Wraparound Baldwin is a comprehensive plan aimed to serve primary (K-2) schools in Milledgeville-Baldwin County, a rural and diverse community comprised of the following demographics: 42% African American, 54% White, and 4% other ethnicities. Approximately 16.8% of the Baldwin County population are without a high school education, and only 8.3% have attained a bachelor’s degree or higher. The county’s poverty rate of 29.7%, over ten points higher than the statewide poverty rate of 17.8%, contributes to low academic achievement for students. Both Lakeview Primary School and Midway Hills Primary School are Title I schools, and 83% of children are eligible for free/reduced meals.

WB has three major goals: increase services through the consortium, increase literacy in K-2 students, and increase parent engagement with the school system. These goals will be addressed through collaboration of consortium partners and the hiring of a Program Coordinator and two full-time Site Coordinators to organize the distribution of services. Additionally, WB plans to increase engagement with the community so that the community is more aware of and able to take advantage of available services. Key partners for this project are Baldwin County School District, Georgia College, Baldwin Family Connection, Central Georgia Technical College, Milledgeville Housing Authority, and the Twin Lakes Library System.

The program will increase services such as tutoring and adult education. New services that will be introduced are SMART tutoring (proven to be effective by What Works Clearinghouse), an academic summer program for struggling K-2 students (PUSH), a transition program for incoming kindergarteners, a school-based health clinic, and the Neighborhood Leaders program. It is expected that these new services will contribute to overall improved academic achievement in students, preparing them to meet the 3rd grade state reading benchmarks, setting them up for future academic success.