

PRESS ADVISORY

WHAT?

Over 100 early childhood and K-12 policymakers and practitioners from Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts will gather at a conference entitled, *School Readiness: Closing Racial and Ethnic Gaps* to discuss and act upon the findings of the recent Princeton University/Brookings Institution *Future of Children* journal by the same title.

The meeting is sponsored by the Princeton University / Brookings Institution Future of Children, the Center for Human Development at Brown University, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families, the Education Research Section and the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and the Kauffman Foundation.

WHEN?

Wednesday, March 8, 2006, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WHERE?

**Brown University Faculty Club
One Magee Street
Providence, RI**

SPEAKERS

The keynote speaker will be **Dr. Jeanne Brooks-Gunn**, author and co-editor of the Princeton University/Brookings Institution *Future of Children* journal, and a leading expert on child development.

Additional remarks will be provided by:

Dr. Rosa Smith, President, Schott Foundation for Public Education
Dr. Cynthia Garcia Coll, Education Department, Brown University
Mayor David Cicilline

Dr. Donnie W. Evans, Superintendent of Providence Public Schools
Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
Stephanie McGencey,
Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Wendy Lawton, Brown University, at (401) 863-1862 or
Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, at (401) 351-9400 ext. 12