

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF MID-COAST MAINE AND BEYOND

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Invest in early education

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As incoming chairman of the United Way of Mid Coast Maine and a member of the business group America's Edge, I would like to thank The Times Record for its recent Success By 6 newspaper insert "Building for our Future Prosperity," which emphasized the important role that high-quality early education, including preschool and pre-K programs, can play in a child's development.

The truth is, early learning programs are not only critical in helping children develop properly but also are key to ensuring that we continue to grow our businesses and maintain a vibrant economy. Research studies have shown that high-quality preschool programs can make a huge difference in the lives of low-income at-risk children by greatly increasing the likelihood that these children will graduate from high school and develop the 21st-century skills that businesses now demand.

We call on Maine's next governor and the legislators who will be elected in November to join us in our vision of strengthening our businesses and economy through investments in high-quality early education for all local children.

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