

QUESTION: Which of These Kids Deserves a Preschool Education?



About MarinKids

MarinKids is a nonprofit children's advocacy organization whose mission is to build a county that believes caring for all of Marin's children is our collective responsibility, and one that acts to realize this belief. We envision a Marin where *all* children are safe, fed, housed, healthy, nurtured and educated to their full potential.

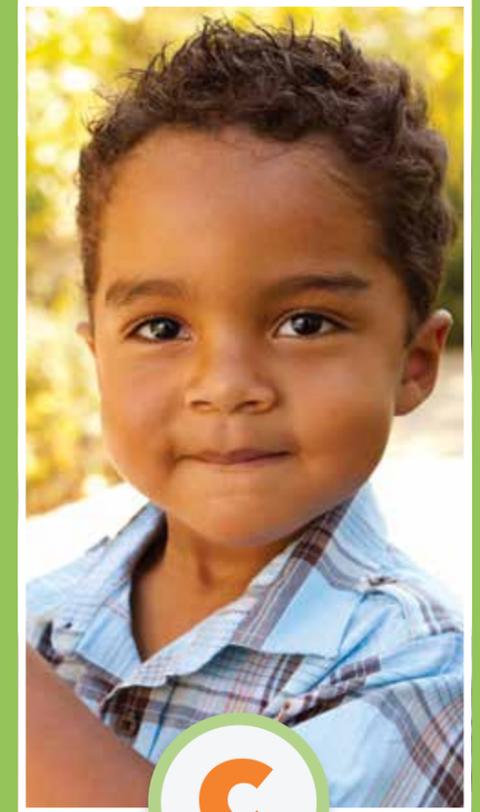
Read inside to learn more about the challenges for many Marin children and how we as a community can provide equitable opportunity for all our children.



A



B



C

Answer: **THEY ALL DO!**



Quality Preschool Education Provides a Foundation for Academic Success

Children that attend quality preschool consistently demonstrate improved academic performance and school attendance, increased graduation and college attendance rates, decreased juvenile arrests and increased chances for success in the job market. Children who do not attend preschool are less prepared for kindergarten and more likely to fall behind. This affects our schools through increased costs to help make up for what has been missed — funds that could be used to move all children forward. **Many families cannot afford \$13,000 per year for quality preschool and one in three children in Marin do not attend.**

FACT: One out of every three Marin County children did not attend preschool.

Even in Marin County, some of our children don't have access to quality preschool, child care, healthcare and academic support programs vital to success. Research confirms that providing a strong and stable start for children pays off in higher academic achievement, long-term health, economic security and a better community overall.

To address these issues, MarinKids educates the public, advocates with policymakers, builds collaborative partnerships and mobilizes action. We know that here in Marin we have the will and the capacity to give all children the opportunities they need for a bright future.



Healthy Children Are More Likely to Do Well in School

Health and wellness depend on preventive care and full access to comprehensive services such as vision, dental and mental health services. Early detection of developmental, health and emotional problems and intervening early can prevent or decrease long-term health and quality of life issues that can be costly to families and schools. Accessing many of these services is challenging for families with low to moderate income due to cost and availability. **Only five out of ten low-income Marin children saw a dentist last year.**



Afterschool and Summer Programs Help Kids in School and Keep Them Safe

Decades of research prove that afterschool programs keep kids away from gangs, drugs and alcohol and keep them in school. **Only 10% of low-income Marin children have access to afterschool programs.** Academic support programs are critical for children not meeting school benchmarks, especially for reading and math, and **only three out of ten low-income Marin third graders read at grade level or above.** For families that cannot afford tutoring, programs to help their children gain critical skills are hard to find, leaving children without the support available to most children in Marin.



Affordable Child Care Nurtures Children and Fosters a Reliable Workforce

High-quality child care is important to provide a safe and nurturing place for young children while working parents support their families. Affordable child care is essential to a strong and vibrant workforce. Yet, hundreds of Marin families cannot pay for quality care and are stuck on wait lists for affordable care or are accessing less reliable care. **One in three Marin children live in families that cannot afford to pay for housing, food and healthcare, and also pay for quality child care or preschool education.**



MarinKids
Opportunity Around Every Corner