

## U.S. PROGRAMS

# Investing in Childhood: Kansas

Save the Children invests in childhood – every day, in times of crisis and for our future. In the United States, our child experts work to ensure that our nation’s most underserved children have the best chance for success. Every day, we help children get ready to learn and succeed in school and live healthy, active lives. We ensure children are protected when crisis strikes. And we advocate to ensure American children’s voices are heard and their needs addressed, securing the future we share.

Save the Children has been implementing our evidence-based early education programming in Kansas since 2012. Thanks to the support of our generous donors, we currently partner with two schools in two counties to deliver these programs to 100 children in the state.

### EVERY DAY

Save the Children’s Early Steps to School Success program assists babies and young children with language, social and emotional development; equips parents with the skills and knowledge to successfully support their child’s growth; and develops strong home-school connections. The program can begin when moms are pregnant and it follows infants and toddlers through age 5.

**Results:** In 2014-2015 in Kansas, 88 percent of 3-year-olds in our Early Steps to School Success program scored at or above the normal range for vocabulary acquisition.

### IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Save the Children’s Get Ready Get Safe initiative helps communities prepare to protect their kids before, during and after a disaster. We respond directly to disaster-



affected communities, working to address unmet needs of children. We also support the child care community by providing recovery assistance, as well as emergency preparedness. In addition, we offer long-term resiliency support to children and caregivers through our emotional support program, Journey of Hope.

**Results:** Since 2005, we’ve helped more than 1,000,000 U.S. children in crisis through our emergency preparedness, response and recovery programs.

### FOR OUR FUTURE

We advocate for initiatives and legislation at the state and national levels that promote children’s well-being and resiliency, including the necessity of quality early education programs, funding for underserved school districts, and child care emergency preparedness.

**Results:** Since 2010, Save the Children has achieved policy change in 37 states and the District of Columbia, benefitting 57,000,000 American children.

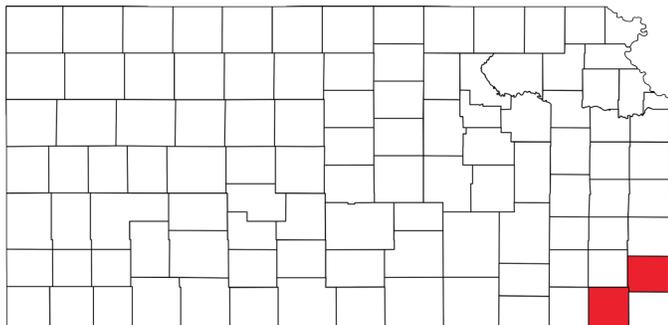
**By reaching children early, we help them enter school ready to succeed.**



*Our caring experts help families learn how to best support their children's early development at home.*

#### CHILD POVERTY IN KANSAS

- 19% of children live in poverty.<sup>1</sup>
- 49% of children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals – a socioeconomic challenge recognized as a barrier to student achievement.<sup>2</sup>
- 63% of 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income families are not enrolled in preschool/nursery school programs.<sup>3</sup>
- 62% of fourth graders scored below proficient in reading achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.<sup>4</sup>
- 30% of children ages 10-17 are overweight or obese.<sup>5</sup>



#### WHERE WE WORK

| SITES                  | Children Served | Early Steps |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>CRAWFORD COUNTY</b> | 50              |             |
| Westside Elementary    |                 | •           |
| <b>LABETTE COUNTY</b>  | 50              |             |
| Lincoln Elementary     |                 | •           |

<sup>1</sup> 2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

<sup>2</sup> 2011-2012. National Center for Education Statistics.

<sup>3</sup> 2011-2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

<sup>4</sup> 2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

<sup>5</sup> 2011-2012. National Survey of Children's Health.