



## What We Do

### **Mission & Vision**

First Children's Finance helps children, families and communities thrive by increasing the availability, affordability and quality of early care and education.

We accomplish this by providing financial and business-development assistance to high-quality child care businesses serving low- and moderate-income families, and building partnerships that connect these vital businesses with the resources of the public and private sectors.

We believe access to high-quality early care and education is essential for all communities, because human capital development is the foundation of individual success and the engine of economic growth.

### **History & Growth**

Founded in 1991 as Development Corporation for Children, First Children's Finance has grown from a community development corporation working in selected neighborhoods of Minneapolis and St. Paul to a national lender and business-development resource for child care businesses across the country.

A nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), First Children's Finance lends in Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin. Based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, we also have regional offices in Iowa and Michigan.

### **Investors & Partners**

First Children's Finance partners with a wide variety of investors and advisors. Our investors include government programs, private and corporate foundations, as well as national and regional banks and other businesses. See below for a list of current program funders and loan-fund investors.

First Children's Finance is governed by a board of national child care experts and business leaders. We also engage regional child care experts and business leaders, who serve as professional advisors to our lending and business development programs.

For example, in each region, our Growth Fund Business Development Program is supported by volunteer Growth Fund Advisors from the business and child care sectors, who screen applicants and advise participants on the development and implementation of their business improvement plans.

## Program Funders (FY2012)

### **Government**

Iowa Department of Human Services

Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board

Scott County Iowa Kids

US Department of the Treasury CDFI

**Private Foundations**

Otto Bremer Foundation  
Community Foundation of NE Iowa  
Guernsey Charitable Trust  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation  
R.J. McElroy Trust  
The McKnight Foundation  
Northwest Area Foundation  
The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation  
The Skillman Foundation  
Bertha Stebens Charitable Foundation

**Corporate Foundations**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN Foundation  
Citi Foundation, South Dakota  
PNC Financial Foundation  
Principal Financial Group Foundation  
Securian Corporate Foundation  
Sunrise Community Banks Foundation  
Wells Fargo Foundation, Minnesota

**United Way**

United Way of Central Iowa

**Loan Fund Investors**

Anchor Bank  
Bank Cherokee  
Catholic Health Initiatives  
Guaranty Bank  
Kresge Foundation  
Northwest Area Foundation  
Sunrise Community Banks (Franklin, Park Midway & University Bank)  
US Bank  
Wells Fargo Bank