

# Statewide Announcement for 2021 Great Start to Quality Regional Resource Center Awards

The Statewide committee of Early Childhood Support Networks is pleased to announce the selection of ten Great Start to Quality Regional Resource Centers through a regional, competitive award process.

“Great Start to Quality Regional Resource Centers are a critical part of our state’s early childhood network and system of support. Their work ensures that all children have access to high quality early learning and development programs by providing training, technical assistance and coaching for licensed and license exempt providers, and identifying areas where providers and families need more resources and support. We are pleased with the process and the outcome of the bidding and look forward to working with both new and familiar faces moving forward”, said Jessica Savoie, Director of Early Childhood Education for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District and Organizational Lead for the Northern Early Childhood Support Network.

FY 2022 Award Notices have been issued to the following organizations, with work expected to begin October 1, 2021:

## Eastern ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas

- **Central Resource Center**, serving the counties of Clare, Clinton, Eaton, Gladwin, Gratiot, Ingham, Isabella, Midland, Shiawassee, awarded to **Midland County Educational Service Agency**.
- **Eastern Resource Center**, serving the counties of Arenac, Bay, Genesee, Huron, Lapeer, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair, Tuscola, awarded to the **Saginaw Intermediate School District**.

## Northern ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas

- **Northeast Resource Center**, serving the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, awarded to **Crawford Oscoda Ogemaw Roscommon (C.O.O.R.) Intermediate School District**.
- **Northwest Resource Center**, serving the counties of Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford, awarded to **United Way of Northwest Michigan**.
- **Upper Peninsula Resource Center**, serving the counties of Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, Schoolcraft, awarded to **Community Coordinated Child Care Association of the Upper Peninsula (4C’s of the U.P.)**.

## Southeastern ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas

- **Southeast Resource Center**, serving the counties of Branch, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw, awarded to **Child Care Network**.
- **Wayne-Oakland-Macomb Resource Center**, serving the counties of Macomb, Oakland, Wayne awarded to **Leaps and Bounds Family Services in consortium with Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS), and Oakland Family Services**.

## Western ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas

- **Kent Resource Center**, serving Kent County, awarded to **Kent Intermediate School District**
- **Southwest Resource Center**, serving the counties of Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren, awarded to **Southwest Child Care Resources and Referral**.
- **Western Resource Center**, serving the counties of Ionia, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, and Ottawa, awarded to **Arbor Circle**.

“We are in an unprecedented time in history, where funding to support early learning and development programs, early childhood educators, and providers of all types is at an all-time high”, said Lisa Brewer-Walraven, Director of Child Development and Care for the Office of Great Start, Michigan Department of Education. “We look forward to working with our Great Start to Quality Regional Resource Centers to ensure that providers and families are able to access and use these resources to the benefit of all children.”

### For more information contact:

Eastern Early Childhood Support Network

Karen Black

karen.black@inghamisd.org

Northern Early Childhood Support Network

Jessica Savoie

jessicas@eupschools.org

Southeastern Early Childhood Support Network

Jeff Miles

Jeff.Miles@liveunitedsem.org

Western Early Childhood Support Network

Erika Burkhardt

burkhare@calhounisd.org

####

The purpose of *Great Start to Quality* is to ensure all children including those with the greatest needs are in the highest quality settings by improving the quality of early learning and development programs, early childhood educators, and license exempt child care providers through a comprehensive system of supports and services. *Great Start to Quality* launched in the fall of 2011 and encompasses a network of *Great Start to Quality* Resource Centers, MiRegistry: a workforce development and improvement system, a 24/7 searchable database for families, a quality rating system, and Teacher Education And Compensation Helps (T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MICHIGAN). *Great Start to Quality* is a continuum of quality improvement supports and services for license exempt providers and licensed early learning and development programs.