

The Sixpence Early Learning Fund provides financial resources, specialized professional guidance and rigorous evaluation for community-built partnerships serving infants and toddlers at risk of failing in school and their parents. Each Sixpence-funded partnership prioritizes the role of parents as the key element in a child's development.

Early Childhood Endowment Funding Structure



Private Sector Investment Earnings

Investment earnings from \$20M private contribution. (Investment managed by Nebraska Children and Families Foundation.)



Public Sector Investment Earnings

Investment earnings from \$40M public contribution. (Investment managed by the State Investment Council.)



Early Childhood Cash Fund

Governor appointed, the Sixpence Board of Trustees representing public and private interests, awards the grants to locally designed school-community partnerships.



Additional Public Investments

In 2013, \$11M was allocated to expand Sixpence from 11 to 31 sites.

In 2015, legislation enabled the use of existing federal dollars to fund school-child care partnership grants.



Sixpence Board and Endowment Provider

Under the direction of the Sixpence Board of Trustees, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation distributes grants, delivers technical assistance to grantees, provides administrative services to the board and manages the private investments.



Statewide Grant Recipients

Local grantees match their grant amount with existing local funds. Program models include home-based, center-based and school-child care partnerships.



Independent Evaluation and Guidance

To ensure quality care and accountability of dollars invested, independent evaluators at Munroe-Meyer Institute at UNMC measure program structure and performance, parent engagement and child developmental outcomes annually. Evaluation data is used to guide ongoing quality improvements.