Early Childhood Speaker Series:
Investing in High Quality Early Childhood Education Yields Economic Returns

The Graduate Center for the Study of Early Learning is hosting a series of presentations and discussions on how investments in high quality early childhood education yield a high rate of return. We are excited that our first speakers are internationally known for their work in making the case that investing in young children pays off in multiple ways that are measured in dollars and sense.

The Abecedarian Approach: A Framework for Economic and Workforce Development

The presentation will focus on recent analysis of the Abecedarian Project’s long-term impact on participant’s health, social well-being and educational advancement by Nobel Prize winning economist Dr. James Heckman. An in-depth economic analysis of the outcomes of participants over 40 years after their participation in the project as infants reveals startling cost savings to society. Drs. Craig and Sharon Ramey will share the project’s original design and how the participants have fared in life after Abecedarian.

Mississippians can learn, from the outcomes of the Project, how to better prepare the workforce and why investing in high quality early childhood programs beginning in infancy is the first step.

Dr. Craig Ramey is a co-principal investigator in the Abecedarian Project. The Abecedarian Project is one of the world’s oldest and most oft-cited early childhood education programs. It marked its 42nd anniversary last year with groundbreaking findings from principal co-investigators, Dr. Craig Ramey and Frances A. Campbell, Nobel laureate Dr. James J. Heckman, and their colleagues – as well as several new international initiatives. Ramey is currently a Professor and Distinguished Research Scholar of Human Development at Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute.

Dr. Sharon Ramey is an established researcher in the fields of early experiences, starting prior to conception and extending to later health, social-emotional, and intellectual development with an emphasis on highly promising treatments for children with disabilities and at-risk conditions. She is currently a Professor and Distinguished Research Scholar at Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute.

Registration Information:
Go to North MS Education Consortium (http://nmec.msresaservices.com), click on Workshops, then click on Academic. You will see the event listed as Early Childhood Speaker Series. Register online by clicking on more information, entering access code invest, then clicking register. If you don’t already have an account, you will need to create one. Registration will close on December 10, 2017.

December 12, 2017
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Mississippi Public Broadcasting Auditorium
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211