

# Elevate Maine/Somerset

## 2020 Services & Outcomes



**Providing high-quality early education and care for infants and toddlers**

# What is Elevate Maine/Somerset?

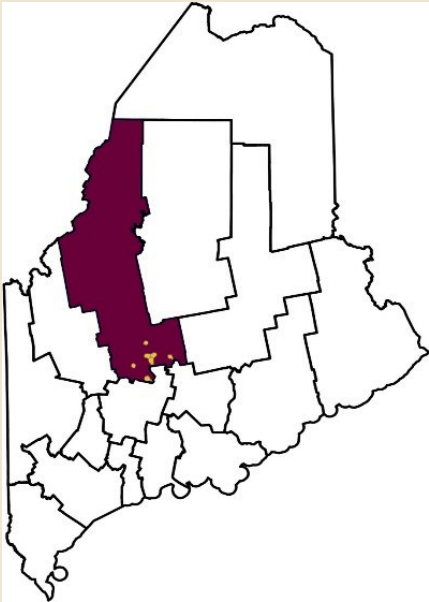
Elevate Maine/Somerset is a partnership between the Maine Early Learning Investment Group (MELIG) and Educare Central Maine (ECM).

### Project Goals:

- 1. Elevate the quality of instructional practices in both Center-Based settings and Family Childcare homes.
- 2. Enhance family engagement and parent education to support their child’s learning and development.
- 3. Provide comprehensive child and family services including nutritional, oral, mental, and physical health.
- 4. Gather data and analyze child-parent-family progress and provider/teacher quality improvement.
- 5. Expand local and statewide awareness of the importance of quality early care and education.

The *Elevate Maine/Somerset* mission is to ensure that program participants arrive at school healthy and ready to succeed.

# Service Area



With the highest number of child risk factors in the state, the greater Skowhegan area and Somerset county have been selected as Elevate Maine/Somerset’s premiere location (2015).



# Child Outcomes

**113**\* children have participated in the Elevate Maine/Somerset evaluation.

Initial data indicates increases in initiative, self-regulation, and/or attachment/relationships demonstrating reduced negative behaviors and positive social/emotional well-being; children with disabilities are closing the gap toward age appropriate scores of their typically developing peers; and children grew in all domains, meeting 5 of 6 in just six months.

*\*170 children impacted in Provider settings*

# Supporting Families

**Family engagement is a cornerstone of the success of this Project.** Focusing on the whole child means involving the family and meeting children’s health needs as well as supporting child development and early learning.

**100%** of families received health and parent education.



# Key Program Design Features

- Weekly Provider visits for coaching/mentoring
- Enhanced funding for environments, resources, and supplies
- Parent engagement and education
- Professional learning communities and networking with other providers
- Program evaluation to gather data and support increased child outcomes

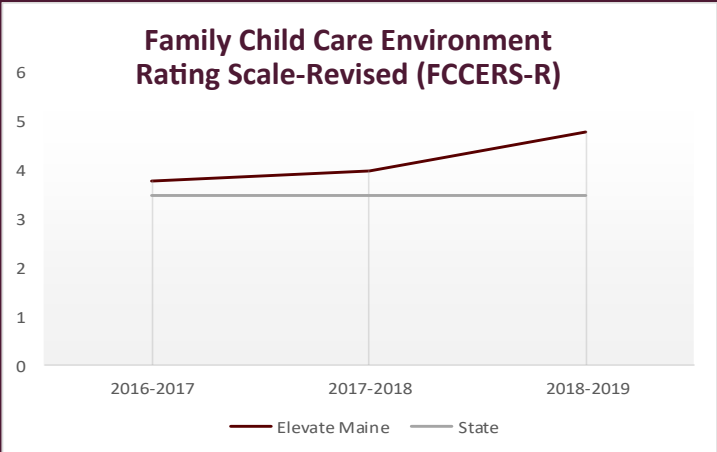
# Investing in Early Education and Care

The cumulative lifetime fiscal savings and tax benefit to government is estimated to be **4.8 times greater** than the initial cost.\*



*\*Path to a Better Future*, Philip Trostel, University of Maine School of Economics Professor. Visit [educarecentralmaine.org](http://educarecentralmaine.org) to view the report.

# Provider Outcomes



The FCCERS-R scale assesses family childcare programs on a variety of items, including physical space, materials and activities offered, and interactions. Elevate Maine/Somerset Providers have increased the overall average score since the beginning of the Project, with more notable gains in the areas of ‘Activities’ and ‘Listening and Talking’.

Elevate Maine/Somerset is an on-the-ground, rural, replicable model in the greater Skowhegan area that demonstrates a ***coordinated birth-to-kindergarten-entry quality early care and education system***.

It is a strategic public/private partnership with rural family childcare and center-based programs designed to elevate instructional practices; increase family engagement; provide comprehensive services (nutrition, oral, mental and physical health education and resources), utilizing evidence-based evaluation to measure progress and attainment of quality benchmarks for children, families and early educators.

**The Elevate Maine/Somerset project goal is to fundamentally change Maine's early childhood education delivery system by demonstrating the impact of investing in high quality early childhood education from birth.**

The full report can be viewed [here](#).



For more information please contact:  
Sarah Lavallee, Early Head Start Program Director  
Kennebec Valley Community Action Program  
(207) 859-1615  
[sarahl@kvcap.org](mailto:sarahl@kvcap.org)

