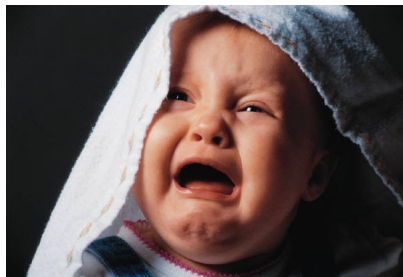




Long-term studies show that children who receive quality preschool education:

- were more likely to graduate from high school
- were more likely to attend a college or career training program
- were more likely to retain a job and have higher earnings
- had committed fewer crimes



Hours spent learning at this age are more powerful than months of learning in middle age.

The children who start behind very often stay behind.

For every dollar that Pennsylvania invests in early childhood programs, more than two dollars is circulated through our local economies through employment and purchasing of goods and services.



Meeting the manufacturing and business workforce needs of the future means meeting the educational needs of children today. To continue to thrive, the manufacturing industry must attract and retain a skilled, educated workforce that can spur and maintain continual innovation.

United Way of Mercer County

300 West State Street
Suite 1
Sharon, PA 16146

Phone: 724-981-1884
Fax: 724-981-4838
E-mail: uwmc@uwmercercounty.org



The United Way of Mercer County, through Success By Six™ and other collaborations, is promoting early education opportunities for every child, ages 0-6, in Mercer County.

The United Way of Mercer County / Penn Northwest Development Corporation coalition is mobilizing business leaders to improve tomorrow's workforce through investments in young children today.



Of Mercer County

Consider this: 90% of a child's brain is developed by the age of five. After age five, the growth of new neural connections slows, making it more difficult for a child to build cognitive and social skills.



These are crucial skills for childhood development—especially to youngsters of disadvantaged parents. Success by Six™ introduces those preschoolers and toddlers to socialization and organized learning in a stimulating, safe environment.

Twenty-two percent of children under the age of five in Mercer County live in families whose mother has less than a high school degree. A staggering 46% percent of Mercer County's children under the age of five live in low-income households.

The Success by Six™ program offers a better beginning in life. The six-week Pre-K Summer Program is a collaborative effort between United Way, Head Start, and Brookfield, Farrell, Greenville, Grove City, Hermitage, Mercer, Reynolds, Sharon, Sharpsville, & West Middlesex Area

School districts. Disadvantaged preschoolers receive 135 hours of academic instruction from a school district teacher and a Head Start instructor.

This program covers transportation to and from school and provides the children with nutritious meals while classes are in session.

Children who feel successful as a student early in life will most likely remain successful later in life. The welfare programs in place today operated by government are costly and provide no proactive approach to breaching the generational cycle of individual and family dependency.

For every \$1 invested in early childhood education, over \$17 is saved through reduced social service dependency, lessened juvenile delinquency issues, and judicial costs.



Kindergarten registration is the first step in your child's successful school career. Please contact your school district office in January for enrollment information.

PARENTS SEE THE DIFFERENCE:

*"I feel **Success by Six** was a very positive time for my son. He has grown in so many ways this past six weeks. He has made many new friends and is excited about school starting. I would recommend this program to anyone."*

*"**Success by Six** is an excellent program. It really did wonders for my son. I hope my other two children can participate in the program when the time comes."*

"My daughter has learned so much in the past six weeks. Not only is she learning, she is having fun while being taught, which makes it so much better!"

*"I'm amazed by how much my son has learned in this program. When he first started the program he was behind; now he can write his name, recognizes numbers and letters and can write them. The **Success By Six** program is heaven-sent."*

