

River Valley Child Development Services Tuition Investment Program Support (TIPS)

The Importance

The importance of high quality early care and education cannot be overstated. Research has proven that 90 percent of all brain development happens in the first three years of life, providing an unprecedented window of opportunity to shape the capacity of the children in our care.

However, the cost of high quality early care and education is significant. Parents often struggle to pay their child care fees each week even though child care centers are not charging the full cost per child. Each year, River Valley Child Development Services loses an average of \$3,500 per child. In order to continue providing high quality early care services, River Valley Child Development Services has created the Tuition Investment Program Support (TIPS).

Cost per child at Norma Gray Early Learning Center:
\$198.96 a week/\$39.79 a day/\$4.97 an hour for an 8 hour day

Cost per child at Enterprise Child Development Center:
\$176.86 a week/\$35.37 a day/\$4.42 an hour for an 8 hour day



The Need

As part of TIPS, River Valley Child Development Services is asking community members to contribute money to various program levels. This money will be directly used by Norma Gray Early Learning Center and Enterprise Child Development Center to continue the high quality educational services over 100 children receive each year.

The program levels include: Platinum - \$4,000; Gold - \$2,000; Silver - \$1,000; and Other.

The Benefits

The benefits for children who attend high quality early childhood programs include:

- Better prepared for school
- Improved social and cognitive development
- Higher IQ scores
- Less likely to be retained in grade
- Less likely to be referred for special education services
- More likely to graduate from high school
- More likely to go to post-secondary schools
- Able to obtain high paying jobs
- Less likely to receive welfare benefits
- Less likely to be involved in the juvenile and adult justice systems

*River Valley Child
Development Services is a
501(C)3 organization.*