



**Pre-K to Kindergarten Transition:
An Overview of Hi5! in Allegheny County**

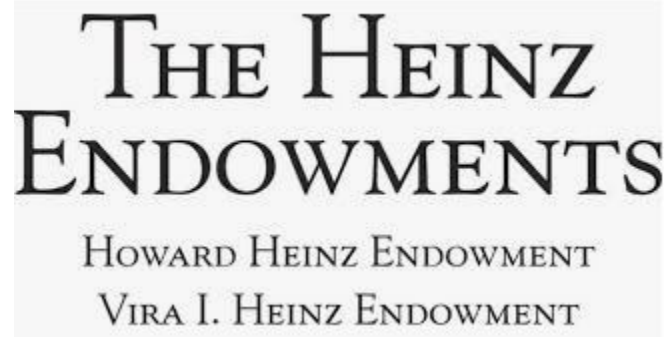
Why?

2010 - Local schools reported that as few as 13% of kindergarten students were enrolled on the first day of school.

- No formal transition plans in Allegheny County School Districts
- No common kindergarten registration dates
- Low early and on-time registration results
- Anxious children and families
- Cuts to kindergarten teachers and lack of materials for students resulted from late registration



Partnership forms to address the problem



Participation Timeline

10 years of Hi5!

- 2010-11 SY: 11 school districts participated, identified based on need
- 2014-2019: All 43 school districts participated in Hi5 efforts
- 2018-19:
 - About 25 school districts at the roundtables and celebration event
 - Two early learning program directors joined leadership team
 - Representatives from Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) attended our celebration event

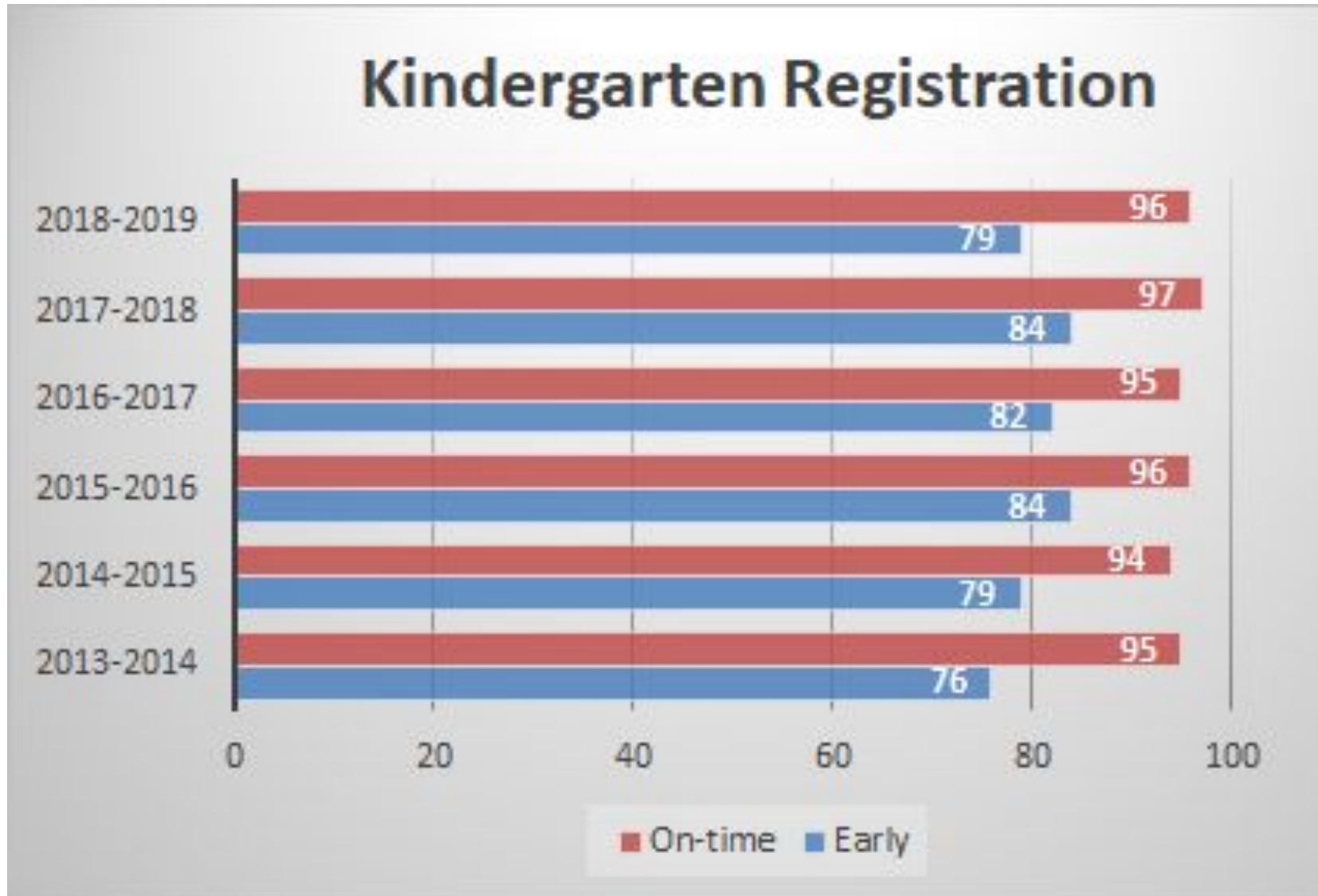
Highlights

- Spreading awareness to register for kindergarten: posters, postcards, billboards (2011-12)
- Developed Kindergarten Screening Tool (2011-12)
- Baseline registration data established (2013-14)
- Information uploaded to United Way 2-1-1 (2013-14)
- School districts expanded transition teams to include community partners (2014-15)
- Roundtables (2016-17)

Highlights

- Online transition plan submission (2017-18)
- Hi5! Newsletter (2017-18)
- OCDEL attends celebration event (2018-19)
- Preschool Development Grants used to invite early learning programs to roundtables to participate in planning with their school district (2019-2020)
- Virtual conversation for districts to discuss how to support registration and transition during COVID-19 (2019-2020)
- Celebrating 10 years virtually (2019-2020)

Early & On-time Results



Kindergarten Registration and Readiness Campaign

Current Goals:

1. Engage all 43 public school districts in Allegheny County and support each district to develop and implement their own kindergarten transition plans.
2. Build awareness with families that when your child reaches five years of age, it's time to register them for kindergarten.
3. Create the opportunity for pre-k teachers, kindergarten teachers, early childhood program directors, and school administrators to network and share best practices, as well as gather community resources throughout the county.

School Transition Plan to Support Incoming Kindergarten Students

- Online platform and template for plans
- Team members and contact information
- Activity for each of the four connections
 - School to Child
 - School to Family
 - School to Preschool
 - School to Community
- Additional activities



MOU

AIU Transition Memorandum of Understanding

The Allegheny Intermediate Unit Head Start and Pre-K Counts Programs, in partnership with Trying Together and the United Way of Southwest PA, agree to support best practices in transition to kindergarten with the _____ School District in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years.

During the 2019-2020 school year, districts are to plan and implement transition activities that welcome and support children and families to the 2020-2021 school year. This MOU fulfills the Hi5! and state and federal requirements for kindergarten transition under the Every Student Succeeds Act/Title I. This MOU will be revisited and updated annually.

E-newsletter



OCTOBER 2019

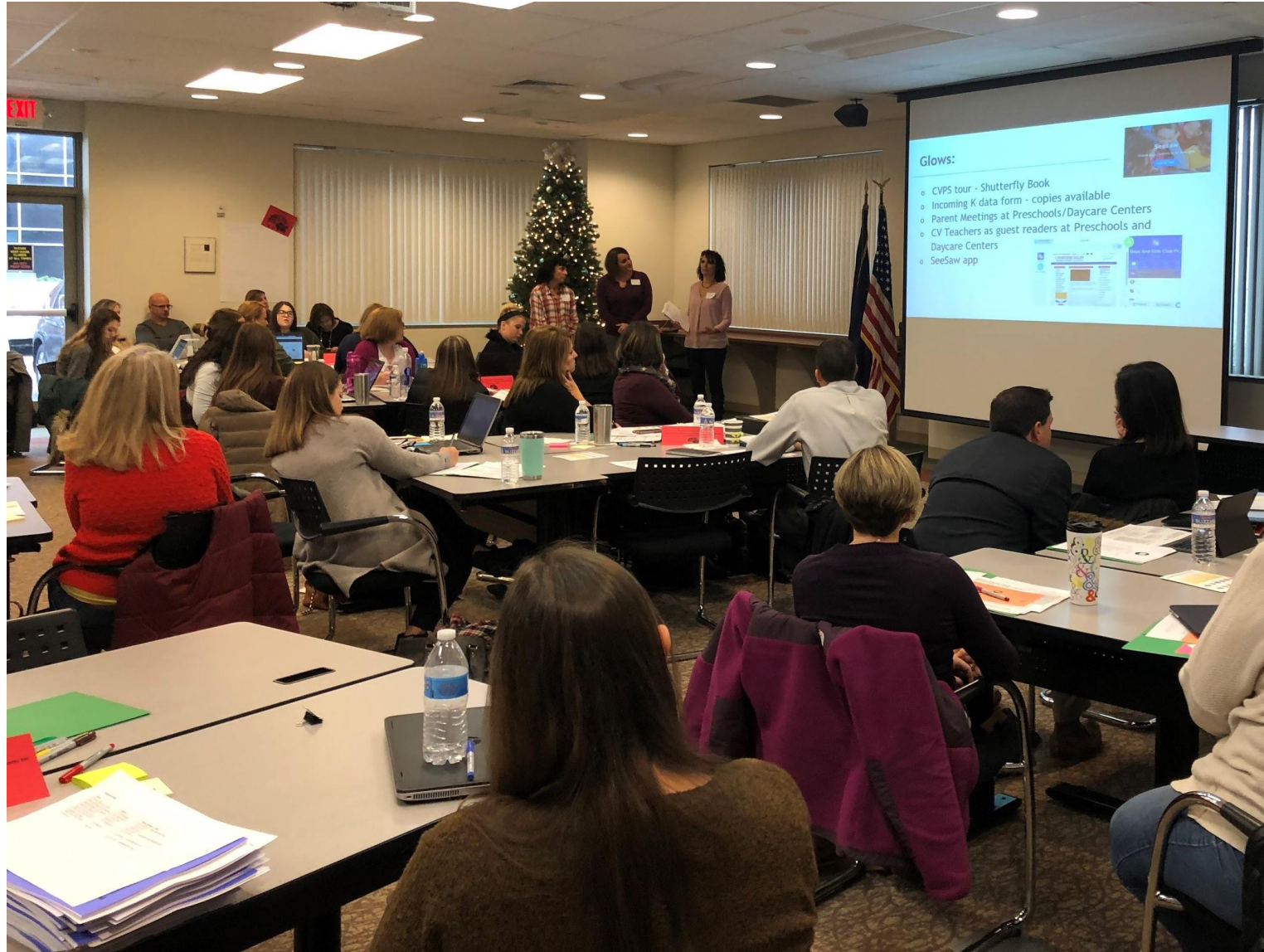


*All I really need to know
I learned in Kindergarten.*
-Robert Fulgham

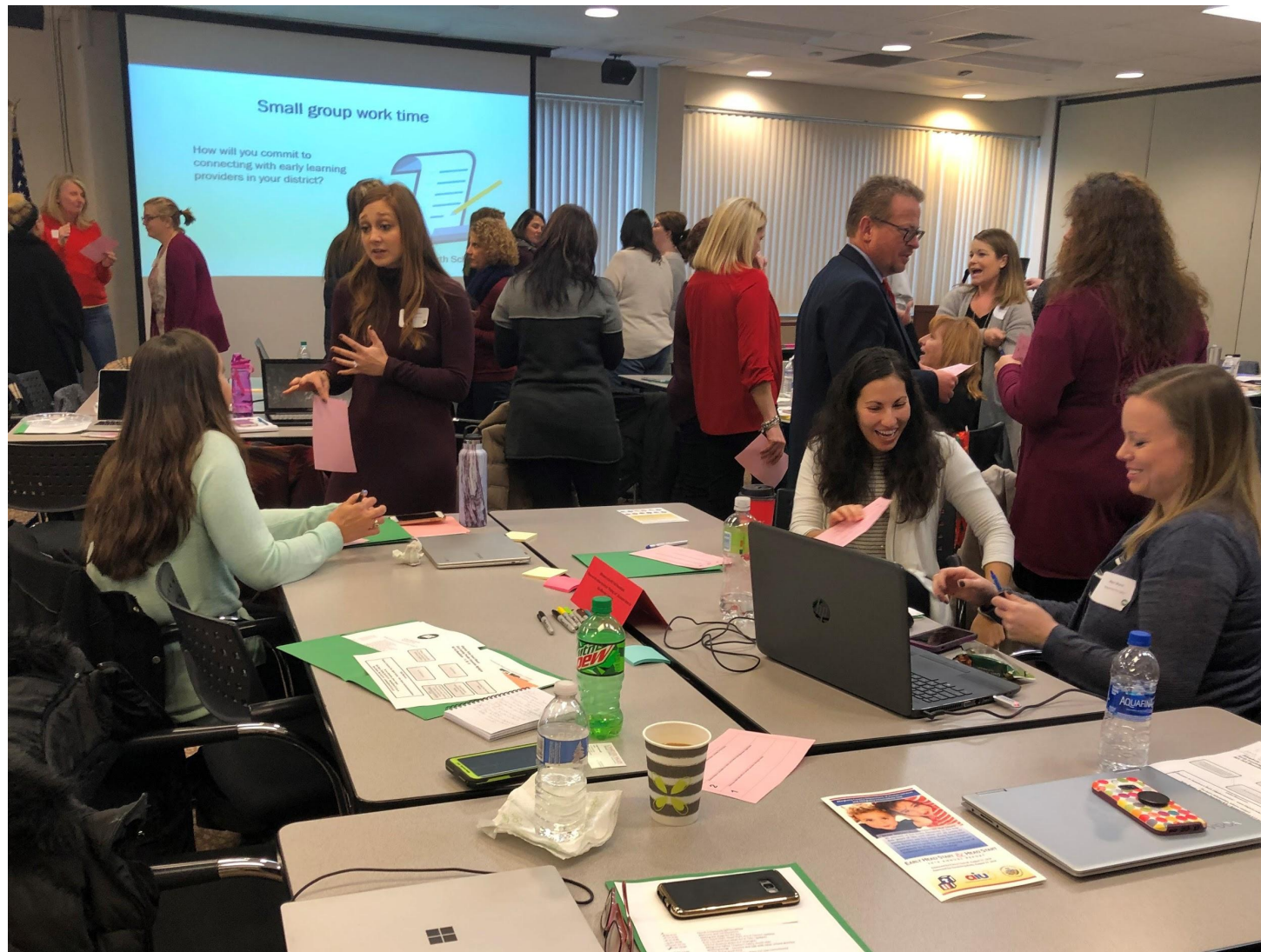


Pre-K to Kindergarten Transition News

Roundtable



Roundtable



Celebration



Leveraging New Opportunities: Every Student Succeeds Act

- The new federal law envisions a preschool through twelfth grade continuum. ESSA both strengthens and expands allowable uses for early learning.
- Title I, Part A
 - states must describe how they will assist school districts and elementary schools that elect to use funds to support ECE programs
 - school districts receiving funding must coordinate with ECE programs
- Title II, Part A
 - explicitly includes early childhood providers in the use of joint professional development dollars

Leveraging New Opportunities: Early Learning Resource Center

The ELRC Region 5 is a partnership between the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, the Alliance for Infants and Toddlers and Trying Together.



**EARLY LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTER**



OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING

Leveraging New Opportunities: Early Learning Resource Center

Preschool Development Grant Activities:

- Maximizing Parent Knowledge and Choice
- Sharing Best Practices (Shared Services Networks)
- Improving Overall Quality



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Leveraging New Opportunities: Early Learning Resource Center

Create a mini-grant process for Early Learning program directors to attend the Hi5 Fall Roundtable.

Create resources on Kindergarten transition for the ELRC Region 5 website.

Create a crosswalk of Social/Emotional curriculum with Pre-K and K-2 teachers.



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Federal Programs with Language related to Pre-K to K Transitions

Child Care Development Block Grant

Head Start Act

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act



Thank you!

