



# Reinvesting in Ohio's Communities

*Prevention, Retention & Contingency Development Reserve  
(PRCDR) Summary of Projects  
Volume 11: Description of PRCDR Projects by County  
Category 10: Early Start*



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The Institute for Local Government Administration and Rural Development (ILGARD) at Ohio University prepared this report for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services in cooperation with the 88 counties of Ohio.

***Summary of PRCDR Projects***  
***Volume 11: Description of PRCDR Projects by County***  
***Category 10: Early Start***

**Table of Contents**

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b><i>Description of PRCDR Projects by County</i></b>	
Allen.....	3
Butler.....	3
Carroll.....	3
Clark.....	3
Clinton .....	4
Cuyahoga.....	4
Darke .....	4
Delaware .....	5
Fairfield .....	5
Geauga.....	5
Guernsey.....	6
Hancock.....	6
Hardin .....	6
Henry.....	6
Hocking .....	7
Holmes .....	7
Knox.....	7
Logan .....	7
Mahoning.....	8
Medina.....	8
Mercer.....	8
Montgomery .....	8
Morgan.....	9
Morrow.....	9
Pickaway .....	9
Preble .....	9
Ross.....	10
Stark .....	10
Trumbull .....	11



# **Prevention, Retention, and Contingency Development Reserve (PRCDR) Projects for the State of Ohio**

## ***Executive Summary***

The Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) program is the cornerstone of Ohio's welfare reform efforts. The local flexibility inherent in this new program encourages counties to develop initiatives that strive to prevent Ohio's working families from seeking public assistance as well as provide the necessary work support services to encourage the formation and maintenance of healthy families. PRC also encompasses projects funded through the PRC Development Reserve (PRCDR) fund that enabled the expansion of PRC services within communities. This report provides brief descriptions of PRCDR projects funded for the time period January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001 and is accurate as of August 31, 2000. Actual project numbers and expenditures to date may vary due to amendments to PRCDR projects that may have occurred in counties since September 1, 2000.

The wide-ranging diversity among PRCDR projects contained herein illustrates the ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit with which county agencies approached implementing the PRC program. These project narratives highlight creative opportunities that have been undertaken throughout the State of Ohio to address a broad range of societal issues that impact an individual's ability to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency.

Proposals have been categorized into one of the following ten subject areas: employment and training; diversion, work support, and retention; child welfare and protection; non-custodial parents; pregnancy prevention; domestic violence; emergency, contingency, and disaster services; youth and educational support services (birth to age 18); community and economic development; and early start. A total of \$299.1 million funded 1,207 proposals. The amount of funding allocated to each of the ten categories is presented in the following table.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Number of Projects</b>	<b>Percent of total funding</b>
Employment and training	\$88.4 million	222 projects	29.6%
Youth educational support services	\$61.3 million	262 projects	20.5%
Diversion, work support, and retention	\$44.4 million	238 projects	14.8%
Child welfare and protection	\$43.9 million	171 projects	14.7%
Community and economic development	\$18.9 million	84 projects	6.3%
Emergency, contingency, and disaster services	\$15.3 million	54 projects	5.1%
Non-custodial parents	\$8.6 million	34 projects	2.9%
Pregnancy prevention	\$7.2 million	48 projects	2.4%
Domestic violence	\$5.6 million	52 projects	1.9%
Early Start	\$5.5 million	42 projects	1.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$299.1 million</b>	<b>1,207 projects</b>	<b>100%</b>

This report summarizes all projects in Category 10 Early Start. This program is a collaborative effort between the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Health to provide supplemental funding to the well-established Early Start program. These funds are used to expand an integrated system of services and support to help families create an environment conducive to the growth and development of young children from birth to age 3. Activities include screenings, referrals, and home visits. For a total compilation of county projects please see *Volume 1 Description of PRCDR Projects by County*.

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Allen County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Expanded Early Start</b>          The Early Start Program will expand its services to include children from three years of age to first grade. Families eligible for OWF and PRC assistance can receive in-home services such as well baby care, nutritional education, intervention services and referral.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$57,825</b></p>
<p><b><i>Butler County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Butler County Family Child Care Networks</b>          The 4C agency will coordinate a network of family childcare providers in each of the communities of Hamilton, Middletown, and Oxford. This program will support the networks with training in both recruiting and retaining childcare providers. Through a coordinated approach, 4C will bring quality, consistency, and accountability to the networks.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$157,384</b></p>
<p><b><i>Carroll County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Transition Program</b>          The Family and Children First Council will begin an Early Start program for children 3 to 5 years of age. A trained staff member will help the children make a smooth transition into kindergarten. The staff member will also help the family keep the child in the home and maintain progress notes.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$31,550</b></p>
<p><b><i>Clark County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Springfield City Schools - Even Start</b>          Even Start is a year-long family literacy program run by the Springfield City Schools that provides services including ABLE/GED instruction, parent education, early childhood education, parent/child interaction, home visitation, and support services. Sixty families will be served who have an income less than 300% of the Federal poverty threshold and who 1) have at least one adult eligible for ABLE/GED instruction; 2) have at least one child 0-7 years of age; 3) are not participating in a comprehensive family literacy program; and 4) are receiving some form of public assistance.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$230,059</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Clinton County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Expansion</b>          The Clinton County Community Action Program will hire a Service Coordinator for the Early Start Program to provide a continuum of services among all agencies involved with the families of children in Early Start. The targeted families are those eligible to receive PRC assistance. Services will include home visits, transportation, case management, and referral.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$48,907</b></p>
<p><b><i>Cuyahoga County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Parent Support Program Component 1: Early Intervention Parent Support Program</b>          The Cuyahoga Early Intervention System will oversee the recruitment, training, and support of six parent mentors. These will be parents of children with a variety of special needs whose desire is to provide emotional support and encouragement to parents of children in the Early Intervention System. Families will be matched with mentors by type of program, by child's disability or condition, or by race/ethnicity.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$48,649</b></p>
<p><b><i>Darke County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Expansion</b>          This project is an extension of the Early Start Program already in place. A full-time coach will be hired to work with low-income families with vulnerable children 0-3 years of age. The coach will educate and mentor the parents, provide a link to medical providers and immunization clinics, and give developmental screenings.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Parents as Teachers</b>          There is a lack of services for the parents of preschool age children who cannot utilize Early Start. To address this, the Board of MRDD has proposed that the Parents as Teachers program be implemented. This program gives parents a chance to teach their children appropriately while at home. This is done through parent training, screening sessions, and a referral service.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Jump Start Early Literacy Program</b>          This program has been designed by the Educational Service Center to enable low-income families to provide some preschool learning for their children. The parents will attend a pre-kindergarten training session in which they are taught how to appropriately guide their child. They are also given materials so they can begin teaching the child reading and other basic skills.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$42,562</b></p> <p align="center"><b>83,038</b></p> <p align="center"><b>\$45,000</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Darke County</i></b> <i>(continued)</i></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Preschool Family Support - Council on Rural Services (CORSP)</b> CORSP proposes to hire the equivalent of 1.5 Home Visitors who will provide support to preschool-aged children. The targeted children are those who do not receive other types of preschool programs. The Home Visitor will meet with parent and child and discuss school readiness needs.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$88,436</b></p>
<p><b><i>Delaware County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Family and Children First Council - Early Start</b> The Delaware County Family and Children First Council will hire a coordinator and a Home Visitor to provide an Early Start program to eligible families with children up to six years old. The goals are to help create positive family environments, ensure adequate medical care for the children, and coordinate needed services for these at-risk families.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$90,164</b></p>
<p><b><i>Fairfield County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Intervention Support (EI)</b> The Early Intervention program will provide services for the families of children with disabilities up to three years of age. By providing support for the families, EI hopes to increase the number of young children enrolled in the program. The program will provide educational training, childcare, and transportation costs for the families.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$11,475</b></p>
<p><b><i>Geauga County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Expansion</b> The current Early Start program will be expanded by adding additional workers for home visits and including children 3-5 years of age. The new age group will be assisted in the transition into school through role-playing, hands-on development activities, and incentives. The additional workers will allow Early Start services to provide for all children at or below 200% of the federal poverty threshold.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$504,675</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Guernsey County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Intervention</b>          This program provides a system of services and supports designed to meet the needs of infants and toddlers 0-3 years of age and to meet the needs of the family related to enhancing the child's development. An Early Intervention Specialist will make regular home visits to families and provide direct instruction to parents and family members to increase their understanding of and ability to work with developmentally delayed infants.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$56,035</b></p>
<p><b><i>Hancock County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start</b>          Families under 500% of the federal poverty threshold with children under three years old will be eligible for Early Start services. These intense, intervention services may include home visits, transportation, case management, information and referral, parenting education, and more. Results should include complete immunizations and strengthened families.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$46,000</b></p>
<p><b><i>Hardin County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Expanded New Mother and Newborn Services</b>          This program will provide expanded services to mothers of newborn children to help them bond with and care for their infants. If necessary, the program will also help the mothers prepare for returning to work.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$7,200</b></p>
<p><b><i>Henry County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Expansion</b>          Children from birth to three years of age can qualify for Early Start. This program will provide these children with the appropriate resources required to meet their needs. The service will be provided by a home health nurse who will visit the home, assess the family, and provide instruction on parenting skills.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$25,825</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Hocking County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start</b> This program provides an expansion of current Early Start programs to assist more families at or below 200% of the federal poverty threshold who have a child 0 to 3 years of age.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Tri-County CA Summer Childhood Developmental Program</b> Tri-County Community Action will provide Head Start services for 60 children for a four-week period during the summers of 2000 and 2001. These services will include developmentally appropriate preschool activities and field trips. Priority will be given to children currently enrolled in head Start who will be entering Kindergarten.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right"><b>\$73,000</b></p> <p align="right"><b>\$43,800</b></p>
<p><b><i>Holmes County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Caring Station</b> This program provides OWF recipients with extended childcare options, including extended hours for second-shift workers, care for sick children, and childcare for children out of school on snow days.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right"><b>\$100,002</b></p>
<p><b><i>Knox County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mt. Vernon Schools - Fast ForWord</b> In order to help children with reading and language deficits, this computer-based program will enable children to begin reading and speaking one step at a time. The program will enhance skills through advanced training methods.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right"><b>\$24,150</b></p>
<p><b><i>Logan County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Expansion</b> The Early Start Program has become well developed in Logan County for children from birth to three. The expansion will include children 3-5 years of age. A service coordinator will come into the home and assess the child for developmental problems. Other services will include parent training, individual client intervention, and referral services.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right"><b>\$239,000</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Mahoning County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Youngstown’s 2000 Ohio Reads Early Initiative</b>  Children in low-income, inner city families will be administered a reading program at their pre-school. AmeriCorps volunteers will work with the children individually and as a group to help them learn to read. Each child’s goals will be different, and the volunteers will help them set their goals.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$65,000</b></p>
<p><b><i>Medina County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Family Child Care Curriculum Training</b>  Community Action Wayne/Medina will train all 62 CDJFS certified family childcare providers on “Creative Curriculum for Family Child Care and Creative Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers,” allowing them to actively work with children in their care to promote overall health, mental health, safety, and a desire for learning in the children and families. The training will also allow family childcare providers to become familiar with the benefits of Head Start and being a Head Start provider.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$21,075</b></p>
<p><b><i>Mercer County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Family Anger Management</b>  Children in the Head Start program who show anger control problems will be referred to the Gateway Outreach Center. These children will be assessed, and their families met with to provide consultation and education sessions dealing with how to control the child’s anger.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$14,323</b></p>
<p><b><i>Montgomery County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Services to Promote School Readiness/School Success</b>  CDJFS will implement a series of programs designed to increase preparedness for kindergarten in families with children beginning school. The programs will be presented in order to prepare the children for school and to promote a successful career.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Childhood Conduct Disorder Prevention</b>  The School of Professional Psychology at Wright State University and the Miami Valley Child Development Center will attempt to stop future behavior problems in youth by implementing a prevention program for children in Head Start. The program will target youth who have problem behaviors, and will consist of an intervention with the children, a parent training intervention, and a training program for Head Start staff.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$1,500,000</b></p> <p align="center"><b>\$127,369</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Morgan County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Child Safety Plan</b> Existing Early Intervention and Early Start programs will be utilized to improve the safety of low-income or disabled children 0-3 years of age. Materials will include videos, booklets, and personal instruction as part of the Individual Family Service Plan.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$6,000</b></p>
<p><b><i>Morrow County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start</b> The Morrow County Health Department will offer an Early Start Preschool (ESP) program for at-risk children 3-5 years of age and their families, pregnant women, children who do not qualify for Head Start, teenage and first time mothers, and babies who need additional support. All participants must have a household income less than 300% of the federal poverty threshold. The services offered by this program will include: home visitations addressing numerous family or child issues; support of the educational and work needs of the parents; guidance for groups of parents and their children; childcare for siblings; and pre-school opportunities.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$67,384</b></p>
<p><b><i>Pickaway County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Services to Expanded Population</b> This project is an expansion of the current Early Start program to include a wider population base including families eligible for Medicaid, Food Stamps or SSI benefits.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$126,425</b></p>
<p><b><i>Preble County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lifestyle Enrichment for Special Needs Children</b> Supporting Council of Preventative Effort (SCOPE) Preble County will serve families below 200% of the federal poverty threshold with children at risk of developing or with disabilities. This program will provide direct service disability aids for lifestyle enhancement to special-needs children up to 3 years old. It is focused on child development and health and social service programming.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="center"><b>\$27,396</b></p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Preble County</i></b> <i>(continued)</i></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Enhanced Child Development</b> SCOPE Preble County will serve families below 200% of the federal poverty threshold who have children 3-5 years of age. This program will provide a continuum of consistent child development, health, mental health, and social services to the children and their families.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Intervention</b> Preble County Early Intervention will serve families below 200% of the federal poverty threshold who have children under age three suspected of having a developmental delay. This program will pay for 50 assessments/evaluations to determine the impairments and make recommendations for children who have special needs.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right">\$36,426</p> <p align="right">\$23,471</p>
<p><b><i>Ross County</i></b></p> <p><u>Project</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Transitional Kindergarten Enrichment</b> Ross County Community Action will begin a summer program for approximately 85 five year olds who will attend kindergarten the next fall. The children will receive instruction focusing on speech and language therapy, be provided adequate nutrition, and given transportation to and from the program. The children will gain experience they need in order to prepare for kindergarten.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right">\$60,000</p>
<p><b><i>Stark County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Canton Pre-School Child Care Center-Family Engagement &amp; Support Project</b> The Child Care Center has plans to begin three initiatives to assist pre-school children and their families. The center will hire three Family Support Workers to provide mentoring, coordination, education, and support. Two Child Classroom Support Workers will be hired to help and encourage the positive development of children who exhibit severe behavioral problems. The third service is a Carry-Out Meal Support Program to provide parents with a well-balanced third meal.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Inter-Faith Day Care Center Program</b> A behavior intervention specialist will be hired to provide assistance to eligible children at the Inter-Faith Day Care Center. The specialist will direct services to children who exhibit extreme, ongoing behavior problems that normally cause the child to be removed from the program and that place a hardship on the parents. The specialist will help the child control his or her behavior.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right">\$269,900</p> <p align="right">\$25,000</p>

**Category 10: Early Start**

<p><b><i>Stark County</i></b> <i>(continued)</i></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>J.R. Coleman Family Services, Child Behavior Specialist and In-Home Care for Mildly Ill Children</b> Behavior intervention will be provided to children who exhibit ongoing behavior problems. A professional who specializes in child psychology and behavior management will administer the intervention. Additionally, in-home care for mildly ill children will be given by a Nurse’s Aide, with the intent of providing childcare without the child passing the illness to others.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Margaret B. Shipley Child Health Clinic, Healthy Tomorrow Home Visiting Program</b> Mentors will be hired to make in-home visits to children 2-5 years of age who do not meet qualifications for Early Start or Early Start Expansion. The mentor will offer services that will teach, guide, and maintain family sufficiency and independence from public assistance.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>OakPark Preschool Child Behavior Specialist</b> A behavior intervention specialist will aid OakPark Preschool students who are at risk of dismissal due to ongoing behavior problems. The specialist will provide direct care services with the intent of changing children’s behavior.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>YWCA Early Childhood Learning Center Child Behavior Specialist Program</b> A behavior intervention specialist will be hired to provide intervention with for preschool children who display ongoing behavior problems that could lead to dismissal. The specialist will provide support services, staff training, workshops, and individual work with families. He or she will also train four masters-level interns who will provide direct services. This will potentially help as many as 150 children daily.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right"><b>\$231,986</b></p> <p align="right"><b>\$277,500</b></p> <p align="right"><b>\$52,185</b></p> <p align="right"><b>\$65,000</b></p>
<p><b><i>Trumbull County</i></b></p> <p><u>PRCDR Projects</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Early Start Expansion</b> This program provides an expansion of current Early Start programs to assist individuals at or below 200% of the federal poverty threshold who have a child 0 to 3 years of age.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mend ‘N’ Tend – Sick Child Care</b> “Mend ‘N’ Tend” is a daycare service that is provided to children who are too sick to attend school or traditional childcare but are non-contagious. CDJFS will provide low-income families with an identification card that they can use at the Forum Health Center to receive childcare when other options are unavailable. The program costs CDJFS \$2.50 per hour per child, the rate paid by the general public. It will allow parents to fulfill their work, school, and training commitments.</p>	<p align="center"><u>Total Funding SFY 2000-2001</u></p> <p align="right"><b>\$375,000</b></p> <p align="right"><b>\$25,000</b></p>