

What is Equity?

When a child faces challenges throughout their life, the strength of their foundation is what matters the most.

But, every child has unique assets and barriers to healthy development, and builds their foundation in different environments.



If, however, we gave every child what they need to succeed and built their foundation up in their earliest years, they would all be better prepared to withstand the storm.

This is equity.



**CHILDREN WHO
START BEHIND, USUALLY
STAY BEHIND.**

FOR EXAMPLE:

In Ohio, only 40% of kindergartners come to the classroom ready to learn.

IT'S NO SURPRISE THEN, THAT

**ONLY 43% OF THE ADULT WORKFORCE
HAS A POSTSECONDARY DEGREE OR CREDENTIAL
LEADING TO A JOB AVAILABLE IN OHIO TODAY.**

**SOME CHILDREN ARE MORE OFTEN
LEFT BEHIND
THAN OTHERS.**

When a child's health & educational achievement gaps are predictable by race, class, geography or other social factors we call them inequities.

The mental and physical health, social skills and cognitive capacities laid in a child's earliest years are all critically important for success in school, the workplace and the larger community.



Achieving equitable outcomes for all children requires:

**INVESTING IN THOSE WHO ARE MORE OFTEN LEFT BEHIND,
& GIVING THEM WHAT THEY NEED TO
BUILD A STRONG FOUNDATION
FOR LIFELONG SUCCESS.**