

Announcing
John Lippitt, PhD
Executive Director of
Thrive in 5: Boston's Promise to its Children



October 9, 2008

Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Michael Durkin, President of United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, announce the appointment of John Lippitt as the Executive Director of Boston's new Thrive in 5 collaboration.

Mr. Lippitt currently works at the MA Department of Public Health as director of a project to provide comprehensive services to substance-exposed newborns and their mothers and families. He served on Boston's 2007-2008 65-person School Readiness Action Planning Team ("the APT"), which developed the Thrive in 5 ten-year roadmap for preventing the achievement gap in Boston's next generation of students. On the APT, Mr. Lippitt co-chaired the workgroup looking at ways to improve and integrate health care and other systems that serve young children, their families and their communities. He also served on Governor Patrick's recent Readiness Project.

Previously Mr. Lippitt worked as policy specialist at the National Scientific Council on the Developing Child with Dr. Jack Shonkoff, one of the leading international experts on the science of early brain development. Among his other work, Mr. Lippitt spent fifteen years in the private sector, serving as Vice President at Investors Bank and Trust. Prior to his work in the private sector, he was a classroom teacher for three years, in grades 5-8.

Mr. Lippitt earned an MBA from the Heller School at Brandeis University and then a PhD in Social Policy with a concentration in Early Childhood Policy. His MA in elementary education is from Lesley College and his Bachelors of Science is from MIT. Mr. Lippitt is the author of numerous articles on early childhood development.

Married to a special education teacher at English High School, Mr. Lippitt is the proud grandparent of a two-year-old. Our city will benefit from Mr. Lippitt's personal and professional commitment to ensuring that young children, their families and communities Thrive in 5.

To learn more about Thrive in 5, visit www.Thrivein5Boston.org



Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston



United Way of Massachusetts Bay
and Merrimack Valley