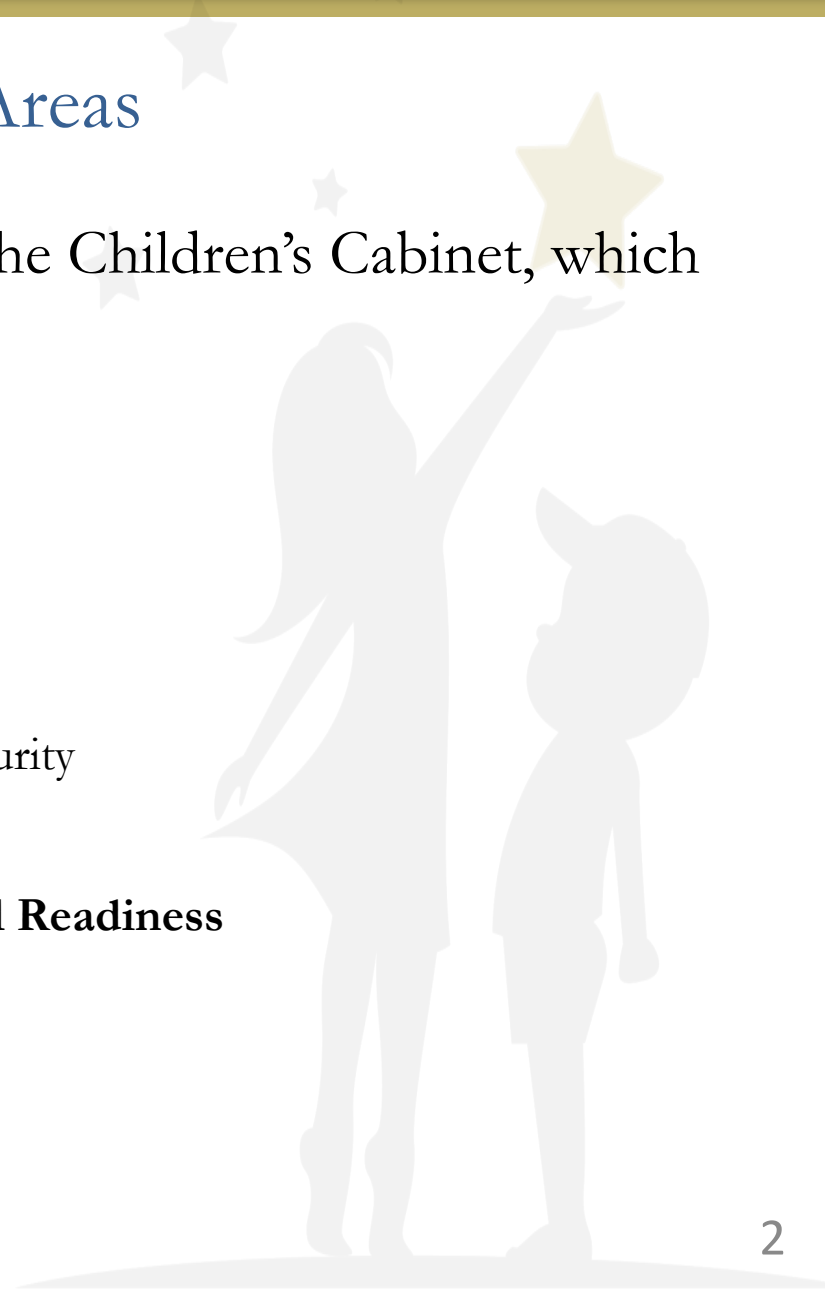




CHILDREN'S
CABINET

Children's Cabinet and Priority Areas

- Executive Order No. 11 established the Children's Cabinet, which is comprised of:
 - First Lady of Virginia
 - Lieutenant Governor
 - Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry
 - Secretary of Education
 - Secretary of Health and Human Resources
 - Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
- Children's Cabinet has priority areas:
 - **Early Childhood Development and School Readiness**
 - Nutrition and Food Security
 - Systems of Care
 - Student Safety
 - Trauma-Informed Care



Early Childhood Development and School Readiness

- First Lady conducted Back-to-School Tour to engage child care, Head Start, school and community stakeholders in discussions on how Virginia can improve its early childhood system.
- School Readiness Committee and Children's Cabinet Workgroup continue to inform efforts to unify fragmented system, improve quality and access, increase family engagement and strengthen workforce.
- Recent progress:
 - Increasing **child care subsidy rate** to better serve working families
 - Expanding **VKRP** to get better data
 - Aligning **articulation** so teachers can seamlessly earn credentials leading up to degree(s)
 - Implementing 2018 General Assembly investments including **VPI Plan, Early Impact VA** and **Curriculum**
 - Applied for **\$13.9 million** Preschool Development Grant to create strategic plan, pilot unified community-level efforts and accelerate improvement in quality and access

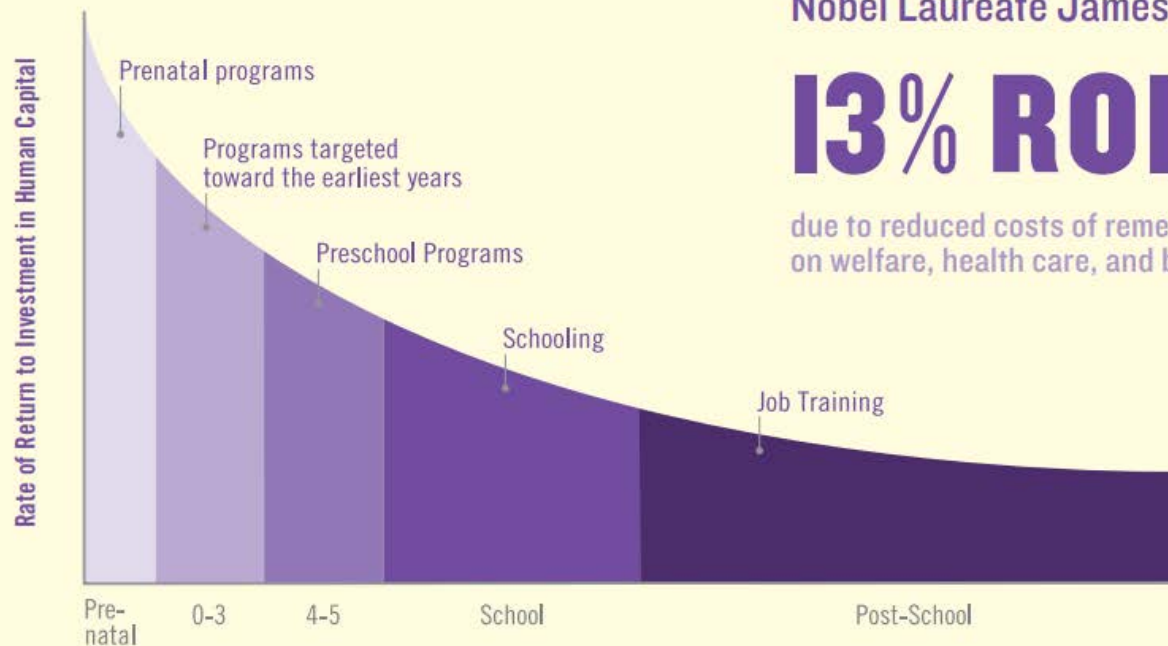


Investing Early

- Investing in improving kindergarten readiness is a smart business investment.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IS A SMART INVESTMENT

The earlier the investment, the greater the return



Nobel Laureate James Heckman estimates a

13% ROI



**FROM INVESTING IN
HIGH QUALITY EARLY
CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS**

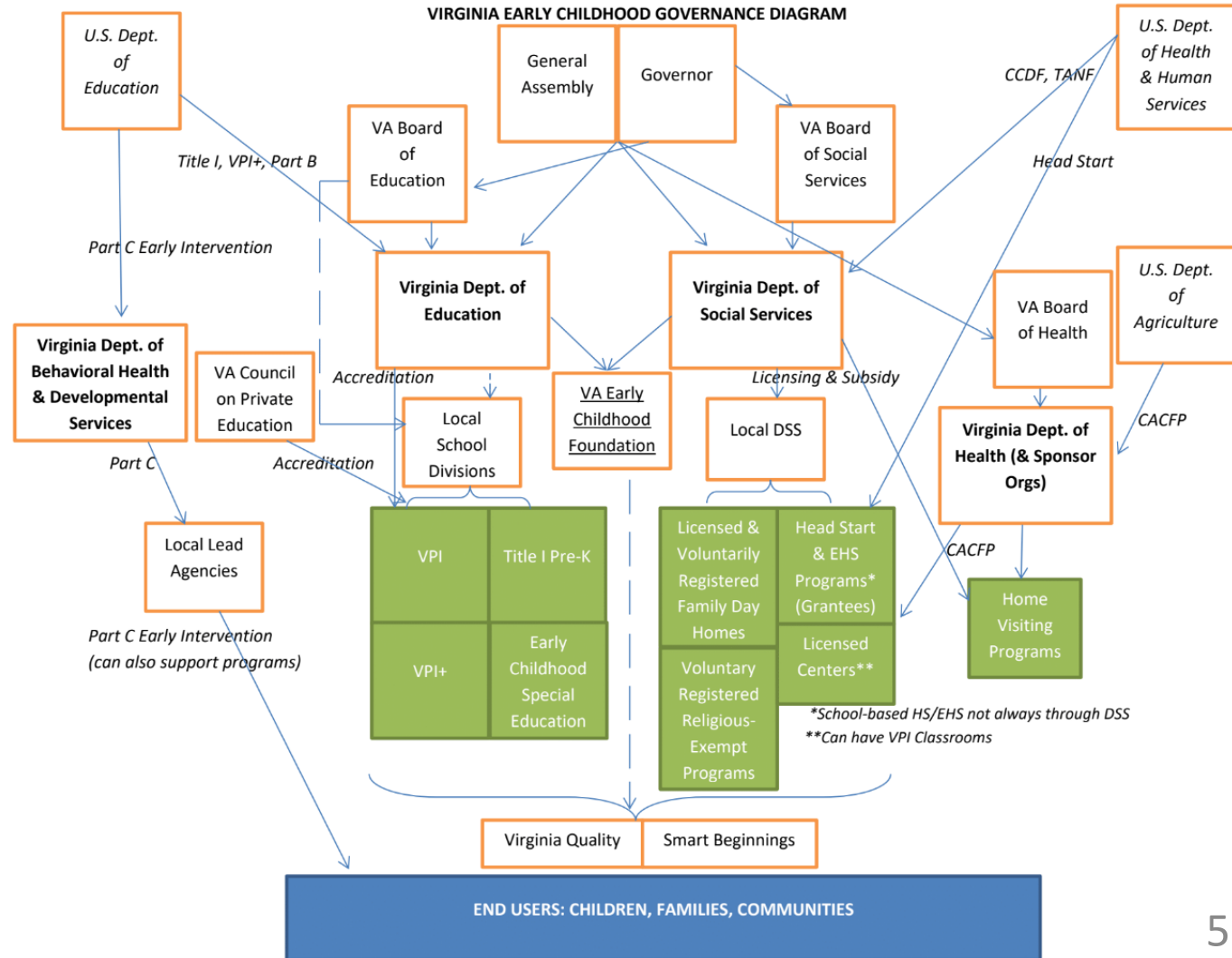
due to reduced costs of remediation, incarceration, reliance on welfare, health care, and better employment outcomes

Source: James Heckman, Nobel Laureate in Economics

CHILDREN'S CABINET

Current State of Oversight

- Governance structure makes it difficult to measure and strengthen our early childhood system – at both state and local levels.



By 2022: What Success Looks Like

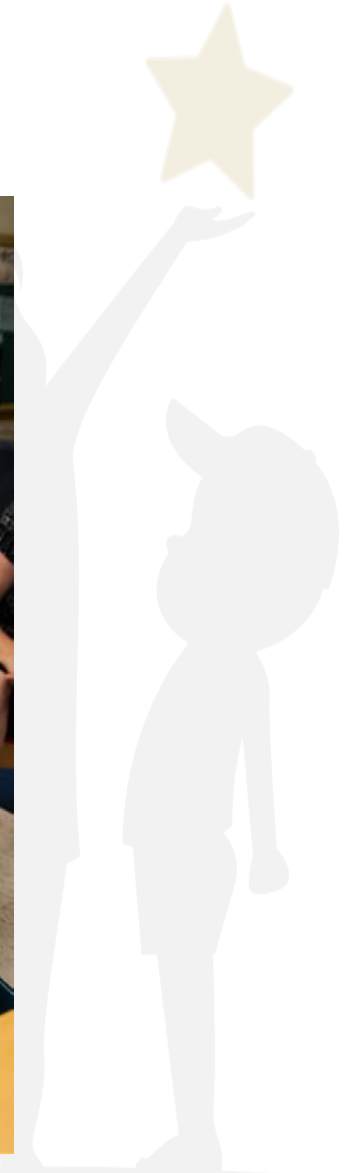
- By 2022, more Virginia children will enter kindergarten ready.
 - More Virginia families have **affordable access** to early childhood care and education that supports learning across the **birth through 3rd grade** continuum and **meets their unique needs**.
 - With a **shared** definition of **school readiness**, Virginia families and early childhood programs work together to **ensure children thrive, developing the skills** needed for kindergarten and beyond.
 - Virginia has **unified quality standards** for all publicly-funded early childhood programs that are **indicative of child outcomes**. Virginia **measures and rewards** programs for performance, ensuring leaders and teachers are **well compensated** for their achievement.
 - Overall Virginia's early childhood system will be **more unified, transparent, data-driven and resource-effective**, with no funding "left on the table."

Looking Forward to Next Year

- In 2019, Virginia should work in bi-partisan way to:
 - Sustain 1,500 preschool slots for Virginia children that prepare them for kindergarten (VPI+);
 - Implement key measures and tools for quality – including curriculum, *CLASS* observations and individualized professional development – within all VPI classrooms and as many other publicly-funded early childhood classrooms as possible;
 - Increase awareness about school readiness and support teachers and families as VKRP goes to scale; and
 - Maximize existing and pursue new federal and private funding to achieve shared goals including Preschool Development Grant, Pritzker State Grant Program and others.
- Administration will continue to work with foundations, advocacy organizations, business sector and elected officials to help unify and strengthen Virginia's early childhood care and education system.

CHILDREN'S CABINET

Thank You!





CHILDREN'S
CABINET