



THE IMPACT OF THE BABY'S SPACE MODEL

Unlike any other local or national model, Baby's Space helps children in poverty succeed by providing extraordinary, research-based, culture-specific services to them and their families. Today, Baby's Space at Little Earth offers integrated child and family services from pregnancy to third grade, including year-round, full-day childcare and year-round public K-3 education through Tatanka Academy, parent education, on-site mental health services and family support. In 2009 and 2010, all of Tatanka Academy's kindergarten students—100 percent of whom have attended Baby's Space since birth—passed the Minneapolis post-kindergarten assessment.

What began as one center, in the Phillips neighborhood of south Minneapolis, expanded in 2003 into a partnership of four childcare centers that have implemented the Baby's Space infant/toddler/family service model and an on-going research study conducted by the University of Minnesota.

For this pioneering work in delivering high-impact early interventions to at-risk babies and toddlers, Dr. Terrie Rose was named an Ashoka Fellow in 2008. Ashoka: Innovators for the Public recognizes social entrepreneurs for their system-changing solutions to the world's most urgent social problems. In 2009, Minnesota's Social Venture Partners—a group of engaged philanthropists investing together in best practice solutions to systemic social problems—made Baby's Space an investee to support replication of the Baby's Space model to other Minnesota neighborhoods and villages.

A "Social Return on Investment" analysis, conducted by a team of MBA students at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management's Ventures Enterprise, found that Baby's Space has a very high likelihood of achieving a positive social return on its investment in the long term through reduced crime, increased wages and reduced social system strain. They estimate an economic benefit of more than \$3 for every dollar invested, based on an analysis comparing Baby's Space to similar programs.