

Kalamazoo RESA

ANNUAL REPORT

The Kalamazoo RESA annual report provides an overview of the many programs and services we offer to students, families, schools and our community.



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character, that is the true goal of education.”

— *Dr. Martin Luther King*

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Constituent Districts

- Climax-Scotts Community Schools
- Comstock Public Schools
- Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools
- Gull Lake Community Schools
- Kalamazoo Public Schools
- Parchment School District
- Portage Public Schools
- Schoolcraft Community Schools
- Vicksburg Community Schools
- Forest Academy
- Kalamazoo Covenant Academy
- Oakland Academy
- Paramount Charter Academy
- Youth Advancement Academy
- 18 Nonpublic Schools in Kalamazoo County

Kalamazoo RESA serves over 35,000 students



NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE

It is the policy of Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency that no discriminating practices based on gender/sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, height, weight, color, age, national origin, disability or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed during any program, activity, service or in employment. The following positions at Kalamazoo RESA have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy: Superintendent Tom Zahrt and Assistant Superintendent Mindy Miller. Contact information: (269) 250-9200, 1819 E. Milham Ave, Portage, MI 49002.

Strategic Plan & Core Values

Why do we exist?

To transform lives by inspiring educational excellence.

What do we do?

Provide a continuum of educational services and support to students, families, school districts and communities.

How will we succeed?

Through highly talented professionals, successful multi-sector partnerships, innovative practices and a relentless drive to improve.

What are we focused on?

- All learners supported through strong collaborative relationships
- Highly effective employees
- Positive, safe and inclusive organizational culture
- All children ready for kindergarten
- All students transition ready for college, career and life
- Leaders in educational excellence
- A culture of continuous improvement
- Quality and sustainable infrastructure
- Research-based instructional practices
- A continuum of professional development to support high-quality instruction and leadership
- Visibility and understanding of Kalamazoo RESA programs and services

Core Values



Collaboration ----- We work together



Innovation ----- We find a better way



Compassion ----- We lead with heart



Trustworthy ----- We act with integrity



Respect ----- We value all people



Board of Education



SKIP KNOWLES

President



DAVE WEBSTER

Vice President



LYNNE COWART

Secretary



DELORES MYERS

Treasurer



RANDY VANANTWERP

Trustee



A Message From Our Superintendent

During the pandemic, we had to reorient ourselves and find new ways to provide services to students. Our staff has worked tirelessly over the past two years to create caring environments for learning and growth in this post-pandemic world, and their dedication cannot be overstated. Even though COVID-19 still looms in the headlines today, we are pleased that we are living a relatively similar life to pre-pandemic times as a result of their hard work. Every student deserves educators in their life who will inspire them, and I know how fortunate I am to work alongside incredible educators who inspire me each day.

In this annual report, I would like to celebrate the tremendous success we have witnessed this past school year. I am proud of what our staff has accomplished in the community and look forward to the limitless future of our schools and students. I am personally excited by how many of our programs are continuing to expand and grow the services they provide across the county, especially our special education, early childhood and Career Connect programs.

However, we also know that our work of “rebounding” is not over. Given everything our community has been through during the pandemic, we want to continue to support our students, staff and families with a focus on improving relationships, student growth, school safety and inclusivity. We commit to center respect, affirmation and inclusion in every interaction with students and community alike.

For schools to be a place for students to be excited to grow and learn, they must be a place of mutual respect where everyone can share in the experience and excitement of learning and where all cultures feel welcomed and included. To create that space, it’s important that the students, parents, staff and community form a collaborative partnership. Working together, there is no limit to what we and our students can accomplish. Thank you for all of your support this year and the years to come.

Sincerely,



Tom Zahrt

Superintendent

Anti-Bias Anti-Racism (ABAR) Leadership Team

The Kalamazoo RESA Anti-Bias Anti-Racism (ABAR) Leadership Team exists to analyze and transform institutional policies, procedures and systems. Its purpose is to collaborate with others, promote organizational change and foster diversity, equity and inclusion as we seek to fulfill our core values. The team acts to ensure KRESA is accountable to historically marginalized groups by working to embody the values of an anti-bias anti-racist service organization.

Professional Learning Opportunities:

- Monthly agency-wide professional learning communities and book study
- Three Administration Team presentations
- KRESA Instructional Leadership Team presentations and book study
- Program/department trainings
- Agency-wide SafeSchools cultural competency and bias training
- “Educating Outside the Box” symposium
- Countywide culturally responsive practices training
- “Reimagining Education for ALL” equity speaker series



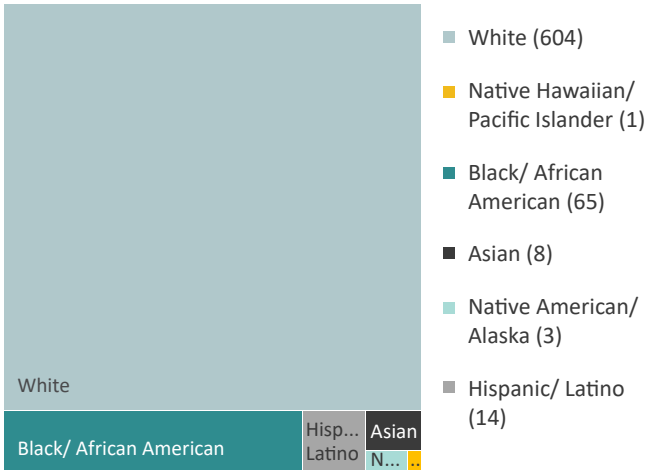
Agency-Wide Culture Survey

Top Five Survey Questions: Employees Identified as BIPOC

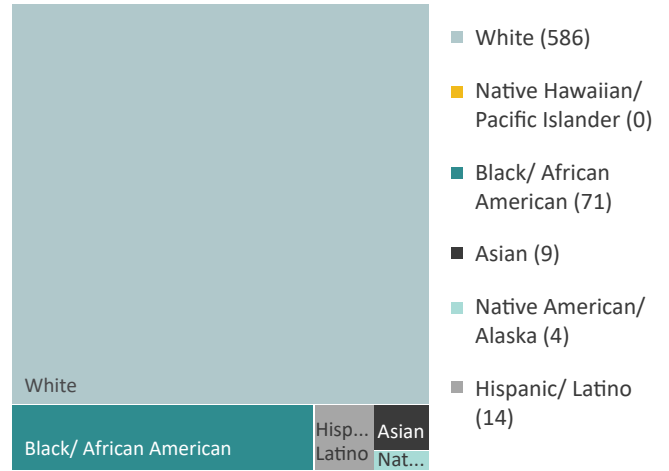


Agency Demographics

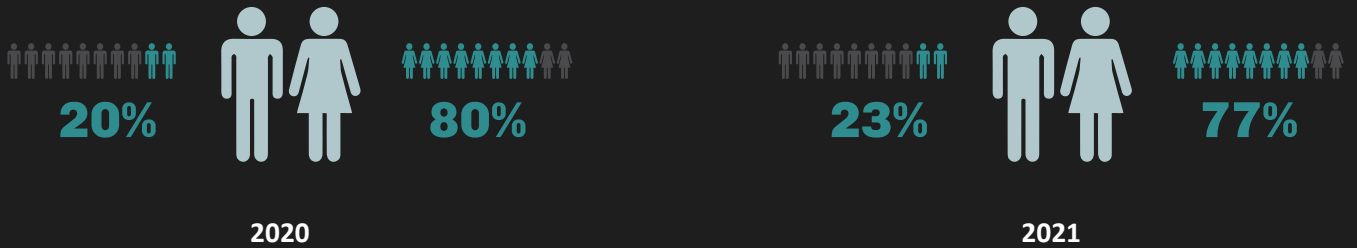
2020 (Total Employees: 674)



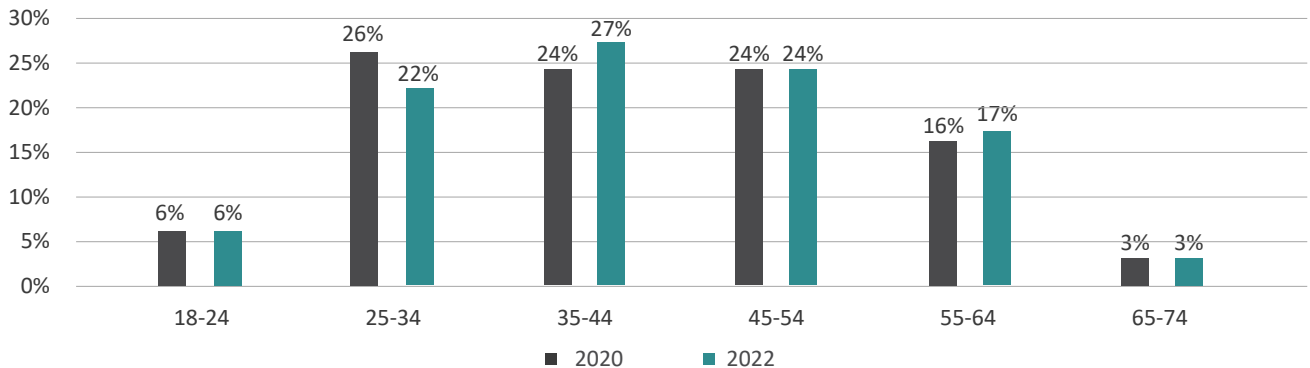
2021 (Total Employees: 663)



Gender at Birth



Age Groups





SPECIAL EDUCATION

Kalamazoo RESA provides diverse special education services throughout Kalamazoo County and serves eligible students from birth to age 26.

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)

Kalamazoo RESA's Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) program is a countywide classroom-based program for children from three to five with significant physical, cognitive, behavioral, communicative or social challenges. ECSE is located at Kalamazoo RESA's West Campus and provides intensive interventions that build the core skills of functional communication, learner behaviors, safety and social interaction.

ECSE works in collaboration with the local school districts to prepare students with the skills needed to be successful in Kindergarten. In 2021-22, KRESA's ECSE program was able to transition 12 students back to local programming for preschool services in an effort to gain access to stronger peer models.

Early On

Early On provides in-home and community-based support to families with children with developmental delays in motor skills, communicative abilities, social-emotional learning or cognition from birth through age three.

Early On has partnered with Michigan State to participate in national research in coaching families with young children who have autism. The team received intensive training and have included over 15 families in these innovative evidence-based practices.



Preprimary Evaluation Team (PET)

The Preprimary Evaluation Team (PET) provides developmental evaluations for children three to five and connects families with community resources and special education support from local school districts.

PET has added multi-tiered systems of support to its range of services through partnerships with community childcare and preschool partners. Speech/language consultation and coordination with Head Start and behavioral observations and consults in collaboration with WMU have enhanced services for our preschool age children in Kalamazoo County.



READ MORE!

Early Intervention Helps Students Succeed

If a parent is questioning whether their child is on track, they are encouraged to call and request a free evaluation.



KRESA Specialized Instructional Services (KSIS)

The KRESA Specialized Instructional Services (KSIS) department strives to build accessible schools and diverse learning communities for students through high-quality programs and services across Kalamazoo County. KSIS staff also empower classroom teams through collaborative coaching with evidence-based practices that increase positive behavior in the least restrictive environments.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) Services

- 106 students served
- 100% graduation rate
- 502 hearing evaluations and screenings
- 11 students newly identified with hearing loss
- 1,010 classroom visits for students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Intensive Support Team

- 8 students served
- 8 districts served
- 75% of students able to remain in their local districts

Regional ASD Classrooms

- 59 students served
- 7 students moved to a less restrictive setting

Engagement Specialist Services

- 226 students with Individualized Educational Plans (IEPs)
- 109 students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- 57 students with ASD who increased time in general education
- 108 students with ASD remained in the least restrictive environments

Visually Impaired Services

- 83 students served
- 100% graduation rate



READ MORE!

Interpreters Help Students Connect

When Emily Brown graduated from high school, like many young adults, she wasn't sure where her future would lead; until a course in American Sign Language (ASL) ignited a new passion.

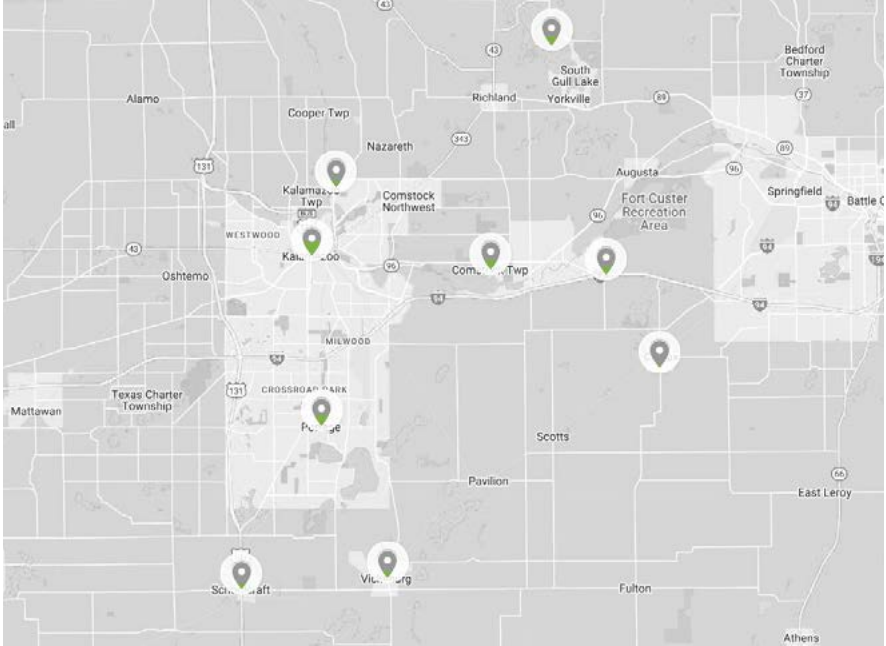


WoodsEdge Learning Center (WELC)

WoodsEdge Learning Center provides highly specialized instruction and behavior support for students with significant disabilities in grades K-12. In addition to rigorous academic instruction, WELC emphasizes the development of skills crucial for safety, communication and independence.

170
Students served

- Climax-Scotts: 1%
- Comstock: 7%
- Galesburg Augusta: 5%
- Gull Lake: 8%
- Kalamazoo: 42%
- Parchment: 4%
- Portage: 25%
- Schoolcraft: 3%
- Vicksburg: 5%



Learn more about WELC!



80%

Students who achieved or made progress toward their Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals



70%

Students who made progress in WELC's core skills safety curriculum

Valley Center School (VCS)

Valley Center School (VCS) provides special education services for students ages 8-18 with unique emotional or behavioral needs. Its primary focus is to assist students in gaining social and emotional skills that support reintegration into less-restrictive educational environments and to foster independence by building students' skills so they can be contributing members in their homes, schools and communities. Its curriculum serves students who are diploma-bound, require an alternative curriculum or are focusing on transitional goals.

41

Students served

75%

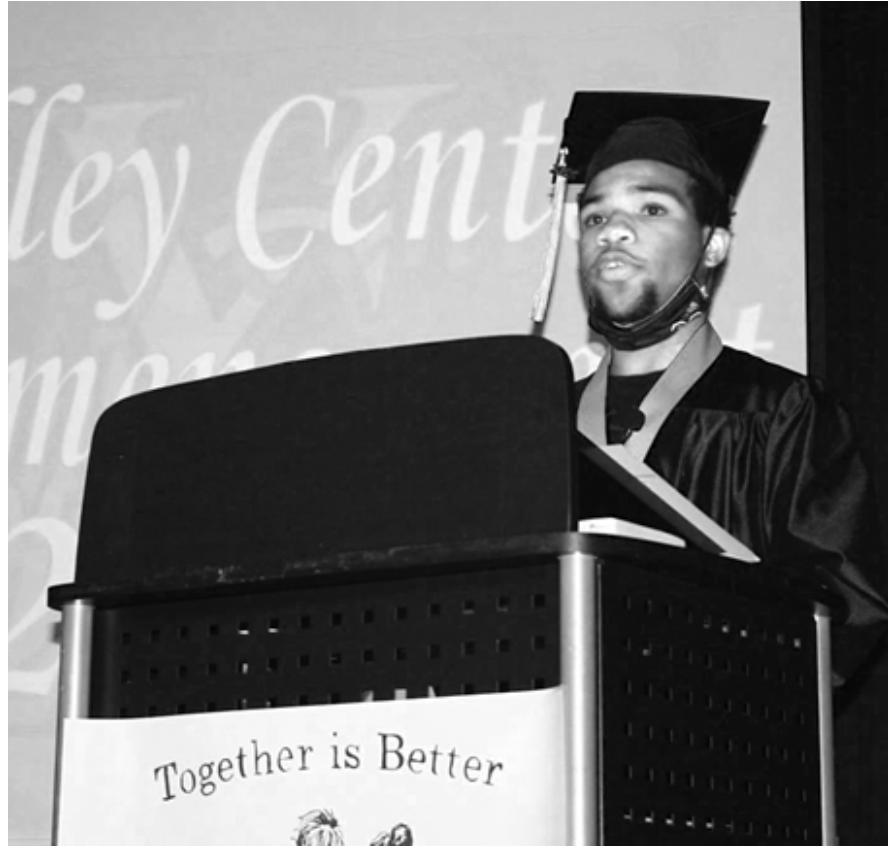
Percentage of students who increased academic skills in reading and math

22%

Percentage of students who achieved and maintained behavioral goals which allowed access to less-restrictive educational placements

87%

Percentage of families who actively engaged in Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) team meetings



READ MORE!

Experiencing Success at Valley Center

Valley Center collaborates with local school districts and families to build a path to success for students.



Juvenile Home Schools (JHS)

Juvenile Home Schools (JHS) make exceptional and equitable educational services available to adjudicated youth by developing academic and emotional skills while restoring students to their families and communities. The program creates individualized success plans for each student in conjunction with court and detention staff, caseworkers and families to guide a successful transition back to the community. Its trauma-informed staff members use positive and restorative behavioral interventions to help all students learn with the appropriate support and resources.



135

Students served (with 58 students having had more than one stay)

53

Average length of stay in days

120.75

Total credits earned

“I got close to basically every teacher there. It was hard not to because they wanted to see you succeed. They made me feel at home.”

– Former student

“The staff helped me grow as a student and helped me understand the importance of why I should graduate. They taught me patience.”

– Former student

“Thank you for your help over the last couple of years, for keeping my son encouraged and never giving up on him. He couldn’t have done it without your staff.”

– Parent of student graduate



Young Adult Program (YAP)

Kalamazoo RESA's Young Adult Program (YAP) serves young adults between the ages of 18 and 26 who have completed their high school years. YAP's students are eligible for special education services and receive opportunities to learn and build life skills through continued special education programming. YAP believes that every young adult deserves opportunities to build a life where they will thrive.

170

Students served

- Climax-Scotts: 1%
- Comstock: 3%
- Galesburg Augusta: 3%
- Gull Lake: 7%
- Kalamazoo: 46%
- Parchment: 6%
- Portage: 26%
- Schoolcraft: 4%
- Vicksburg: 4%

85%

YAP families that agree that their student receives the support they need from YAP to improve or acquire skills to thrive as an adult.

95%

Of students maintained or improved their social communication skills that will empower them to have meaningful relationships, be successful at work, and engage with their community more independently.

"We are impressed with the availability and coordination of community resources. In addition, are very appreciative of the staff knowledge, kindness, caring and overall positive attitude!"

– YAP parent

32%

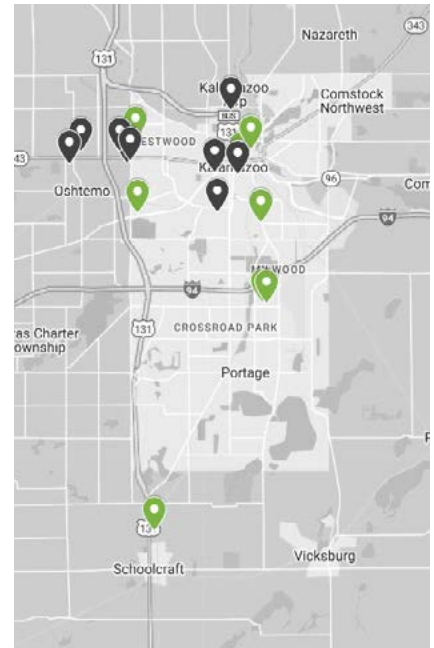
YAP students engaged with local businesses through KRESA's Work Based Learning (WBL) program to build skills for future competitive employment in our community.

- At Home
- Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center
- Heritage Community of Kalamazoo
- Young Adult Program
- WoodsEdge Learning Center
- KRESA Service Center
- The Dome Sports Center
- Textile Systems Inc

100%

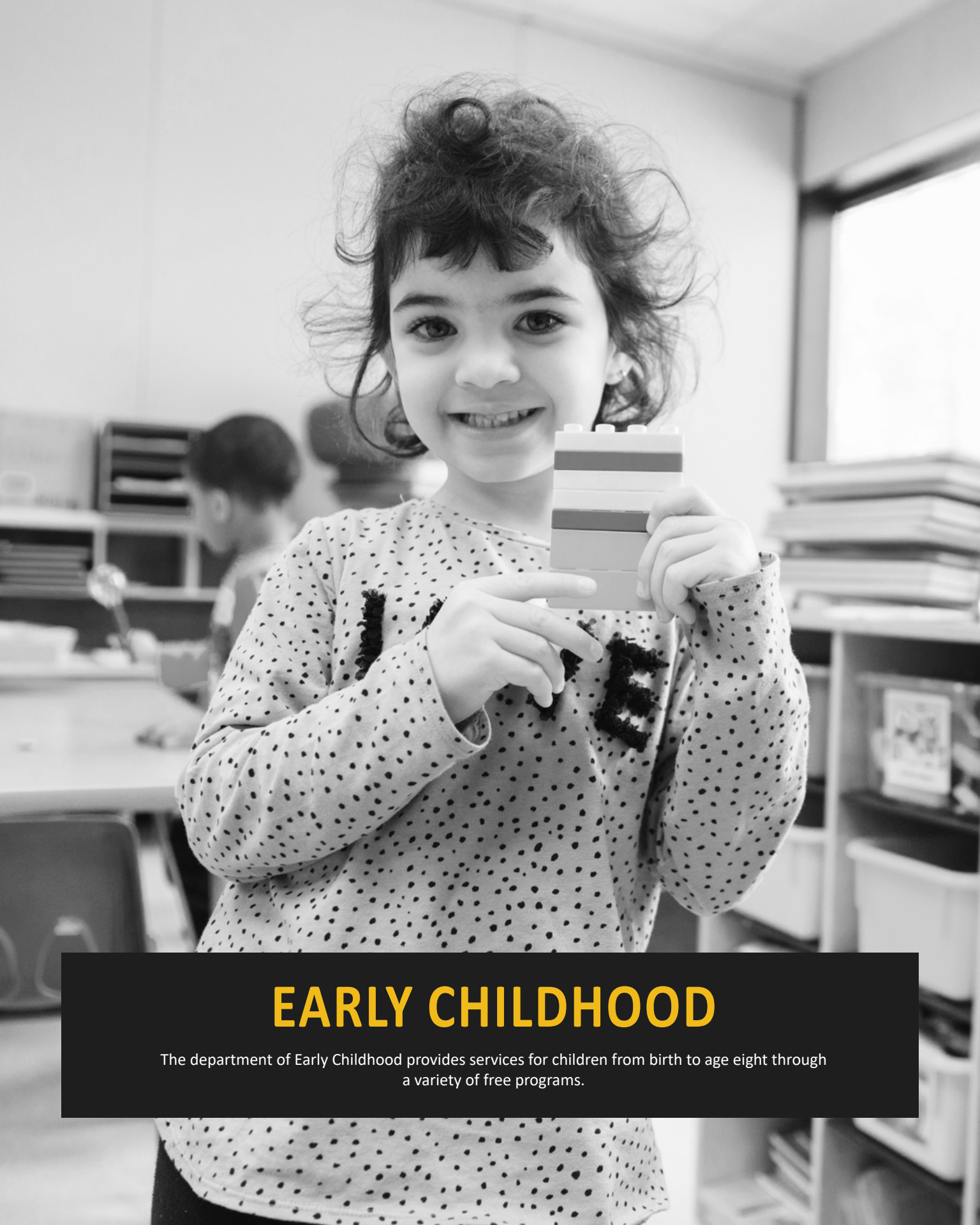
YAP students engage in daily community-based instruction and volunteering across Kalamazoo County to build independence and confidence in using resources and businesses in our community.

- Meijer – W. Main
- Walmart – 9th Street
- Harding's Market – W. Main
- Target – W. Main
- Benefit Twice
- YMCA – Maple
- Kalamazoo College
- Gernaat & Sons Greenhouse
- St. Luke's Diaper Bank



[Learn more about YAP!](#)





EARLY CHILDHOOD

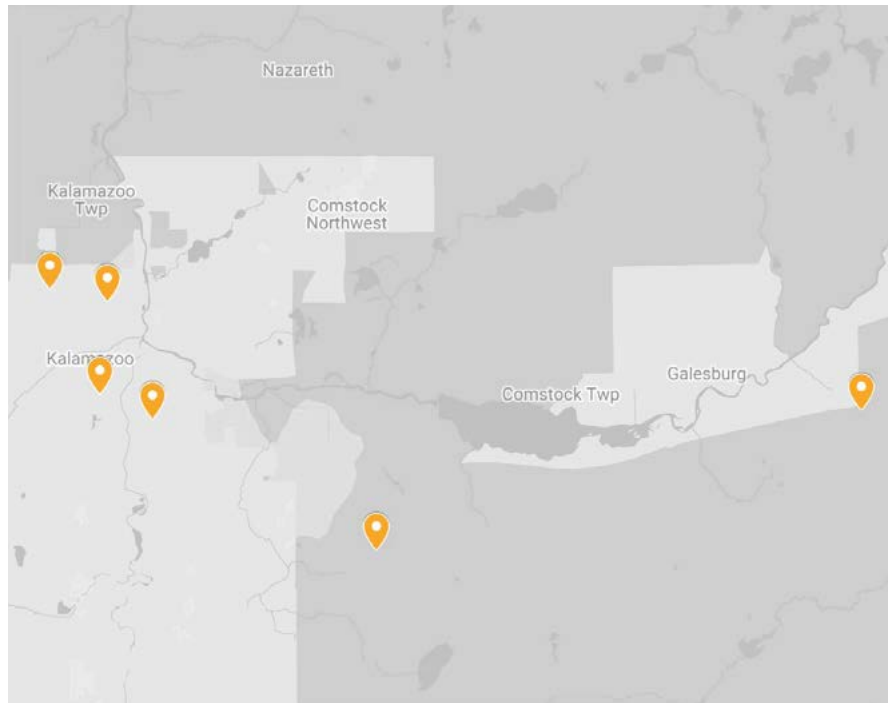
The department of Early Childhood provides services for children from birth to age eight through a variety of free programs.

Seeds for Success

Seeds for Success is a consortium of five agencies that helps Kalamazoo County families prepare their children, aged zero to three, for a bright future. Its services take an approach based on the Strengthening Families Program and include developmental screenings, parent education, resource connections and community playgroups.

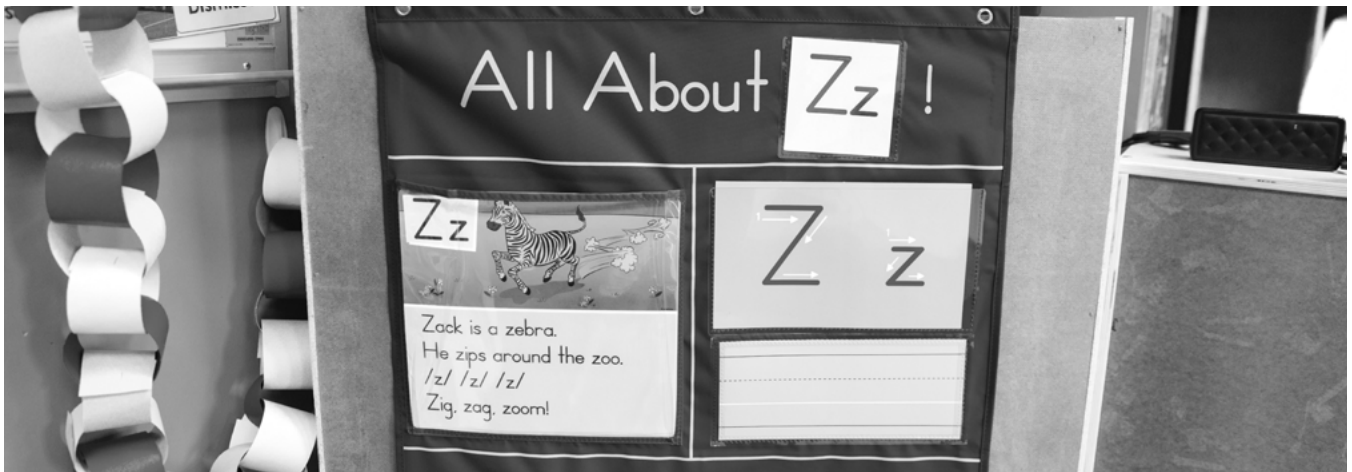
Seeds for Success created and facilitated community playgroups for play and social interaction in six locations across the community:

- The Arbor – serving families on the North side of Kalamazoo
- Comstock Early Learning Academy (CELA) – serving families in Comstock area
- Interfaith Homes – serving residents and their young children
- Bethany House – serving rehabbing moms and their children
- Washington Square Public Library – partnering to serve Spanish speaking families
- Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools – partnering to provide “Marvelous Music” opportunities for families



Percentages of families served with identified stressors

# of Stressors	Zero	One	Two	Three	Four+
Percentage	20%	20%	15%	21%	23%



KRESA Head Start/ Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

The Kalamazoo RESA Head Start/GSRP preschool program is part of the collaborative and inclusive effort of Kalamazoo County Pre-K, which is composed of Head Start, the Great Start Readiness Program and Kalamazoo County Ready 4's. Its mission is to provide equitable, high-quality and developmentally appropriate services to support the whole child and whole family. In partnership with families and the community, these programs build a strong foundation for children's developmental skills and empower families to engage in their child's educational journey, starting at birth.



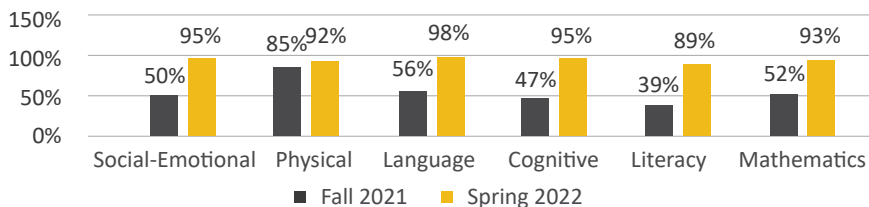
READ MORE!

Pre-K Provides Valuable Learning in Safe, Welcoming Environment

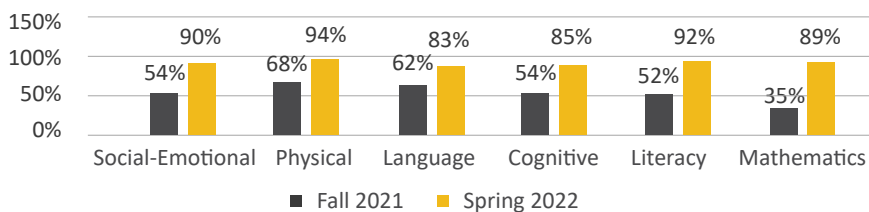
Pre-K provides little learners with valuable skills and prepares them for future success in school and later in life.



Three-Year-Olds Meeting/Exceeding Widely Held Expectations



Four-Year-Olds Meeting/Exceeding Widely Held Expectations



Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and the Family Service Team (FST) Process

KRESA Head Start/GSRP utilizes a MTSS framework in each of its major service areas to ensure it meets the needs of each child and family and provides the appropriate resources and support at the appropriate levels and intensities. The program implements MTSS through its Family Service Team (FST) process, a multidisciplinary approach in assisting students and families with additional academic or social-emotional development support in the classroom and/or home setting.

45 total FSTs

33 closed FSTs (73%)

FST cases are closed when educators see adequate growth, showing that implemented strategies are working or could be gradually released for student independence.

The Social-Emotional Learning Team

With the assistance of COVID funding, KRESA Head Start formed a Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) team, composed of a regional health specialist and two of the program's family advocates. The SEL Team provides additional supports and further direct contact with students in the classrooms. Along with opportunities to meet with students in small groups or individually, the team also hosts ongoing monthly support meetings for families. The family support groups focus on social-emotional learning for both the adults and their children and serves as a platform for families to share ideas, situations, and concerns they hold in common.

- 20 classrooms supported
- 44 individual student supports
- 13 students referred to special education services and found eligible

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

Kalamazoo RESA supports our local GSRP programs by providing a highly qualified Early Childhood Specialist to support classroom teaching teams, individualized practice-based coaching, mentorship to program directors and administrators, financial technical support, behavior/social-emotional support, professional development and training opportunities, and data reporting to the State of Michigan.

GSRP Classroom Operation:

- School-Based: 59%
 - Local District: 56%
 - KRESA: 3%
- Community Based: 41%
 - Private Non-Profit: 16%
 - Private For-Profit: 2%
 - Head Start Grantee: 23%

	GSRP Exclusive	Blended GSRP/Head Start
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.39%	0.46%
Asian	1.55%	1.37%
Black	36.21%	63.93%
White	47.55%	20.55%
Multi-Racial/Bi-racial	14.30%	13.70%

GSRP Exclusive Programs

- 776 students served
- 117 students enrolled in part-day programs
- 660 students enrolled in full-day programs
- Students' gender at birth:



Blended GSRP/Head Start

- 219 students enrolled in full-day programs
- Students' gender at birth:



Staff Professional Development

An important part of providing high-quality programming and services is staff with appropriate credentialing and comprehensive knowledge of early childhood education who embrace a collaborative approach.

Professional Development Opportunities:

- 31 formal training sessions
- 70 district-Provided Professional Development (DPPD) and State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs)
- 5 Early Childhood Specialists providing practiced-based coaching

*Early Childhood Education endorsement (ZA), Early Childhood General and Special Education endorsement (ZS)

Lead Teachers

15%

Master's degree

59%

Bachelor's degree and teaching certificate with ZA/ZS* endorsement

18%

Bachelor's degree in ECE

15%

Obtaining credential

Associate Teachers

17%

Bachelor's degree in early childhood education (ECE)

11%

Associate degree in ECE

48%

Child Development Associate (CDA)

4%

120-hour MDE approval

20%

Obtaining credential

Great Start Collaborative (GSC)

The Kalamazoo County Great Start Collaborative (GSC) is a partnership of local organizations and parents working to improve the early childhood system for every family in the county.

Thanks to an initial grant from the Michigan Department of Education focusing on early literacy, the Kalamazoo County Great Start Collaborative created a powerful partnership with eight local barbershops.

Each shop received a space-saving bookshelf and small table and chair set for a reading nook.

Families are encouraged to take home literacy toolkits that change each month and a free book.



"Kids and parents are just loving the books! They are excited to take them home because they are trying to read every night before bed and don't always have a variety of books at home.

We usually have Disney+ playing for them in the shop but now they just want to stay here with the books."

- China Pierre, Barber at Presidential Blend Suite



CAREER CONNECT

KRESA Career Connect is a continuum of career learning focused on growing Kalamazoo County students' self-awareness, career option awareness, skill development and career pathway planning.

Career Awareness & Exploration (CAE)

CAE programs are designed as part of a structured self-exploration process, allowing young students the opportunity to gain a better understanding of themselves and potential career pathways.

8,569

Students engaged in Career Awareness and Exploration experiences

1,344

Elementary students

5,497

Middle school students

1,539

High school students engaged in experiences

Career Champions

371 educators trained through year-long professional learning community

Xello

64,238 student logins

- Grades K-5 pilot: **12,381**
- Grades 6-12: **51,847**



“My students really got into learning about their self-identity through Xello assessments, and it was easy to view reports”

— Shannon Underwood,
Portage West Middle School Counselor



READ MORE!

Student Entrepreneurs Set Up Shop for ‘Lemonade Day’ Project

Lemonade Day prepares kids become the business leaders, social advocates, community volunteers and forward-thinking citizens of tomorrow!



Work-Based Learning (WBL)

Work-Based Learning provides opportunities for students to gain on-the-job experience and career skills through a mutually beneficial employer partnership. At job sites across the county, students gain exposure to a broad spectrum of careers and develop critical teamwork skills to help them succeed in the world of work.

In-School Programming

246

Students participated in internships

235

Students participated in career clubs, information interviews, job shadows and mock interviews

313

Students attended a Reality Fair for interactive financial education

Out-Of-School Programming (CareerNOW, MyCITY, YOU)

140

Participants engaged in paid experiences

8,133

Hours worked by participants

YOU and MyCITY

Programs that help youth complete their education, find paid internships or employment and thrive in their communities.

Career Coaching

- 243 participants engaged in career coaching across the four-county region of Branch, Calhoun, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph counties.
- 191 youth participated in Jobs for Michigan's Graduates programming to gain leadership skills and engage in career pathway programming with their career coach.

CareerNOW

Free short-term occupational training for individuals seeking to develop their careers

- 85 participants served in occupational training through 9 occupational training programs
- 90% CareerNOW credentialing rate
- \$16.07 CareerNOW hourly wage

Education Reconnection High School Diploma Program (HSDP)

- 37 students served
- 137 courses completed
- 68.5 credits earned
- 13 graduates

Credit Recovery Program

- 86 enrolled students
- 51 courses completed
- 26 credits earned
- 19 graduates

Education for the Arts (EFA)

Education for the Arts (EFA) enhances art education for all K-12 students through artist residencies, student scholarships, grants, visual exhibits, professional development opportunities, high school arts classes and performances by professional artists.

Excellence in the Arts

Arts-intensive high school classes in the disciplines of theatre, musical theater, music, dance, visual arts, digital arts and film/video arts

689

High school students enrolled

95%

Students who rated their EFA class as excellent/very good

93%

Students who rated their EFA teacher as excellent/very good

Aesthetic Education Program

K-8 Art Residencies

Arts for All

Free arts education enhancement programs for public K-12 schools

Alternative Arts Initiative

Artistic experiences for special education students and alternative schools

EFA Presents! Program

Performances and Visual Arts Exhibitions from around the world

EFA Presents! Program

K-8 Dance and Theatre Residencies

“EFA is essential for my students – it helps their progress in language, social/emotional, motor skills and academics. We love every experience!”

— Kalamazoo County Teacher

“School has really taken a toll on me this year. Dance class fuels me when I feel like giving up. I wouldn’t trade it for a million dollars, and everybody knows I love me some money!”

— EFA Student



READ MORE!

Theatre Performances Shine Spotlight on Cultural Diversity, Racism and Civil Rights Movement

KRESA’s EFA department-hosted field trips help students learn about Haitian culture, racial injustice and important historical figures in the Civil Rights Movement.



Early/Middle College (EMC)

Students who participate in the Early/Middle College (EMC) program earn both an associate degree and a high school diploma simultaneously. Students enroll in a focused program of study at Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), with their school district covering tuition fees up to a designated amount, and graduate after an additional year of high school.

216

Students enrolled

3,099

College credits earned

3.09

Average GPA of students taking college classes

58

Students who completed their fifth year of EMC

21

Associate degrees earned



EMC students had this to say about their experience:



91.5%

felt successful because of the EMC support



96.4%

felt their experience with their EMC mentor was very helpful



93.3%

would recommend the EMC program to other students

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

CTE offers a wide range of hands-on career preparation programs to students in grades 9-12. Its courses reflect real-world applications and maintain the rigorous requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum, as well as state, national and industry technical standards.

2,567

Enrolled students

97.8

High school graduation rate for CTE students

100%

CTE students who participated in a work-based learning experience

778

Industry-recognized credentials earned

"I learned a ton about the world of construction, and it prepared me to be able to go into a Union HVAC apprenticeship as soon as I graduated."

— Eric McCallum, Galesburg-Augusta HS CTE Graduate

Career Pathways

CTE offers courses in the following career pathways:

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology and Communications
- Business Management and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution and Logistics



READ MORE!

CTE Barbering Student Opens Own Barbershop

Kalamazoo RESA CTE Barbering program sets former student up for success.



Michigan Works! Southwest

As a service provider of Michigan Works! Southwest, KRESA provides a blend of in-person and virtual supports to jobseekers in Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Branch and St. Joseph Counties.

12,490

Individuals accessed services, including job search, career navigation and unemployment support

834

Individual service appointments, including individualized career coaching sessions

576

Reemployment services and eligibility assessments conducted to support jobseeker success

Financial Literacy Workshop Series

MichiganWorks! Southwest partnered with Social Policy Research Associates and National Disability Institute, along with several local banks, to develop a new workshop series to support financial literacy education for jobseekers across our four-county footprint.

Workshop topics included:

- You Can Bank On It
- Budgeting 101 – Income v. Expenses
- The Dreaded Credit Score
- Loans 101 – A Guide to Borrowing
- Debt, Ahhh!
- Financial Freedom
- Identity Theft: Don't Become a Victim





INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES & COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

KRESA provides a continuum of diverse academic, instructional and professional services to students, schools, educational staff and families across the southwest Michigan region.

Instructional Services and Community Supports (ISCS)

KRESA’s Instructional Services and Community Supports department provides a continuum of educational care for students, educators and communities within Kalamazoo County, including coaching, consulting and professional learning services that ensure equitable outcomes for all. The ISCS Team supports county efforts in research-based practices in the areas of literacy, STEM, culture and climate, multilingual learners, instructional technology and school systems.



100%

Kalamazoo County districts receiving coaching support



100%

Kalamazoo County districts accessing funding for mental health services

4
Districts participating in a partnership focused on social-emotional learning, culturally responsive practices and mental health by strengthening student support systems of care

5
Districts utilizing the Educator on Loan program to build literacy coaching capacity

15
Districts inside and outside Kalamazoo County with educators receiving math recovery training

275
Grade 3-5 teachers served through Early Literacy Grant

26
Book Gardens continually replenished with diverse reading materials for families

9 districts | 3 agencies collaborating on Whole Child Support Services through local partnerships

304
Students were able to access one-on-one support

95
Students partnered with family advocates

486
Educators supported

74
Professional learning and networking sessions provided virtually

852
Participants who attended the KRESA Equity Speakers Series

37
Districts, local educational agencies, and organizations served

Community Partnerships:

- Stryker Johnston
- Kalamazoo Community Foundation
- Gryphon Place
- Integrated Services of Kalamazoo
- KYD Network
- Gilbert & Ivy LLC
- Breakfast Optimist Club of Kalamazoo
- YWCA
- Western Michigan University
- ERACCE

KRESA Focused Learning Experience (KFLEx)

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, ISCS created KFLEx, a virtual learning program for all area districts. The program was built upon a virtual learning model that has operated for over ten years in the community. KFLEx provided a free alternative to traditional schooling with a personalized, challenging online learning plan for every student in the KRESA service area. KFLEx students were provided a rigorous, aligned curriculum while still enrolled in their local district.

2 participating districts

26 students enrolled in work-based employability skills

81 students enrolled in middle school problem-based learning


110 students enrolled in high school problem-based learning

Grade Level	Students Enrolled
6	37
7	50
8	32
9	50
10	54
11	38
12	47

Regional Educational Media Center (REMC-12W)

REMC’s mission is to support constituents and improve teaching and learning statewide through future-focused collaboration, leadership and service. Specifically, it creates high-quality training, effective cost savings through statewide cooperative purchasing (REMC SAVE), and advances statewide connectivity through delivery systems and infrastructure.

Kalamazoo County districts’ savings through REMC Save:	
District	Savings
Climax-Scotts Community Schools	\$96,800.62
Comstock Public Schools	\$99,869.65
Forest Academy	\$2,301.15
Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools	\$54,986.16
Gull Lake Community Schools	\$87,842.79
Kalamazoo Covenant Academy	\$10,647.31
Kalamazoo Public Schools	\$261,417.8
Kalamazoo RESA	\$405,138.41
Oakland Academy	\$8,819.12
Parchment School District	\$95,380.82
Portage Public Schools	\$719,728.35
Schoolcraft Community Schools	\$80,546.82
Vicksburg Community Schools	\$294,427.22
Youth Advancement Academy	\$4,110.07



35
Educators from Kalamazoo County completed online courses through REMC. Course areas ranged from how to apply Google apps in the classroom to leading a culture of change in schools.

Southwest MiSTEM

KRESA's Southwest MiSTEM is one of 16 regions in the MiSTEM Network throughout the state of Michigan. The MiSTEM Network seeks to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education by connecting educators, schools, communities and businesses to implement authentic STEM learning experiences in K-12 learning environments. The Southwest MiSTEM Region supports professional learning, community events, student programming, leveraging resources and cultivating partnerships.

8

Counties served

20

STEM events sponsored/
hosted

1,431

Educators and community
members engaged in STEM
professional learning

\$900,000

Awarded to elevate
mathematics as the language
of STEM and a tool for STEM
exploration statewide.



In 2021-22:

KRESA was selected as fiscal
for MiSTEM Network Advisory
Council Grant Math Action Area

The Computer Science
Professional Learning Network
launched to support the 40+
educators trained in Code.org
computer science curriculum
in our region

The SW MiSTEM Consultant
Collaborative launched across
eight intermediate school
districts



Business Office

The Kalamazoo RESA Business Office supports the success of school districts and students through the accurate and effective management of financial resources and business functions. The Business Office manages the financials of approximately 30 departments and programs within Kalamazoo RESA, as well as nine area school districts.



\$28.3 million in federal grants money managed

\$507,457 saved by local school districts through collaboration and consolidation of business functions to Kalamazoo RESA

\$176.1 million

 managed

Human Resources

The Kalamazoo RESA Human Resources (HR) department ensures an inclusive, equitable and safe work environment by providing high-quality HR services and recruiting qualified and diverse individuals.

927 jobs posted

740 people fingerprinted for 30 local organizations



Communications

The Communications Team's mission is to share the inspiring stories of those served by Kalamazoo RESA and raise awareness of its programs and services. It supports all of the organization's departments with professional media and marketing services, including print and digital promotions, photography, videography, graphic design and website creation and management.



52 articles written



102 newsletters sent



358 design projects completed



33 presentations created



13 videos created



1,598,365 kresa.org page views



59 website updates



36 events supported

@KALRESA SOCIAL MEDIA



Facebook

- 696 new page likes
- 781,982 impressions (+21.3%)
- 50,965 engagements (+26.02%)



Instagram

- 1,716 followers
- 1,142 post likes



Twitter

- 2,130 total followers (+4.36%)
- 836,547 reach
- 875 engagements



LinkedIn

- 1,664 followers (+219)
- 1,993 clicks

KRESA Attendance Office

The KRESA Attendance Office's mission is to re-engage Kalamazoo County students and combat equity gaps by eliminating barriers and increasing coordination of services while supporting all children and their families through a trauma-informed lens.



Serving:

- 8 local districts
- 65 charter, religious and public schools
- All KRESA programs

256

Referrals received

97

Home visits conducted

60

Attendance hearings held

Transportation

Dedicated to the safety of children, the KRESA Regional Transportation Safety Institute has established a long history of providing quality state-mandated safety certification training and prompt management consultation services.



275

New bus drivers trained

412

Bus drivers receiving continuing education

92

Transportation supervisors trained

76

Drivers trained in evasive maneuvers on a closed course

484

Employees participating in random drug testing

74

Commercial driver's license skills tests performed

Technology Services/Southwest MiTech

The Kalamazoo RESA Technology Services Department, also known as Southwest MiTech, exists to improve the lives of students in SW Michigan through technology services and resources. The department strives to deliver excellent customer service, technology leadership and innovative solutions for the technology challenges schools face.



22,000+ students served



237 servers and applications hosted



99.67% systems-up time



\$431,808.43 estimated consortium savings

24

Participating districts in Shared Technology Staffing and Services Consortium

1.4 million

Students impacted by Michigan DataHub services

95%

Web HelpDesk positive customer service rating

KRESA Print Center

The KRESA Print Center offers a wide variety of print services for nonprofit organizations, including concept development, shredding, graphics, bindery and delivery.

232

Schools served

7,589

Projects

\$160,725.92

Saved by customers



Kalamazoo RESA Foundation

In 2022, the KRESA Foundation awarded:

\$76,594

In grants and scholarships

35

Scholarships to students of Kalamazoo RESA employees

■ Total: \$17,500

14

Scholarships to YOU students

■ Total: \$7,500

7

Targeted Assistance Grants (TAG)

■ Total: \$24,500

38

Named Scholarships

■ Total: \$27,094

Ex Officio Members

- David J. Campbell, President
- Scott Thomas, Treasurer
- Paige Daniels, YOU – Michigan Works!
- Jackie Martell, Foundation Consultant/Secretary

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READ MORE!

Grant Helps Catapult Teacher to the Head of the Class

An aspiring special education teacher uses grant funds to graduate early and take over her own classroom at WoodsEdge Learning Center.



“Our biggest problem is that we have
too many good stories to tell.”

— *Tom Zahrt, KRESA Superintendent*

KALAMAZOO RESA

INSPIRING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

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