



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preschool Advantage Successfully Placed 100 Children in Preschool!

Morristown NJ, July 9, 2024 -- Preschool Advantage, the Morristown-based nonprofit whose mission is to fund preschool tuitions for families in need, announced that it placed **100** children in local area preschools for the 2024-2025 school year in both Morris and Somerset Counties.

“We’re thrilled to have helped so many children, as the need has never been greater,” said Nancy Bangiola, Executive Director of Preschool Advantage. According to a new report from the ALICE program, a national data initiative of the United Way of Northern New Jersey, some workers are worse off financially than they were a decade ago despite recent wage increases for low-wage jobs.

Preschool Advantage pays the tuition for children aged 3 - 4 to attend preschool at one of 28 high-quality preschools in Morris and Somerset Counties. The gap between children who have attended preschool and those who have not increases with each successive year. However,

when children are enrolled in a high-quality preschool program, these trends can be reversed, which allows children from all backgrounds to flourish.

We are committed to leveling the playing field between children whose families can afford to send them to preschool and those who cannot, so that ***all children*** in the community begin kindergarten with the tools they need for success.

Demographics of Preschool Advantage students this year:

- **Percent of children from two-parent households:** 73%
- **Percent of families that don't speak English at home:** 27%
- **Location:** 78% of our families reside in Morris County, 13% in Somerset County, and 9% in other counties
- **Income Level:** 83% of families fall at or below the income level needed to provide for basic needs in Morris and Somerset Counties
- **Average household income:** \$63,201

Applications for the 2025-2026 school year will be available on January 15, 2025. Parents and caregivers can learn more at: www.preschooladvantage.org/apply-now. Applications received before March 1, 2025, will be given priority funding. Preschool Advantage is committed to giving children the opportunity to attend preschool and thus equalize the gap between lower income families and affluent families. The organization is supported by individual donors as well as by grants from foundations and businesses. Since its inception in 1995, Preschool Advantage has paid over 1,600 tuitions, providing families with financial assistance for quality preschool education. Additional information about the organization can be found at www.preschooladvantage.org, or by calling (973) 532-2501.

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