

KinderReady Summer Academy: Community Connections Transform Lives **Purpose of the KinderReady Summer Academy Video** The video produced by the WCPS Communications Team aims to inform community stakeholders about the significant contributions made by the United Way of Southern Kentucky through grant funding for WCPS' KinderReady Summer Academy. This innovative summer program is specifically designed for preschool students, focusing on bridging the gap in readiness for kindergarten during the summer months. Secondly, the video also serves to inform community stakeholders of what is possible when community organizations and school districts partner to bring transformational learning opportunities to students. **Where and When It Is Being Used** The video is being utilized within the WCPS community, targeting parents, educators and local stakeholders interested in expanding early childhood education to collectively work towards increasing kindergarten readiness among young learners. By highlighting KinderReady Summer Academy, the video serves as a promotional tool to encourage program enrollment and community stakeholder support, while highlighting the value of partnerships in expanding innovative student learning opportunities. **Target Audience** The primary audience for this video series includes parents of preschool children, educators, and community members who are invested in early childhood development. Additionally, it seeks to engage potential donors and supporters from the United Way of Southern Kentucky and other local organizations interested in early education initiatives. **Supporting Effective Communication** The video effectively communicates the goals, structure and benefits of KinderReady Summer Academy by outlining its key components. It showcases the theme-based STEM activities that foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills, which are vital in today's educational landscape. By emphasizing an evidence-based curriculum centered around Brigance Readiness activities, the video reassures parents that their children will receive a high-quality educational experience. Furthermore, the focus on developing social-emotional skills ensures that the program meets children where they are, promoting inclusivity and adaptability in various learning environments. **Outcomes Achieved** The program had 68% of its participants show measurable academic growth, as indicated by pre-and post-screening data, up 3% from the summer before. Additionally, it set a goal for participants to achieve an average

Brigance kindergarten readiness score of 70 based on these assessments and the actual average readiness score reported this past summer was 75, a remarkable achievement. Another significant outcome is that 80% of the program participants demonstrated proficiency in the social-emotional skills necessary for kindergarten success, as measured through a pre-and post-rating scale. In summary, this video serves as an essential communication tool that not only highlights the impact of the United Way of Southern Kentucky's grant funding but also outlines the comprehensive approach of KinderReady Summer Academy, while also showing viewers the value of community-based partnerships in providing students innovative learning experiences. By focusing on critical thinking, problem-solving and social-emotional development, the program directly addresses the needs of preschool students, preparing them for a successful transition into kindergarten. The clear articulation of goals and expected outcomes further strengthens community confidence in the initiative, fostering a supportive environment for early childhood education.