

## **MELF Research Consortium**

In order to effectively identify and recommend the best strategies for early learning investments in our community, a crew of experts has been assembled to evaluate the various MELF initiatives: the MELF Research Consortium is made up of **The Center for Early Education (CEED) at the University of Minnesota, Child Trends, SRI International** and **Wilder Research** and other experts when needed. When the MELF initiative ends in 2011, evaluation results across many projects will include knowledge about what works best - and most cost-effectively – to promote school readiness in children from low income families or families facing other challenges.

### MELF Evaluation Reports – 2008 to September 2011

**Evaluation of the Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program, Issue Brief 4: Findings from Focus Groups with Participating Parents**, SRI International, September 2011

**Kindergarten Follow-Up**,  
Center for Early Education and Development, University of Minnesota, May 2011

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program Evaluation, Annual Report: Year 3**, SRI International, March 15, 2011

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program: Uses and Benefits of Scholarship Funds**, SRI International, February 2011

**The Cost of Providing Quality Early Care and Education in Saint Paul, Minnesota**, RAND Labor and Population, 2011

**Evaluation of Parent Aware: Minnesota's Quality Rating and Improvement System Pilot, Year 3 Evaluation Report**, Child Trends, November 2010

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program Evaluation, Issue Brief 3: Summary of Implementation (Year 3)**, SRI International, October 2010

**Timing of Early Childhood Education: Is there an optimal time to intervene in a young child's life to improve readiness for school?** Center for Early Education and Development, University of Minnesota, June 2010

**Evaluation of Parent Aware: Minnesota's Quality Rating and Improvement System Pilot, Year 2 Evaluation Report**, Child Trends, March 2010

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program Evaluation, Annual Report: Year 2**, SRI International, March 2010

**Minnesota Family Literacy and School Readiness Study - Results through year 2,**  
Wilder Research, March 2010

**Parent Priorities in Selecting Early Care and Education Programs: Implications for Minnesota's Quality Rating and Improvement System,** Aisha Ray, Ph.D, February 2010

**Final Evaluation Report: Lessons Learned from the MELF Community Grants,**  
Center for Early Education and Development, University of Minnesota, December 2009

**Pre-Kindergarten Allowances Project: Final Evaluation Report,** SRI International,  
September 30, 2009

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program Evaluation, Issue Brief 2: Implementation in Year 2,** SRI International, September 2009

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program Evaluation, Annual Report,** SRI International, March 13, 2009

**Evaluation of Parent Aware: Minnesota's Quality Rating and Improvement System Pilot, Year 1 Evaluation Report,** Child Trends, December 2008

**Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program Evaluation, Issue Brief 1: Early Implementation in Year 1,** SRI International, September 2008

**Early learning conditions among low-income families in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Blue Earth and Nicollet counties:** Baseline study prepared for the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation, Wilder Research, February 2008