CISC’s mission includes creating opportunities for children to succeed through linguistically and culturally-relevant early learning programs. Research shows the development of cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and leadership skills are vital between birth and age five for kindergarten readiness. Best Starts for Kids and Seattle Preschool Program provide vital funding and support for CISC’s ParentChild+ and Bilingual Preschool at Yesler Community Center. Over the last year, we continued to support families by sending educational materials home, developing engaging videos, and connecting through virtual visits and classroom time.

Recently, both programs held virtual graduation ceremonies to celebrate one of many milestones along each child’s educational path. The ParentChild+ team organized two ceremonies for our Chinese and Vietnamese families. We invited families to share photos and stories of the impact of the program on their child’s development. The preschool program celebrated the achievements of our 20 students along with their family members. We are incredibly proud of all the students and the dedication of our teachers and early learning specialists for supporting the future of the community.

Your vote, your voice

Ballots will be arriving soon for the August 3 Primary Election, which will determine whether the Best Starts for Kids levy will be renewed and the top two candidates for the November 2 General Election. While CISC cannot support or oppose individual candidates, we can help inform voters about candidates and their issues and take a stand on ballot measures.

Best Starts for Kids

The Best Starts for Kids Levy, which was approved by voters in 2015, has made a tremendous impact during its six years of investments in half a million children, youth, and their families in King County. CISC’s Kaleidoscope Play and Learn, ParentChild+, Universal Developmental Screening, and Child
Care Health Consultation programs receive vital support from this levy. Over the years, we have seen the difference each program makes in the lives of our future generation of leaders through their growth and development.

CISC’s Board of Directors has endorsed the renewal of the Best Starts for Kids Levy, which will be on the August 3 Primary Election Ballot as KC Proposition 1. Learn more about the proposal to renew the Best Starts for Kids initiative.

Seattle Mayoral Election
Our Executive Director, Michael Itti, asked Seattle’s mayoral candidates how they plan on improving the accessibility of the Seattle Preschool Program (SPP). CISC is an SPP partner and we see the impact early childhood education has on our region's youth and future leaders. View the mayoral candidates’ responses.

Candidate Forums
Join virtual candidate forums to hear from candidates running for Seattle Mayor, Seattle City Council Positions #8 and #9, and Port of Seattle.
- Register for the City of Seattle Asian and Pacific Islander primary candidate forum on July 21 at 5:30pm
- Register for the Port of Seattle candidate forum on July 22 at 7pm

Educating the community about indoor air quality
With wildfire smoke becoming more common each summer, CISC’s Family Resource Center team partnered with Public Health - Seattle & King County in educating our community members about ways to improve indoor air quality and reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Strategies include improving your HVAC system with MERV 13 or higher filters or adding portable HEPA air cleaners. A low-cost solution is using a box fan with a MERV 13 furnace filter attached to the back. For more information, visit www.kingcounty.gov/covid/air

CISC staff recently distributed 80 box fans with furnace filters to seniors and families.

Well Wishes to You and Your Family!

CISC Team