

# THE POINT

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM **STARTING POINT**  
SPRING 2019

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

## NEWS BRIEFS

### SEEKING ANSWERS TO INEQUALITY IN SCHOOL PREPARATION

The April 12 **Early Childhood Equity Forum**, *From the Ground Up: Unearthing Fairness for Ohio Kids*, sponsored by Starting Point, PRE4CLE, Groundwork Ohio and Invest in Children, started an important conversation on ways to ensure that all Cleveland-area children have the opportunities they need to prepare them for school.

Prompted by the **2018 Groundwork Ohio Race and Rural Equity Report**—which raised concern about the low percentage of black and Hispanic children prepared for kindergarten—close to 100 educators, nonprofit and early education leaders discussed the report's findings and strategized on how to create new and more equitable outcomes. Additional sessions are planned.

### ATTENTION! CHILD CARE PROVIDERS! JUST 1 YEAR TO BE STAR-RATED

The State of Ohio has mandated **all child care providers**—both centers and family child care homes—to be **Step Up to Quality** rated by **June 30, 2020** to continue serving children who receive child care subsidies. Time is getting short, but Starting Point can help, with guidance and training. Call now! 216-575-0061. **Parents, remind your center or home!**



### NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR CHILD TO DO THIS SUMMER?

A Starting Point summer program specialist can help you find nearby activities your child will like—summer camps, child care, sports, music, art, and learning experiences to build skills or catch up in school. Call Starting Point today! 216-575-0061! Or go to <http://www.startingpointyouth.com/index.aspx>. And there's more. You'll find a checklist of things to look for in a summer program at <https://www.childcareaware.org/school-age-program-checklist/>.

### REGISTERED FOR KINDERGARTEN?

If your child isn't registered yet, be sure to contact your school system. It's important to register now so your school is prepared, you have time to gather the needed records and your child gets off to a good start. You'll find the information you need and more at [marchintokindergarten.com](http://marchintokindergarten.com).

### STARTING POINT ON WCPN!

Starting Point Executive Director **Billie Osborne-Fears** was a guest on WCPN's *The Sound of Ideas* on April 4 at 9 am, along with Michelle Connavino, PRE4CLE; Lynanne Gutierrez, Groundwork Ohio and Dr. Lori Herpen, Remote Area Medical Ashtabula Clinic. Host Mike McIntyre led a discussion of the Groundwork report. You can hear the interview at: <https://www.ideastream.org/programs/sound-of-ideas/ohio-early-childhood-race-and-rural-equity-report-leonard-soloways-broadway>

### MORE NATIONAL RECOGNITION!

Starting Point Manager of Special Needs Child Care **Constance Walker** introduced our innovative special needs initiatives to early childhood professionals from across the US at the **National Head Start Conference** in San Antonio, Texas, April 29 - May 2—in a popular session, *Supporting Children with Challenging Behaviors: Practical Strategies for the Classroom*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019

9:30 – 11:30 am  
**Out-of-School Time Provider  
Network Meeting**  
Young Entrepreneur Institute,  
University School  
2785 SOM Center Road, Hunting Valley, OH

### FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2019



### The Future Is Now: LENA and How It's Changing the Landscape

**Dr. Stephen Hannon**, *President LENA*  
Holiday Inn Cleveland South  
6001 Rockside Road, Independence, OH

### SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2019

9 am – 12:30 pm  
**"Moving On Up"  
Child Development  
Credential Breakfast**  
Doubletree Hotel Lakeside  
1100 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, OH

