Parents as Teachers
State Office

When an early learning program is eliminated, children and families lose services. Community early learning programs lose a vital partner.

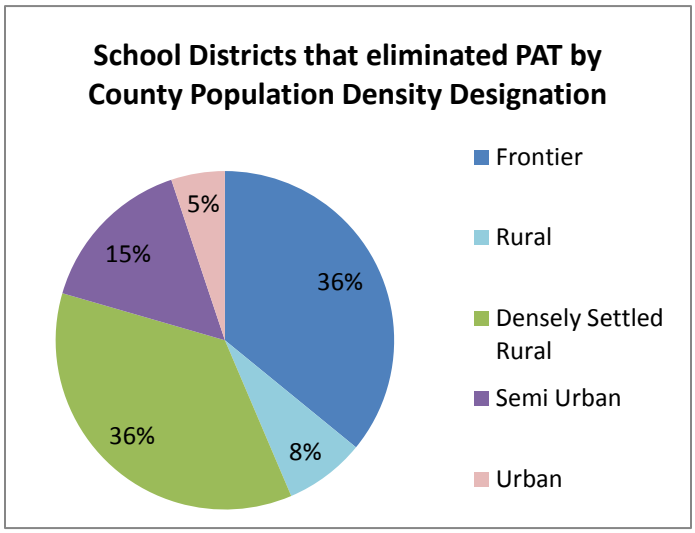
Kansas early learning programs work together to provide a continuum of services for young children and their families in their communities.

> When one rural Kansas county lost its Parents as Teachers (PAT) program, 90 families with 106 children lost services. The Infant Toddler Early Intervention/*tiny-k* program lost an important partner. PAT provided a vital service through developmental screening for children; referring families to Infant Toddler Early Intervention/*tiny-k* when indicated. When children were not eligible for Infant Toddler Early Intervention/*tiny-k* services, families were referred to PAT. No other early learning or parent education program existed in the community. This is still true today.

In 2010-11, Kansas Parents as Teachers screened over 14,000 children for child development, hearing, vision and health. Over 1,700 children were referred to community health and developmental service providers such as Infant Toddler Early Intervention/*tiny-k* programs.

Since 2008-09,

- 1,500 children and their families lost PAT services
- 39 school districts eliminated PAT due to budget cuts to the local schools.
- 80% of the districts that eliminated Parents as Teachers were in rural counties where access to quality parent education and early learning program services are limited.



In 2010-11, more than 56% of the Kansas PAT families served had one or more identified risk factors including:

4,783 low income

2,208 single head of households

670 families involved with the mental health or social services system

927 teen parents

484 low birth weight babies

608 families who are active duty military

72 Reserve or National Guard families

147 foster/adoptive families

259 transient or homeless families

179 families involved with the corrections system

Parents as Teachers currently reaches less than 15% of the eligible children and families in Kansas.

Kansas PAT is a valued partner with other quality home visiting and early learning programs working together to provide access to high quality services for young children and families in their communities.

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