

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



EDUCARE DC

Washington, DC (2012)

FINANCING

NMTC Financing: DC Housing Enterprises, LLC, USBCDE LLC: \$15.6 million
Equity Investor: U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation

IMPACT

- 118 permanent jobs
- 424 children served
- Adult training services Innovative Preschool Education for low-income children, ages 6 weeks to 5 years, including children from neighboring DCHA public housing communities
- Flexible lease rate

COMMUNITY

- Poverty rate: 41.5%
- Median Family Income: 21.1%
- Unemployment rate: 17.9%

"She loves coming to school. People say, 'Oh, Danae's in day care,' and I'm like, this is so much more than day care. They actually teach them something. My daughter can say her ABCs and count to 30."

Ashanit Collins, mother of two-year old Educare DC student

The Parkside-Kenilworth neighborhood in DC's Ward 7 was once a working class Black neighborhood, until the area began to decline in the 1950s. Construction of Interstate 295 cut it off from surrounding neighborhoods and public investment in the area declined. Today, the neighborhood is still primarily residential, with a mix of public housing complexes and new market-rate and mixed-income construction.

One of the major needs for Parkside-Kenilworth is for access to affordable childcare. DC Housing Enterprises (DCHE) provided \$12.1 million in New Markets Tax Credit financing, launching Educare DC and expanding its impact on the District of Columbia. Educare DC's mission is to eliminate the opportunity gap for young children living in poverty, and help them develop the skills necessary for success in kindergarten and beyond, and it has made measurable progress towards this vision for the future.

Educare DC offers a full-day, full-year early education program that helps ensure young children's healthy development and school readiness. Since opening in September 2012, Educare DC has built and sustained a high-performing early learning program to make a greater impact in DC.

Since 2012, Educare DC's reach has grown more than 2.5 times, growing to serve 424 children from prenatal to age five – and their families – across two major sites and six partnerships, making them the second largest provider in DC and among a small group (top 12 percent) of high quality providers. This direct service impact – combined with programs that have trained over 400 educators and in Educare's city-wide fellowship – have been made possible through public-private partnerships, such as NMTC.

Educare DC works with a Local Evaluation Partner (LEP), the LEP team conducts a series of 12 assessments throughout the school year, collecting data to document child outcomes and classroom quality, which informs classroom practice, family engagement work, and professional development plans for staff. Educare DC's program performance is also regularly monitored by their partners and licensing bodies.

Educare DC was recently awarded a High Quality designation. This designation is a brand-new tier of quality and was awarded to just 12 percent of all child care centers in DC.