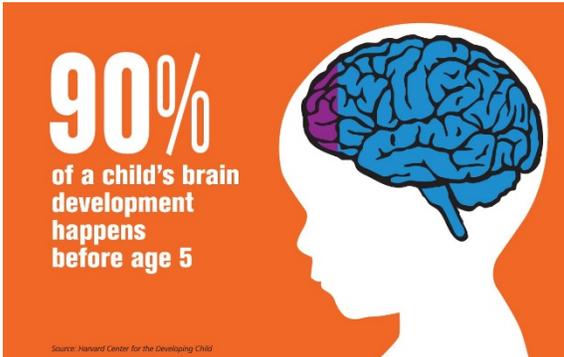




Project HOPES—Community Based Prevention



EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS

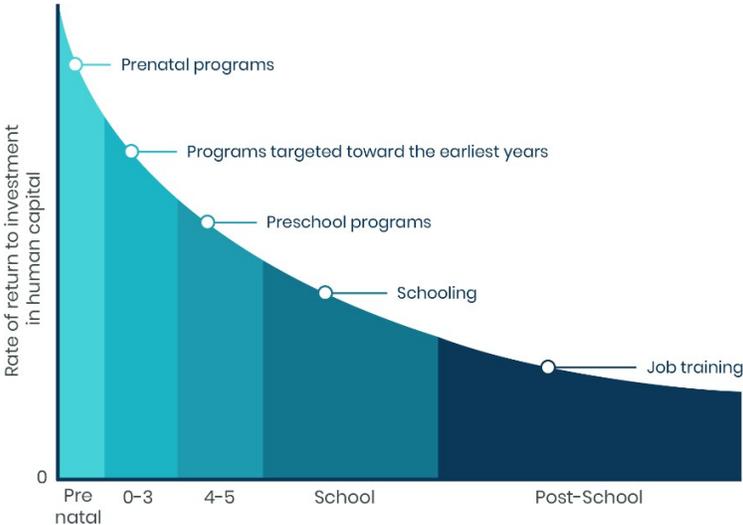
In Texas, 55% of confirmed child abuse victims are under age 5. 60% of children who died from abuse/neglect in 2019 were under age 6.

The most effective way to support a young child is through their family. Ensuring that parents are connected to community networks of support can ensure that they can overcome challenges and determine how best to support their child's health and development and aid in the prevention of neglect and abuse.

PROJECT HOPES IS A TAILORED, COMMUNITY PREVENTION SOLUTION

Project HOPES is a prevention approach through the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) division of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) for families with children from birth to age 5. It offers a flexible and community-based solution to child abuse and neglect prevention in high-risk counties throughout Texas so that families can connect to help when they need it. Project HOPES is the best kept secret at DFPS and a first line of defense in family preservation.

Local grantees select the evidence-based programs that are the right fit for their community to create a continuum of services that can ensure that families have access to the right program at the right time. Most communities choose to offer proven family support home visiting programs as well as other opportunities across the prevention continuum.



STARTING EARLY PRODUCES GREATER RETURNS

Investments in children's early years are smart for Texas taxpayers. Evidence-based home visiting programs have proven to reduce child abuse up to 50% by building families' protective factors. In addition, these dual generation approaches have proven outcomes in academic achievement, maternal and child health, father involvement, child development, and economic self-sufficiency.

With a return on investment ranging from \$1.26 to \$8.08, these programs make dollars and sense.

