

The Alliance for Nonprofit Excellence, on behalf and with the support, of the Urban Child Institute (www.theurbanchildinstitute.org) is providing a compilation of grant research on funding opportunities for early childhood development. The UCI is dedicated to the well-being and health of children from conception to three years old in Memphis and Shelby County.

The resources listed here for potential foundation funding were obtained from The Foundation Center (www.foundationcenter.org), a nonprofit that connects nonprofits and the grantmakers supporting them to tools and information. The Alliance and the Memphis Public Library are designated as Foundation Center Cooperating Collections and as such, the Foundation Center databases are made available, at no cost, to the community.

The Alliance conducted a specific research project on early childhood funding. The purpose of this research is to support the development of competitive, collaborative proposals for funding needs and opportunities in the Memphis and Shelby County community. Nonprofits and professionals are strongly encouraged to solicit support for potential grant applications from their colleagues in early childhood development and services. The Alliance is not suggesting that each agency pursue grant funding on its own, pursue only grant funding, or that grant funding is the most appropriate funding stream in every circumstance. The Alliance encourages agencies to work together collaboratively. The Alliance serves as a resource to assist in the development of ideas and programs and the pursuit of funding.

As for the research reports early childhood is defined as 0 – 3 years of age, although occasionally funding opportunities for different age groups may be included. Early childhood development will include all aspects of child health, wellness, education, and school readiness.

Each report is dated. Please remember that information will change regularly, as foundations and the federal government adapt to changing circumstances and identified needs. The reports are designed to be the beginning, not the final word on resources, and only agencies working consistently and thoughtfully with their colleagues and their clients can determine what potential funding represents the best opportunities.

If you have questions or suggestions about the research, or other input on the early childhood agency partners, please contact Katy Spurlock at the Urban Child Institute, kspurlock@theurbanchildinstitute.org. As this site evolves, the UCI and the Alliance will use your feedback and your stories to improve our approach and information.