



Collaboration for
Early Childhood

GET INVOLVED IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

IN OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST

1. **BE A PARENT LEADER.** Families First | La Familia Primero is a bilingual parent-led team supported by the Collaboration for Early Childhood. The group works together to build stronger families and make our community better for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. Todos son bienvenidos!
2. **VOLUNTEER AT COMMUNITY EVENTS.** Every February, we host an Early Childhood Symposium where teachers and parents from Oak Park and our surrounding communities come together for a day of learning and professional development. We also host and take part in events for the community. We always welcome helping hands.
3. **JOIN A COMMITTEE.** The Collaboration's work is guided by committees, which are made up of teachers, providers, parents, and other members of the community. Committees meet several times a year and help steer the direction of the Collaboration. Anyone who wants to support our work is welcome.
4. **BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS.** The Board of Directors oversees all of the operations of the Collaboration. We are always looking for people to join future Board cohorts. Dedicate your time and energy to making a difference in the lives of children under five in our community. Our search for future Board members is ongoing.
5. **VISIT OUR FATHERHOOD GROUP.** Welcome all father figures! Welcome to Fatherhood is a supportive men's group where you can share wisdom and borrow wisdom with fathers in Oak Park and surrounding communities. Become part of this important dialogue.
6. **LEAD A WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS OR PARENTS.** Are you a professional in the field with a skill that families or teachers can use? Apply to share your knowledge as part of our yearly workshop programming.
7. **PARTICIPATE IN THE OAK PARK/RIVER FOREST FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM.** The Foster Grandparent program partners senior citizens with local preschool programs. The volunteer "Foster Grandparents" have regular work schedules in classrooms, they help out teachers and spend quality time with young folks. And they can earn a stipend as well (from the Chicago Foster Grandparent office).
8. **INVEST IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH.** Attend a Physicians' Network Gathering, Professional Development or other community screening event related to supporting the health of children under five and their families.
9. **NO TIME TO VOLUNTEER?** Join the magic-makers in the community who donate to us so that we can expand the services we provide to all of our children.

For more information about these and other opportunities, contact the Collaboration at info@collab4kids.org