Fiscal Year 2024-2025

MiFamily Engagement Centers

Region Highlights

16,350+
Families Impacted
Massive hyper-local mobilization driven directly by strategic grant distribution.

1,500+
Educators & Staff Mobilized
Extensive professional skill-building across regional kickoff events, focus groups, and early childhood advisory networks.

56
Active Strategic Partnerships
Unified network spanning local school districts, library systems, conservation groups, and child readiness coalitions.

Region 2

Region 2 is comprised of Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford Counties.

Core Initiatives & Capacity Building

- **The Equity-Driven Mini-Grant Framework**: Deployed $163,901.14 in hyper-local sub-grants. Using a rigorous scoring rubric, projects were funded based on their explicit ability to tailor engagement to underrepresented and remote rural families.
- **Embedded Network Advisory Model**: Utilized Change Management principles to integrate family engagement directly into existing, high-continuity workstreams like the Regional Implementation Team (RIIT) and GSRP Data Days, ensuring long-term institutional sustainability.
- **Tribal and Special Education Inclusivity**: Partnered with the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Education Department to amplify Title VI support, while collaborating with Special Education directors to strengthen the regional influence of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC).

"I want you to know how grateful I am that you designed this grant opportunity and worded it the way you did… it's already impacting me, my staff, our volunteers, and conversations I'm having in the community. My heart feels full; the work feels important and right."

— Region 2 Community Grant Partner

Connect with Region 2

Looking Ahead to FY 2025-26

- **Deploy On-The-Ground Coaches:** Scale regional deployment by onboarding two new dedicated Family Engagement Coaches to guide Intermediate School Districts through deep relational strategies.
- **Expand High-Impact Ecosystems:** Intentionally expand partnerships into after-school programs and public libraries while optimizing technical reporting to protect and sustain long-term funding streams.

What are the MiFamily Engagement Cen

The MiFamily Engagement Centers are networks of relationships and resources facilitated by Regional Coordinators and driven by regional needs. The Centers encourage a "dual capacity-building" approach—simultaneously empowering families to be active partners in their children's education while equipping family-facing professionals with the skills, knowledge, and resources to welcome and support those families effectively. **Family engagement is a partnership** among families, students, educators, and community partners, built on trust, respect, and common goals so that every learner thrives.

VIDEO - (1m 34s)

Watch: Michigan Educators On the Critical Role of Family Engagement

MiLEAP
Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential

The establishment of the 10 MiFamily Engagement Centers signified a paradigm shift in educational policy—moving from a model where **family engagement** was viewed as an ancillary activity to one where it **is recognized as a central pillar of student academic success across the age span, and particularly, in early literacy.**

Supported by the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP), these centers are designed not as brick-and-mortar facilities, but as regional "systems of support." Their mandate is to build capacity, distribute resources, and foster authentic partnerships between Intermediate School Districts (ISDs), local districts, community organizations, and the families they serve.

To learn more about the MiFamily Engagement Centers, visit our website at **michigan.gov/familypartnerships**.

MiFamily Engagement Centers

Individuals with disabilities may contact the MiLEAP ADA Coordinator to request an alternative format to these materials. Please visit www.Michigan.gov/ADA for a list of state ADA Coordinators.