

Pathways to Quality

LENA Start Fall 2016 Update



By age three, it's estimated children from low-income families hear 30 million fewer words than their more well-off peers. This word gap contributes to children from low-income families being less school-ready. With funding from the Bush Foundation and the Target Foundation, Think

Small is first in the nation to implement the LENA Start program with child care providers AND parents. The LENA Start program uses a language pedometer to give parents and child care providers feedback by counting the words a child hears and the number of times the child or adult respond to each other (conversational turns).

▶ We are currently running two LENA Start groups.

Minneapolis Group Attendees

- Five family child care professionals; one is a provider and four are assistants

St. Paul Group Attendees

- Three child care professionals; one is a provider and two are assistants
- Five parents are attending the St Paul group. Three of these parents live in high poverty zip codes.

▶ Who's being recorded?

11 children are being recorded.

- Two are being recorded at home and at child care:
 - one in Minneapolis
 - one in St Paul
- Four are being recorded just at home:
 - one in Minneapolis
 - three in St Paul
- Five are just being recorded at child care (we had parents sign a separate consent for this type of participation):
 - five in Minneapolis
- 13 recordings are completed each week

The children being recorded represent four child care environments

- Three family child care programs; two in high poverty zip codes (55104, 55106)
- One child care center

We have eight child care professionals participating

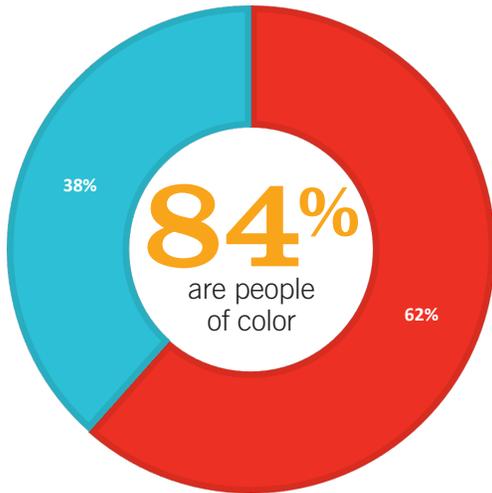
- All of these are women of color
- Six of them work at centers located in high poverty zip codes



continued on next page >

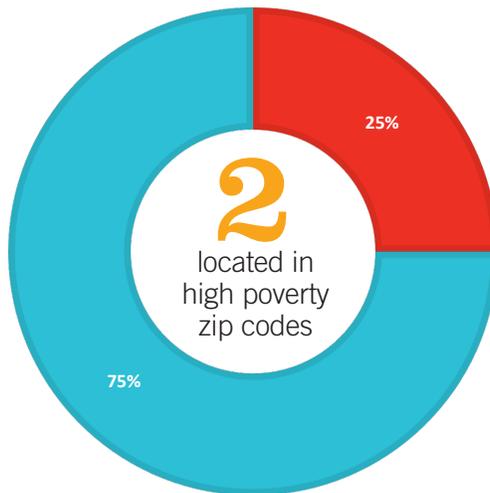
13 ADULTS ATTENDING

■ Child Care Professionals ■ Parents



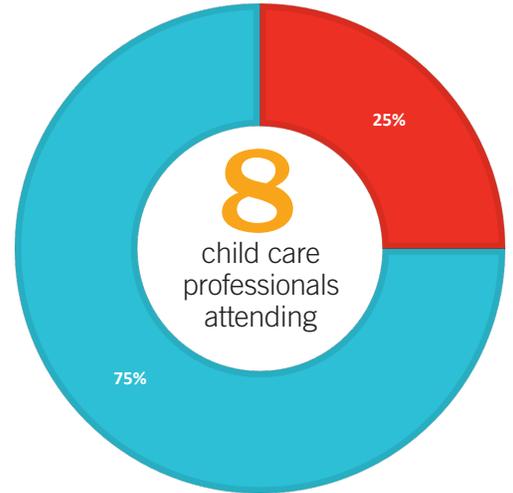
CHILD CARE CENTERS REPRESENTED

■ Child Care Center ■ Family Child Care



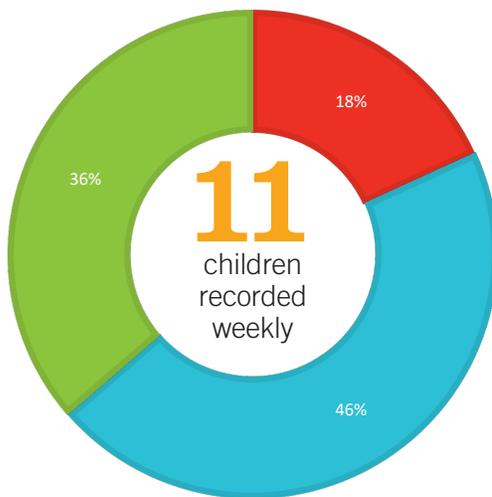
CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS PARTICIPATING

■ Providers ■ Assistants



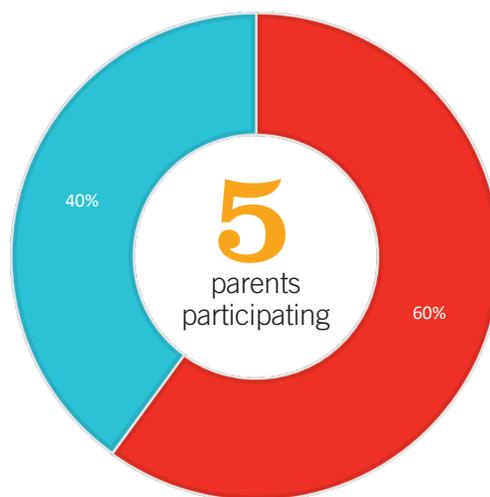
RECORDING LOCATIONS

■ Home + Child Care ■ Child Care Only ■ Home Only



WHERE PARENTS LIVE

■ High Poverty Zip Codes ■ Other



	Minneapolis Group	St. Paul Group
# of Centers Represented (parents/child care professionals)	2**	3**
TI # Child Care Professionals	5 (100% FCC & POC)	3 (100% FCC & POC)
Providers	1	1
Assistants	4	2
TI Parents		5 (60% POC)
Family Child Care Parents		2 (100% POC)
Child Care Center Parents		3 (33% POC)
# Parents in Poverty Zip Codes		3
# Centers in Poverty Zip Codes	1**	2**

*One of our child care professionals (an assistant) is recording with her grandson that she takes care of for a number of hours each week.

**One center is represented in both sites with child care professionals attending in Minneapolis and parents attending in St Paul.