

The Acorn Approach

PROJECT ACORN was founded in 1995 by a local couple to help families in need send their 3- and 4-year-old children to preschool. Studies have demonstrated that early childhood education affects everything in a child's life: intellectual



development, self-confidence and even future earning potential. The Project Acorn Approach provides the foundation for young children to grow into responsible and productive adults.

What we do

Project Acorn funds preschool education for children from low-income families. Our non-profit organization funds half-day programs, two to five days each week during the school year. Project Acorn does not operate a preschool program. Instead, we place children in highly regarded New Jersey state-licensed quality preschools. This means Acorn Scholars experience a **mainstream preschool education** that stimulates social, intellectual, physical and emotional growth. They enter traditional kindergarten programs with proven language, social and academic skills.

www.projectacorn.org

From Tiny Acorn to Mighty Oak

In the past ten years, over 300 children have attended preschool programs thanks to Project Acorn. This year, approximately 70 families in Morris and Somerset counties take pride in the fact that they can provide preschool education for their sons and daughters. **These parents value education.** They understand the benefits of early learning and want their children to enter kindergarten eager to participate and succeed.



The Lasser's Story

When Stuart and Jill Lasser enrolled their son in preschool in 1994 they quickly recognized the benefits. Realizing that preschool tuition was beyond the reach of many families living in their area, the Lassers founded Project Acorn to offer financial assistance to families in need. Project Acorn is their solution, offering families in need the same preschool education their child enjoyed. Join them in their quest to help local families pay for preschool.

An Investment Tip from Ben Franklin
"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

Why does Preschool matter?

Studies show that adults born in poverty who participate in high-quality, active learning preschool programs at ages three and four have half as many criminal arrests, higher earnings and property wealth, and greater commitment to marriage. Horace Mann said education is the "balance wheel of the social machinery." We believe that providing an early boost to young children from low-income families will have a positive and permanent impact on society.

How can you help?

Project Acorn relies on donations from individuals, companies and foundations. The typical preschool annual tuition in our area exceeds \$3,500 per child. We pay the entire tuition for each child sponsored by Project Acorn. You can help by completing the form on the back of this brochure and sending it with your contribution.

Business & Foundation Partners:

We also partner with local businesses, including Aventis, Bank of America Private Bank, Best Foods Educational Foundation, Cendant, FirstEnergy/JCP&L, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Novartis, Pfizer, and Saturn, to name a few. Let us know if your company wants to work with us to improve the lives of children in need in Morris and Somerset counties.

BUSINESS DONOR PROFILE

The Eileen Fisher store at The Mall at Short Hills recently raised \$3,200 for Project Acorn by donating a percentage of sales for one day.

Join the Project Acorn Family Tree!

Please complete this form and mail it with your tax-deductible donation.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- Contact me to discuss volunteer opportunities or ways for my company/organization to help raise Project Acorn funds.

Enclosed please find my gift of:

- \$1,000 \$250 \$100
 \$50 Other



Send your donation to:
Project Acorn
PO Box 86
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

www.projectacorn.org

Project Acorn Inc. is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization. Our Federal Tax Exempt ID Number is 22-3360099 and our fiscal year ends December 31st. Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

*See how Project Acorn
 Makes a difference one child
 at a time . . .*



"There was no way we could afford school for our son. With Project Acorn's help now he can't wait to go to kindergarten next year."
 DM, Dover

"Jessica comes home from school with a huge smile on her face, telling me things she learned that day. Her language skills are improving and she is even helping me with my English"



JV, Morristown



"Robert loves school. We are so grateful to Project Acorn for giving this gift to our family. Someday maybe he will help someone the way you help us."

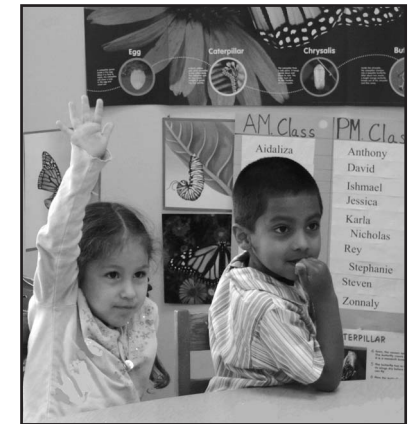
AF, Wharton

www.projectacorn.org • 973-455-7815
 PO BOX 86, MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950



Making a difference - one child at a time

**Want to change
 the world?**



**Start by educating
 a child...**



PROJECT ACORN funds quality preschool education for children of families in need in Morris and Somerset counties.