



Committee for Economic Development

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## **CED Releases Two Reports on Value of Early Education Business Group Says Preschool Education Offers Strong Economic Returns**

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 8, 2004 - The Committee for Economic Development (CED) has released two working papers on the value of early childhood education. These documents are part of CED's effort to advance high quality universal preschool for all children in the U.S. The reports are:

### ***Developmental Education: The Value of High Quality Preschool Investments as Economic Tools***

This working paper examines job growth and economic development and their relation to early childhood education. The paper concludes that early childhood education offers potential high returns as an economic development incentive for convincing high-profile companies to locate in a community. Further, as stated in the paper, "CED encourages local development policy-makers to view early education as a development tool and appreciate its lasting benefits."

### ***A New Framework for Assessing the Benefits of Early Education***

Local policy makers often have a difficult time deciding if a comprehensive prekindergarten program will benefit their community. This working paper outlines the various benefits that arise from early childhood education, including the human capital issues of productivity effects and socialization effects. The paper includes an examination of the long-term social benefits and costs per participant at two established U.S. preschool programs. CED believes that agreed-upon methods of assessing the value of early childhood education are needed, because "without a comprehensive look at the benefits of early education, its value will remain underestimated."

These publications were created by CED as part of the The Pew Charitable Trusts' initiative to advance high quality prekindergarten for all of the nation's three and four year olds through objective, policy-focused research, state public education campaigns, and national outreach.

Both ***Developmental Education: The Value of High Quality Preschool Investments as Economic Tools*** and ***A New Framework for Assessing the Benefits of Early Education*** are available from the Committee for Economic Development, 2000 L Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036, telephone - (202) 296-5860. The full text of these working papers and CED's groundbreaking 2002 report, ***Preschool for All: Investing in a Productive and Just Society*** are available at [www.ced.org](http://www.ced.org). Information on the Pew Charitable Trusts' early childhood education efforts can be found in the Pre-K education link at [www.pewtrusts.com](http://www.pewtrusts.com).

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*CED is a non-profit, non-partisan organization of more than 200 business leaders and university presidents. Since 1942, its research and policy programs have addressed many of the nations most pressing economic and social issues, including education reform, workforce competitiveness, campaign finance, health care, and global trade and finance. CED promotes policies to produce increased productivity and living standards, greater and more equal opportunity for every citizen, and an improved quality of life for all.*