

Children's Institute takes screening program on the road

By: Velvet Spicer | September 30, 2020

Children's Institute has taken its "Get Ready to GROW" program on the road.

The Rochester nonprofit has designed and equipped a bus to provide developmental screening for young children throughout the Finger Lakes region. The service will begin once it is deemed safe to return to in-person service officials said this week.



Children's Institute has designed and equipped a bus to provide developmental screening for young children throughout the Finger Lakes region. (provided)

Funding for the GROW bus program was provided by the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System and partner with community organizations. The GROW bus will allow Children's Institute to reach families in a variety of set to support kids' healthy development.

Children's Institute launched GROW-Rochester in 2016 in collaboration with multiple community organizations : Roc the Future. The program recently was renamed "Get Ready to GROW" in recognition of the initiative's evolution and its goal to provide comprehensive screening and support for referral, follow-up and services for 1- to 5-year children throughout the region.

Each child's vision, hearing, speech, dental health, social and emotional competence, cognitive functioning and physical development are checked by professionals using leading-edge tools and technology, officials said. All screenings and support are free to families.

GROW data reveals that more than 45 percent of kids screened have a potential need identified. Referrals for follow-up checks and services help ensure each child is ready to learn.

Children's Institute is a national not-for-profit organization that works to strengthen children's social and emotional health. Through research and evaluation, the organization develops and promotes effective prevention and early intervention programs, materials and best practices for children.

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