

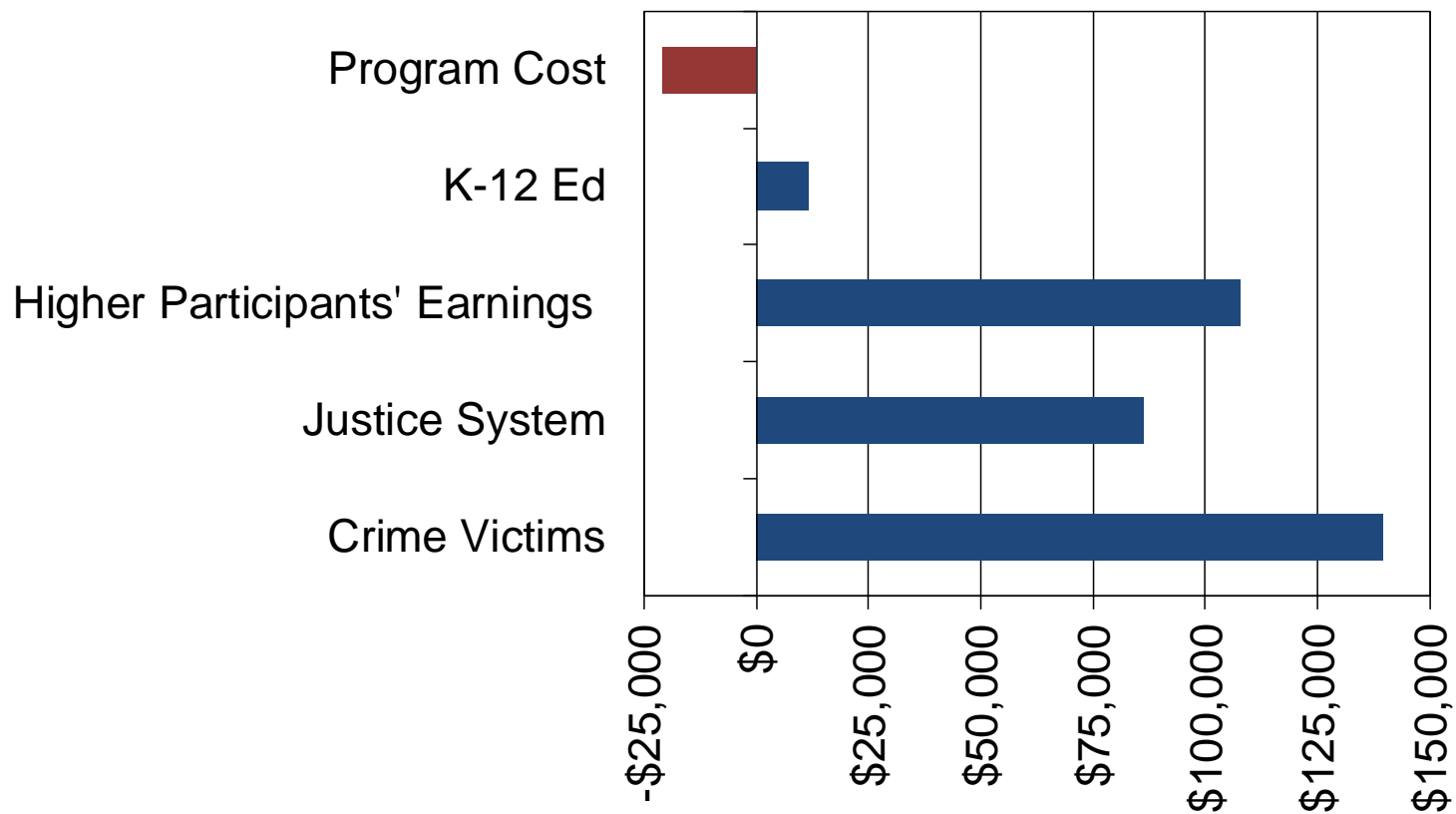
# **The Minnesota Model for Early Childhood Development: A Market/Parent-Based Approach**

**Strong Foundations: The Economic Futures of Kids and Communities  
Federal Reserve System Community Development Research Conference  
March 23-24, 2017**

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# Benefits far exceed costs

Perry Preschool – Costs and benefits over 62 years



Source: Schweinhart, et al. (2005)

# Return on Investment

## Evidence from longitudinal early childhood studies

- Perry Preschool
  - Schweinhart: \$16 to \$1
  - Heckman: \$7–\$12 to \$1
  
- Abecedarian Educational Child Care
  - Barnett: \$4 to \$1
  - Heckman: \$7 to \$1
  
- Chicago Child-Parent Center
  - Reynolds: \$10 to \$1
  
- Elmira Prenatal/Early Infancy Project
  - Karoly: \$5 to \$1

Sources: Garcia, Heckman, Leaf, & Prados (2016); Heckman, Moon, Pinto, Savelyez, & Yavitz (2010); Karoly, et al. (1998); Masse & Barnett (2002); Reynolds, Temple, White, Ou, & Robertson (2011); Schweinhart, et al. (2005)

# Early childhood development: A high-return, low-risk investment

- Rolnick-Grunewald:
  - Total annual rate of return: 16%–18%
  - Public annual rate of return: 12%–16%
- Heckman:
  - Total annual rate of return: 7%–13%

Source: Garcia, Heckman, Leaf, & Prados (2016); Heckman, Moon, Pinto, Savelyez, & Yavitz (2010); Rolnick & Grunewald (2003)

# Principles for bringing early childhood development to scale

- Start early
- Target most vulnerable children and families
- Engage and empower parents
- Assess and improve quality
- Flexible and culturally sensitive
- Long-term commitment

## Minnesota Model in theory

- Start as early as prenatal with home-visiting parent mentors
- Scholarships awarded to low-income families
- Scholarships can only be used at high-quality rated programs
- Rated programs can be center-based or home-based, public or private, for-profit or not-for-profit
- Scholarships generally available ages 3 and 4; earlier for children with higher risk factors

The Saint Paul

# Early Childhood Scholarship Program

Helping Families Get High-Quality Child  
Care and Early Education

Now enrolling 3-year-old children in Saint Paul's Frogtown and  
North End neighborhoods!

Tam si no yog lub sijhawm rau cov menyuum muaj hnuv nyooog 3 xyooos uas nyob hauv St. Paul  
ob koog zej zog Frogtown thiab North End cuv npe koom peb!

Imminka waxa la qorayaa ilmaha 3 sanno jirka ah ee xaafadaha Frogtown iyo North End ee  
Saint Paul!

¡Ahora registrando a los niños de 3 años de edad de los vecindarios de Saint Paul, Frogtown  
y North End!



# St. Paul Early Learning Scholarship Pilot Evaluation

- Children showed significant increases in language, literacy, and early math skills, ranging from small to large effects
- Number of high-quality providers increased 85%
- Over 80% of interviewed parents talked with child's teacher about behavior and accomplishments and home-based activities



# Early Learning Scholarship Expansion

- Minnesota's Race-to-the-Top: 4 Transformation Zones, \$11.4 million 2012-2016
- Minnesota legislature: Increased funding from \$4 million in 2011 to \$60 million in 2015, reaching over 8,000 children

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