



Edward Street Child Services

Providing advocacy, resources and support to early childhood educators and the children they serve.

Building Playgrounds ... Building Bodies ... Building Community

A brand new playground for the children at the Worcester Comprehensive Child Care Service program in Main South became a reality with the generous contributions of the **Daniels Foundation, Unum, KaBoom!, Stoddard Charitable Trust, Hoche-Schofield, Bank of America Albert Rice Foundation, and United Way/Fuller Foundation.**

The invaluable in-kind support from **Ricciardi Brothers Construction, Healy's Hauling,** and students from **YouthBuild, College of the Holy Cross, and South High School** made the build a success.

In addition, generous support from the **Fletcher Foundation** and the **George F. and Sybil H. Fuller Foundation** will allow us to move a playground from a recently closed center to the newly opened preschool at Trinity Lutheran Church.

In the future we will be working with community volunteers from Grace House to build a playground at the Elm Park Center for Early Childhood Education at Burncoat.

Play is critical for children. It provides opportunities for gross motor, cognitive and social development.

You can help to create safe playspaces for young children in the community. To donate time or resources for our future projects, contact us at 508.792.0220 or dbruce@edwardstreet.org.

[More Details](#) [Watch the Video](#)



Congressman McGovern dedicates the playground. [Watch the Video](#)

Fast Facts

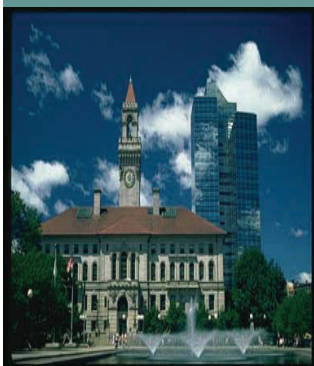
Einstein referred to play as the highest form of research.

Play is recognized as a fundamental right of every child by the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights.

A study by researchers at Stanford University concluded that inactivity in today's children may result in this being the first generation that has a shorter life span than their parents.

Massachusetts was home to the first playground built in the United States. (1886, Boston, MA)

Economic Impact of Early Education



Center based early education programs in Worcester serve 1,953 children. The Worcester Public Schools serve 708 preschoolers and an additional 736 children receive services from Head Start.

Early childhood education is an economic development issue. Early education prepares our young children to enter school ready to learn and to succeed. Children who are most at risk receive the greatest benefits. The High Scope/Perry Preschool Project demonstrated a return on investment of \$8.00 for every \$1.00 invested. Researchers at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve project an internal return on investment at closer to \$12.00. [See the report.](#)

The Early Childhood Education Sector generates \$1.5 billion annually in gross receipts in Massachusetts and directly supports 30,000 full time equivalent jobs in the commonwealth. [See the report.](#)

Also, parents of young children are able to work and contribute to the local economy. They are more productive because they know their children are in a safe, caring environment where they are reaping the benefits of an educational experience preparing them for the future.

Visit our website www.edwardstreet.org and our community website www.earlychildhoodcentral.org.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at dbruce@edwardstreet.org or call 508.792.0220