

February 23, 2021

HCRC Announces Three New Initiatives to Promote Evidence-Based Programs and Policies for Young People

The Human Capital Research Collaborative (HCRC) announces 3 new initiatives to promote evidence based, interdisciplinary inquiry and social action:

- **Evidence Matters Blog** provides short commentaries and analyses on public policy topics, under-prioritized needs and emerging directions, and research news affecting young people, birth to age 20. The first two pieces are on the Childcare Workforce and the 10 Essential Elements of Early Childhood Programs; <http://hcr.umn.edu/evidence-matters/blog>.
- **HCRC Summer Research Interns Program** supports two graduate students (50% time) beginning in 2021 to advance scholarship on the influence of structural elements of early childhood program effectiveness and/or reducing structural inequalities associated with multilevel poverty, segregation, discrimination & racism, and related socio-structural barriers. Priority is placed on factors and systems of influence identified in the 10 Essential Elements. http://hcr.umn.edu/sites/hcr.dl.umn.edu/files/general/hcr_10_ece_elements_january_2021.docx.
- **Pilot Matching Grants Program with Community Partners** will support the implementation of evidence-based structural elements of early childhood programs as identified in the 10 Essential Elements. These include small classes in PreK, K, and the early grades, staffing supports such as classroom assistants and professional learning, parent involvement teams, and enhancing school leadership and community support. One or two 50/50 matching grants with community partners will be sponsored at fixed costs. Formative evaluation is included and capacity for sustainability.

Established in 2006 as a university-community partnership, HCRC is an interdisciplinary, cross-college center dedicated to advancing effective public policies and programs for young people through research, outreach, and training spanning birth to early adulthood. Co-Directors are Arthur Reynolds (Institute of Child Development) and Judy Temple (Humphrey School). Consistent with the breadth of focus, the HCRC Steering Committee includes many university and community partners.

HCRC manages both the Lorraine M. Sullivan Memorial Fund of the Child-Parent Education Centers and the Human Capital Research and Innovation Fund. Contact hcr.umn.edu, ajr@umn.edu, jtemple@umn.edu; <http://hcr.umn.edu>.