonia. The new Data & Science group he will lead has a renewed focus on data, science, and technology, along with research and evaluation. This will support children, families, and communities with improved insight and capabilities to review and roll out scalable, high-quality, efficient, and effective programs, and other service offerings. [Read the press release](#)



RECAP (Rochester Early Childhood Assessment Partnership) Announces 24th Annual Report

Children's Institute, in partnership with the Rochester City School District Office of Early Childhood, is pleased to announce the publication of the **24th annual report of the Rochester Early Childhood Assessment Partnership (RECAP)**. This publication marks the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Rochester Early Childhood Assessment Partnership. Highlights include:

- Pre-K student outcomes for 2020-21 and Fall 2021
- Family engagement during COVID-19
- Results from the [Caring Connections](#) program
- Screening outcomes from [Get Ready to GROW](#)

[View the full report](#)

[Facts-at-a-Glance](#)

For a summary of the report, [read the blog post](#)

Primary Project Holds an End-of-Year Celebration



Rochester is home to the Strong National Museum of Play, the venue that hosted our **end-of-year event, acknowledging and celebrating our heroes – our New York State Primary Project teams!** The morning was filled with welcome remarks by executive director Ann Marie White, Ed.D., a feature presentation by Dr. Jody Manly, Clinical Director at the Mt. Hope Family Center and Senior Research Associate at the University of Rochester, titled "Resilience in the Face of Adversity:

Healing through Relationships," followed by the Children's Institute research team (Joseph McFall, Ph.D., Erinn Duprey, Ph.D., and Marjorie Allan, MPH). Results from an attendance study were shared, along with more information on a current study looking at the effectiveness of Primary Project which included a call to schools recruiting them for the study in the 2022-23 school year. [Read more](#)

Primary Project Research Efforts

The Primary Project Research Group is having an exciting and busy year. They have conducted several research projects and are planning future research directions to continue to add to the program's evidence base. The most recent completed project found that **Primary Project increases school attendance**. Currently, a randomized control trial is in progress to examine **Primary Project's overall effectiveness**. Further, follow-up studies to recent attendance findings are being designed. [Read more](#)

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