

# THE RAINIER VALLEY EARLY LEARNING CAMPUS

## PURPOSE

Deliver positive and socially just outcomes for children, families and adult-learners by transforming the early care and education workforce locally and across the country.

## THE ISSUE

The Rainier Valley Early Learning Campus (RVELC) will address the most pressing issues in early learning:

- Lack of access to affordable, culturally relevant, high-quality care and learning for children and families.
- Extreme shortage of qualified early education teachers, particularly educators of color.
- Shortage of facilities to provide community-embedded quality early care and education.

## THE SOLUTION

The RVELC will address these issues by providing:

- Access to quality care and education to approximately 160 early learners and families each year.
- Workforce training to hundreds of students to pursue careers in early childhood care and education.
- Professional development to over 60,000 practitioners across Washington State and the U.S. through UW's [Cultivate Learning](#), a proven and nationally known incubator for early learning tools.
- Inclusive, prevention-focused services for children and families across the state through multi-disciplinary collaborations with physicians, mental health specialists and nurses.
- Community-embedded facilities adjacent to the Mt. Baker LINK light rail station, co-located in a City of Seattle affordable housing development.

## IMPACT

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The RVELC will boost social-emotional learning, kindergarten readiness and other critical outcomes for young learners by putting the proven research-based practices of early learning into the hands of families, aspiring educators, and a broad range of multidisciplinary practitioners. Expected outcomes include:

- More children enrolled in childcare and preschool services are prepared to enter kindergarten.
- Children who received services can read at grade level in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, a key predictor of high school graduation.
- Early learning educators graduate and secure classroom employment and current practitioners receive professional development services to strengthen their practice.
- Early learning practitioners successfully diversify, increase credentialing, and receive increased compensation.
- Families offered holistic care and learning services.
- RVELC serves as a national model for authentic community-driven work and leverages UW's expertise in research and dissemination to have a national impact.

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