



EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

📍 WASHINGTON D.C.

As DC's state education agency, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) works urgently and purposefully, in partnership with education and related systems, to sustain, accelerate, and deepen progress for Washington, D.C. students.

OUR APPROACH

The Department of Early Learning at the Office of the State Superintendent of Education sought to collectively engage and mobilize the District of Columbia to create the Early Childhood Strategic Plan for 2020-2025. Strategic Community Partners (SCP) collaborated to conduct research, compose, and refine a Needs Assessment, as well as design and execute the strategic planning process—from a design, composition, and community and stakeholder engagement lens. Ultimately, SCP produced the final needs assessment and strategic plan that will inform the District's Early Childhood trajectory

The Needs Assessment was influenced by seven components, including:



A review of **20** existing needs assessment reports



Comments from **21** key informant interviews



An analysis of administrative data and demographic data from national and district databases



Responses from **2,099** family survey participants



Input from **32** family listening sessions



A pilot demonstration project report



Feedback from **23** focus groups



With this foundation in place, the strategic plan was further informed via ten components, including the following:



Combined, these sources provided a refined examination of the District’s strengths and areas of growth for their early childhood system. The needs assessment laid a foundation for the strategic plan and identified domains of focus for the District.

OUR IMPACT

Partnering with OSSE, SCP was able to engage thousands of DC District families, early care providers, experts, and stakeholders to create an inclusive, holistic, and community-grounded strategic plan.

This strategic plan will help ensure resources, support, and early childcare and education are as inclusive, robust, and resourced as possible—to serve young children, families, and early childhood educators to the best of the District's ability from 2020-2025.