AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation
Replicating High-Quality Charter Preschools
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AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation, a novice applicant, will continue its successful 13-year record of expanding opportunities for racially and socioeconomically diverse preschool students, particularly traditionally underserved children by: (A) Building a strong foundation of kindergarten readiness for all children through (B) Creating 9 effective new charter preschools in the District of Columbia. AppleTree preschools earn Tier 1 (highest) or Tier 2 ratings serving a diverse enrollment of 1,300 students at 11 sites; 90% are economically disadvantaged. AppleTree’s theory of action is to: (1) Create new high-quality AppleTree early-education charter schools, (2) Staff them with a high-quality workforce, and (3) Deliver powerful teaching and learning through Every Child Ready, an evidence-based integrated instructional model. The American Institutes for Research (AIR) will conduct an evaluation to answer the following questions:

1. To what extent do established AppleTree charter preschools continue to deliver a high-quality education program during the replication phase?

2. To what extent do replication AppleTree charter preschools deliver a high-quality education program, relative to established AppleTree preschools?

3. To what extent do AppleTree charter preschools in the replication group promote students’ learning and development, relative to established AppleTree preschools at the end of the Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 year?

4. To what extent do AppleTree charter preschools (both established and replication) attenuate achievement gaps for key student subgroups at the end of the Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 year?

5. What are the challenges, successes, and lessons learned about replicating high quality AppleTree Charter preschools?