

## **HII Scholarship Fund Video – Early Childhood Education**

### **Mike Petters**

Your brain makes a million connections a minute when you're a kid. And every one of those connections will become part of the foundation for your ability to learn later in life.

### **Kevin Roossinck (Ingalls Shipbuilding Employee)**

It's important for Kennedy to begin her educational development as early as possible because it provides a foundation that she'll build upon from now until she's done with her education and even through her career.

### **Mike Petters**

The more words they're exposed to before they're five years old – vocabulary, words, interactions, puzzles, all of that – has an outsized impact on how the rest of your life might go.

### **Sarah Gorman (Newport News Shipbuilding Employee)**

With our older children we've seen that early foundation really helped them not only prepare for the academic rigor, but also the socialization that happens in school, so that when they got to kindergarten and first grade, they weren't spending so much time getting used to routines, but they were able to really engage with academics and their teachers and be ready to go.

### **Mike Petters**

At HII, we've chosen to step in and say: What we're going to work on is access. We're going to try to provide more access for children of our employees to get that better start.

### **Shakeil Darrington (Ingalls Shipbuilding Employee)**

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### **James Park (Ingalls Shipbuilding Employee)**

We were actually on the fence on whether or not we were going to send Skyla to pre-K this year, but with us getting the scholarship from Ingalls, we are able to send her to pre-K now this year.

### **Kyle Dodson (Newport News Shipbuilding Employee)**

So the scholarship's definitely going to benefit us. It's going to make things easier, obviously, and give us more opportunities to use that money in other places.

**Corey Burns (Ingalls Shipbuilding Employee)**

It helps our family a whole lot. Financially, it helps us quite a bit. Just for her to have an early start in education, making new friends at an early age with other kids it's quite helpful.

**Mike Petters**

I do believe that when it comes to workforce development, no matter what your horizon is or what your need is, you will get out of a workforce development pipeline what you put into it. Since our horizon is so long, we can reach all the way back to when you're two or three years old. And I think we have a responsibility to do that.

**Shakeil Darrington (Ingalls Shipbuilding Employee)**

Thank you Huntington Ingalls and Mike Petters for the scholarship opportunity for my son Jordan Jackson.

**Sarah Gorman (Newport News Shipbuilding Employee)**

What it's been able to give to our family financially, and Peter, we'll never be able to repay. And we just want to say thank you.

**Mike Petters**

Access gives people with potential the opportunity to achieve that potential. That's really what our scholarship program is all about. That's the reason why access is so important and that's why I'm really proud that we're able to invest in that.