



Early Learning Program (ELP) Service Options

Provide a variety of services to meet your family's needs, including center-based services (full and extended day), home-visitation services (including prenatal) and community childcare providers. We individualize our programs to meet the needs of the children we serve.

Center-Based Services

Youth In Need's center-based programs offer a variety of individual learning experiences and individual activities especially designed to promote intellectual, social, emotional, physical, self-help, and wellness skills to children in a group classroom environment. We provide formula, containers for transporting breast milk, food while in the classroom, and diapers/wipes for all our children, as needed.

All centers are licensed by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education—Office of Childhood and are equipped with cameras and video monitoring for internal use only. Center attendance is offered in two options, Full-Day, and Extended-Day.

Full-Day Services

The full-day option for Youth In Need's Head Start day is a 6-hour program and is free of charge. Due to community needs, the days and hours for Montgomery Center and Warren R-III Classrooms vary. For additional information on exact days and hours contact your Center Manager.

Extended-Day Services (where available)

Extended-Day hours are designed to meet the needs of parents who are working, in job training, and/or are going to school. Extended-day services have limited space, are not available in all classrooms and are on a first come, first serve, and eligible basis. For specific Extended-Day hours at your center please contact your Center Manager.

Fee for Extended-Day Services

Families must apply with the Division of Social Services for childcare subsidy. Families who do not qualify for childcare subsidy will be charged a fee. If you are interested in learning more about the Extended-Day hours, speak to your Center Manager.

Home-Visitation Services: Individualized Education Visits

Weekly 90-minute home visits provide the opportunity for your family to receive individualized services that strengthen your skills in identifying and meeting the needs of your children and family. Visits are scheduled at a time that is consistent and convenient for you. We believe parents are the first and most important educator. During home visits you will take on the role as your child's Teacher with support from your Family Educator; you will plan experiences that support your child's developmental goals through the utilization of everyday items. Families are expected to fulfill 46 home visits with their Family Educator during the program year. The number of visits is prorated for families enrolled after the official start of the program year.

Service Options



In addition to home visits, the Home-Visitation program plans socialization events twice per month. Socializations are provided to develop social skills, interactions with peers, and are individualized based on the age and developmental goals of your child. Talk to your Family Educator today to find out more about the fun, engagement, and learning that takes place during socialization events!

Prenatal Services

Through our Home Visitation program, we offer services to pregnant persons and their families, including prenatal and post-partum information, education, and services. For more information, talk with your program staff.

Community Child Care Providers

Youth In Need has formed partnerships with eleven childcare centers in the community with the purpose of expanding high-quality early learning opportunities. The program integrates comprehensive services and resources into an array of traditional childcare and family care settings. These sites are supported to meet the highest standards of quality for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.