



EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER

2020 VISION

2019 Impact Report

2020 VISION:



WHAT'S INSIDE

Progress 2

School Readiness 4

Parent Engagement 6

Supported Educators 8

Strong Families & High-Quality Care

Contributors 10

Building Expansion 12

EARLY
CHILDHOOD
RESOURCE
CENTER



A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health



A Look Back, and a Look Forward

Dear Friends,

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, when beginning its Quality Child Care Initiative, envisioned “a community that values its children and provides the opportunities and support necessary for them to develop their full potential.”

Twenty years ago, the Foundation created the Early Childhood Resource Center to make that vision a reality. In this report, we show you our work over the past year—and our growth over two decades.

In our ten-year report, we stated that our goal was “to fill the space of the new facility with exciting activities, programming, and partnerships.” We have certainly accomplished that. By continuing to ask the community what they need—and really listening—we’ve been able to provide the services and resources that are genuinely needed, which make a meaningful and lasting difference for children and families.

As needs evolve throughout our region, we must be prepared to meet them. So our board is conducting a strategic planning process. By the end of this year, we will have a plan to inform future operations, including strategies for:

- Expanding fatherhood programming,
- Making the SPARK kindergarten readiness program available to more Ohio families, and
- Increasing the number of high-quality early childhood options available.

The Early Childhood Resource Center would not exist without the vision of the Sisters of Charity Foundation and its continued dedication and advocacy. And our work would not have the impact or reach it has without the numerous funders and collaborative partners that make our programs possible. Together, we have spent the past two decades changing lives.

The Early Childhood Resource Center belongs to the entire community. Our success is the community’s success. We celebrate two decades of serving our community, and with our 2020 vision, we see a bright two decades ahead.

With appreciation,

Taylor Schauer
BOARD CHAIR



Scott Hasselman
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2020-21 Board of Directors

- Taylor Schauer, Chair
- Kirstin Toth, Vice Chair
- Richard Craig, Treasurer
- Michael Howard, Secretary
- Michael Howard, Immediate Past Chair

- Bradley Belden
- Michele Benson
- Joni T. Close
- Jennifer Deuble
- Ryan T. Fulmer
- Amanda Kendle
- Joseph Luckring
- Robin Mingo-Miles
- Chrissy Rice
- Jeremiah Rippel
- Robert H. Stewart, III
- Sr. Catherine Walsh
- Scott Hasselman

VISION:



Progress

My, how we've grown! The numbers show our measured success.

CHILDREN SERVED

Stark County children in 2003, its first year

140

2,168

Ohio children in 2019



PARENT EDUCATION SESSIONS PROVIDED

548

Evidence-based sessions provided between 2013 and 2019 to more than

5,324 parents

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2010, we provided 519 hours of professional development for 2,891 early childhood educators.

In 2019, we provided

2,180

hours to

19,000

educators

PROGRAM & SERVICE REVENUE

Increase between 2013 & 2019

400%

STAFF



Between 2013 & 2019, our staff grew from

11 to 52

GRANT REVENUE

600%

The increase in grant revenue between 2013 & 2019

DURING ITS FIRST YEAR of operation, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton chose early childhood as the area of focus for its very first initiative. Following in the footsteps of our founding Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, we knew that to truly make an impact, we couldn't do our work alone. So we met with stakeholders from across the community, making sure we heard directly from those we wanted to serve.

This was during the national "welfare to work" movement; many women were entering the workforce for the first time. They needed child care, as did many other working families. In addition, newly emerging research showed

that early brain development has a major lifelong influence. It seemed clear that a significant investment in early childhood would directly impact the root causes of poverty.

Parents, child care providers, community leaders, and representatives from community organizations told us four things were needed:

1. Higher-quality early childhood options;
2. Professional development and workforce supports;
3. Additional supports, like curricula & classroom materials; and
4. Public awareness about the importance of early childhood.

Interestingly, we didn't think the work would require its own organization, or its own space. But as we worked with internationally recognized early childhood expert Dr. Sharon Lynn Kagan and an advisory committee of local and regional university representatives to plan, things changed. After a year of planning and discussion, the concept of the Early Childhood Resource Center emerged. The recommendation was that because the work was so complex, it would require its own space and, more importantly, its own organization and board.

The Sisters of Charity Foundation provided all the initial funding for furniture, equipment, and operations.

During its first decade, the Center operated with a small, dedicated staff and a modest budget, the vast majority of which was funded by the Foundation.

As it has grown, the Early Childhood Resource Center has really developed into a model resource; there's no place like it in the state. I hope the Center continues to listen and respond to the communities it serves and continues to reflect the values of the Sisters: compassion, courage, respect, justice, and collaboration.

Joni T. Close

President, Sisters Of Charity Foundation Of Canton

IN 2019

2,168

Children were served and

30,750

Books were distributed



VISION: School Readiness

We believe involving parents in their children's early learning is critical to lifelong success. Our SPARK kindergarten readiness program is engaging parents early—when their children are three and four years old. SPARK delivers in-home modeling of the skills needed for kindergarten, so that children start school on track for success, with their parents as their learning advocates.



I BELIEVE SPARK has changed our culture because kids come in ready and more prepared to come to school, in terms of following directions, their literacy skills, the concept of print, how to track. I think they just come in a little more advanced and prepared to be in school all day, every day.

Achievement as a whole is increasing for sure. I see a direct correlation between SPARK and passing the third grade test: SPARK kids outperform on the third grade test, and their parents are more involved in their education.

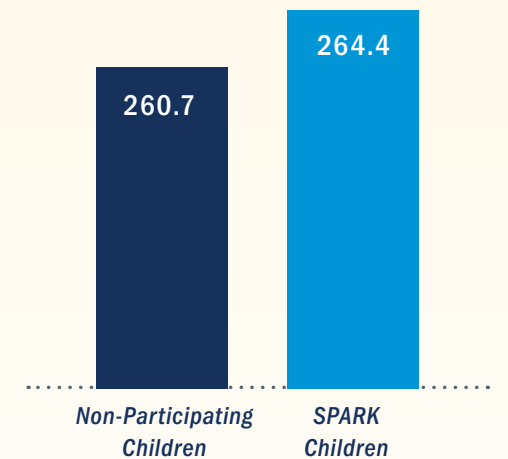
I wish we could get every parent involved in SPARK. The more hands we have to intervene, encourage, and nurture, the more our kids benefit.

Christen Sedmock

Principal, Allen Reading and Math Preparatory School

LANGUAGE & LITERACY*

2018 Average KRA Scores:
All Ohio SPARK Sites



*Statistically significant (p<.01) A score of 263 indicates readiness.

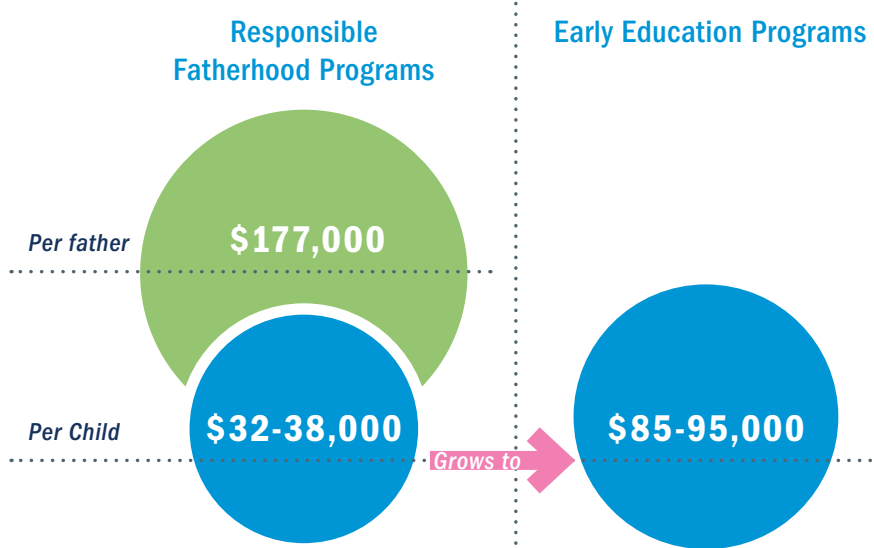
VISION:

Parent Engagement

The 20th anniversary of the Early Childhood Resource Center also marks a decade of direct service to families. Branching out was a smart move. Investing in parents pays off big: a 2019 study by Dr. Richard Chase of Wilder Research showed that the return on investment is huge.

FATHERHOOD PROGRAMS
—especially when they're coupled with high-quality early childhood programs—improve a wide range of outcomes in both the father's and the child's life, for a return on investment of nearly \$177,000 per father and between \$85,000 and \$95,000 per child.¹

ESTIMATED VALUE OF ALL OUTCOMES



1. www.frpn.org/sites/default/files/FRPN_MonetaryValue-Programs_ExecutiveSummary_051919_Final.pdf



IN 2019

75

Parenting classes

995

Parents attended

1,005

Children impacted

WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER, I had a vision of expanding the Center to serve families, invite in the community, and become more of a multi-purpose community resource. Today, our parking lot is always full, as educators, families, and community members visit for meetings, classes, and numerous other purposes. We have been successful at becoming the region's early childhood hub. Staff professional development is instrumental to that success. Our staff members have a tremendous amount of drive to fine-tune their own expertise. We invest in staff, making sure they stay current, so they can better serve the community. As our program offerings continue to expand, the staff continually evaluate program effectiveness and revamp as needed.

I'm very happy with our progress and growth. But of course, you never rest on your laurels. Early childhood is always changing. It's hard to predict what the best practices will be down the road, so we need to stay adaptable, fluid, and receptive as more innovative programs and services emerge.

Scott Hasselman Executive Director, Early Childhood Resource Center



VISION:



Supported Educators

According to the GAR Foundation, “Research tells us that high-quality teaching and engaged learning means better outcomes for kids and greater kindergarten readiness. We know that helping young children ages 3-5 get the right start is the most important investment we can make in the educational continuum.”

The Early Childhood Resource Center works to advance the early childhood workforce by providing research-based curricula, data-informed technical assistance and coaching, and professional development, so that early childhood professionals are equipped to turn knowledge into practice.

STRONG FAMILIES IN 2019

60 Programs in **9** counties worked to cultivate family engagement, impacting **3,592** families.



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER was the first local resource just for early childhood. That was no small thing; it meant our staff weren't running around all over creation to get professional development hours. There was no Step Up To Quality system at that time: accreditation was the focus. With that, there was a need for training, and the Center was the place that got us organized. If you needed training, that's where you went. It was there for us then, and it has grown to meet the needs of the early childhood community.

Back then, early childhood just wasn't recognized as truly important to community strength. It was a struggle to get funding or recognition as an actual profession. The Center was an integral part of helping people understand how important early childhood is to this county. Without the Center, it would have been much more of a struggle.

The Center has always been highly collaborative, and it became the hub. They helped bring the early childhood community together (us, JRC, Interfaith, YMCA, OakPark). They were the glue that helped make us strong.

HIGH-QUALITY EARLY EDUCATION & CARE

IN 2019

2,306

training classes were held, impacting 19,270 educators/care providers.

6,883

technical assistance sessions were conducted, impacting

693 child care programs.

243

individuals completed Child Development Associate classes.



Scott Hasselman has always been at the table, advocating for early childhood. The Center has also been an integral part of helping bring in significant funding, as it did with its partnership in pursuit of the Early Head Start grant that made high-quality early childhood services available to many more Stark County families.

Through the years, we've survived, but there weren't a lot of funds available. The affordable training and support the Center offered was critical. It's a safe place we can call if there are issues/need support. It's never you're

doing this all wrong, it's let's work together to get this fixed. The Center's team is great at that. They push us, they help lead the way, they're an invaluable resource.

What would it look like if there had been no Early Childhood Resource Center? Ugly. We would have been spending so much more money on coaches – relying on the Center allowed us to stretch our limited dollars.

Cathy Jennings

Chief Executive Officer, YWCA Canton

2019 Contributors

We thank the following organizations and individuals.
They make our work possible!

GRANTORS 2019-2020

Canton City Public Health
City of Canton
Paul and Carol David Foundation
Deuble Foundation
GAR Foundation
The Hoover Foundation
Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Ohio Commission on Fatherhood
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
OhioMeansJobs
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
Stark Community Foundation
Stark County Department of Job and Family Services
Summit County Children Services
Timken Foundation of Canton
United Way of Greater Stark County

DONORS

\$20,000 +

Employers Health
PNC Foundation

\$5000 +

Deuble Foundation
Fisher Renkert Foundation
Rotary Club of Canton
Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton

\$1000 +

415 Group
ArtsinStark
Belden Brick Company
Brad and Aimee Belden
William H. and Jeanne G. Belden Philanthropic Fund
Walter K. and Wilda E. Bortz Fund
R. Daryl and Joni Close
Deuble Foundation
Albert W. and Edith V. Flowers Charitable Fund
GAR Foundation
Scott Hasselman
Incept Corporation
Jane Williams Mahoney Philanthropic Fund



Marathon Petroleum Company
Mercy Medical Center
Paramount Advantage
Ada and Helen Rank Charitable Foundation
Jerry and Sarah Rippel
Melissa Rogers
Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine
David and Kirstin Toth
Tom and Sandy Turner
Luke and Christina Vincer-Wentz Financial Group
Eun Young White

\$500+

Beese Fulmer Private Wealth Management
Todd and Nancy Bundy
Caplea Studio Architects
Richard and Andrea Craig
Hendrickson employees
Huntington Bank
Kempthorn Motors
Jon and Amanda Kandle
Judith Barnes Lancaster, Esq.
Joe Luckring
Angela Moses
Bill and Mary Nolan
Kevin and Chrissy Rice
Rice's Landscaping Redefined
Quota International of Canton
Schauer Group
Gerald Schroer
George Seanor
Stark Area Regional Transit Authority
Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery
Stark Management Services
Stark State College
The Timken Company

\$200+

Megan Ballard
Bob and Kathy Belden
Mary Brady
Canton Professional Educators' Association
Billie Christopher
Richard and Sheila Farmer
Kristine Filhour



Michael and Kay Flood
Robert and Linda Ganser
Steve and Lisa Gregory
Gayle Harter
Thomas Kolp
George Lemon and Kaleen Wheat-Lemon
Roger Mann
Teresa Purses
Taylor and Kari Schauer
Robert Stewart III
Robert Vitale
Thomas and Gail Whipkey
Elaine White
Katie Wietecha

\$100+

Alliance Ventures
Jon and Dorene Ash
Maggie Azzi and Toufic Tannous
John C. Belden
Thomas and Patricia Butcher
Monique Chapman
Church of the Lakes/Lisa Wright
Lynne Clunk
Jim and Vicki Conley
Sara Davis
Jason Colon and Kay Fakelis-Colon
Brent and Stefanie Fatzinger
Mark and Patti Fetzer
Liz Ford
Joseph French
Cindy Gansmiller
Laurie Gemberling
Alan and Suzanne Harold
Christine Haymond
Jack Heighway and Cindy Zurbrugg-Heighway
Paula Hodous
Mike and Deb Howard
Sherry Kauffman
Vikki Kauffman
Sylvan and Lora Kavanaugh
Brittany Kinstler
Mark and Robin Kratzer
Susan Kunkle
Peter Leahy
Robert and Donna Leibensperger
Tina Lemon

Robert Mayone & Diana Boggia
Greg and Janet Luntz
William and Sharon Luntz
Robert W. Mahoney
Kent McClelland and Teresa Golden-McClelland
Hyung-Chan Moon
Fred and Marcia Moses
Gary & Livvy Mull
Bob and Jamie Murphy
Ashleigh Mussulin
Chip and Lisa M. Painter
Jennifer Palmer
Dane K. Parker
Gary Plauger
Kathleen and Emil Poporad
Kristen Rossetti
Mark and Cindy Samolczyk
Donald Saxton
Frank and Becky Schirack
Jennifer Scott
Robert and Donna Spangler
Robin Stursa
Ed and Susan Whitmore

FRIENDS

Steve and Kelly Antoniadis
Tamara Arney
Nick Bagnolo

Shareele B. Bell-Waiters
Lisa Biclowski
David and Sharon Butz
Elaine Campbell
Barbara Ewing Cockroft
Sr. Marian Durkin, CSA
Early Explorers Educational Child Care, Jackson
Lynn and Robert Engleman
Barb Frustaci
Dan and Linda Fuline
Claudette Hankins
Sondra Hays
Cindy Zurbrugg Heighway
Christopher and Simone Hoover
John and Mary James
Raymont Johnson
Judy Jones
Damon and Amanda Keller
Carmela Lioi
Tamara Lutes
Nancy Mattes
Dan Matthews
Megan Mayle
Matthew and Andrea McCaffrey
Michael McGuinness
Robin Mingo-Miles
Maurica Patterson
Dr. Thomas Paumier
Tim and Brooke Porter

Psychological and Educational Solutions
Diane Roberto
Kathy Schweizer
Lindsay and Zachary Scott
Brad and Rae Smedley
Stark County Family Court
Tony and Kristine Turko
Laura Unferdorfer
Jane Vignos
Candy Wallace
Stan and Carol Wallace
Randall and Paula Yost
Karen Young



IN-KIND DONORS

Standard Printing

DONORS OF BOOKS & CHILDREN'S ITEMS

Students from Hoover High School, Perry High School, and GlenOak High School
CliftonLarsonAllen
PNC Bank: Cascade and Lake Avenue branches
Ann, Drew, Elaine, Kim, Michelle, Morgan, Nancy, and Vicki

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this list, and we regret any errors. Please notify Sandy Turner of any inaccuracies or omissions by contacting her at sturner@ecresourcecenter.org



We thank our volunteers for their commitment to our community's children.

2019 Volunteers

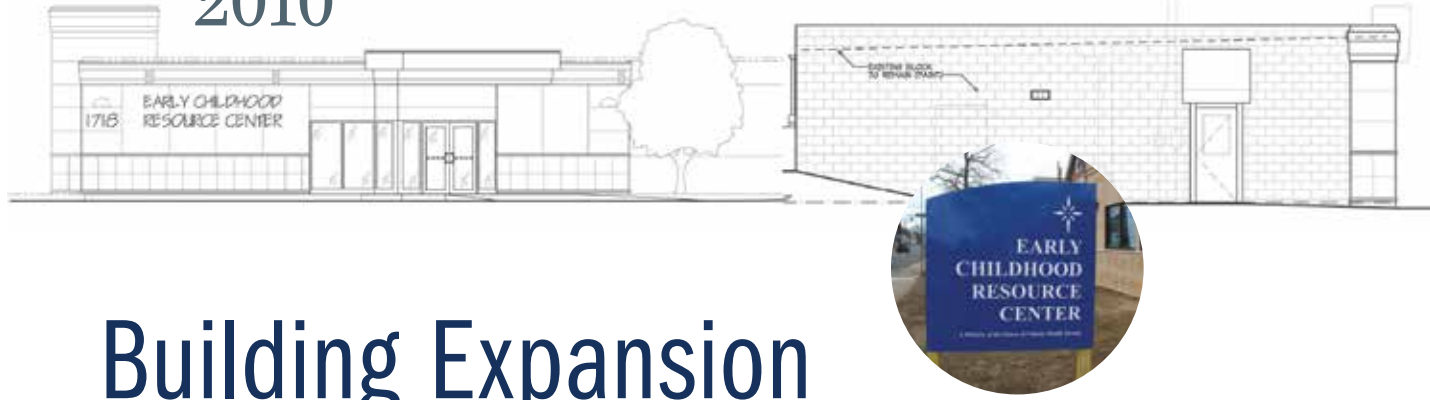
Alpha Phi Omega members and other students from the University of Mount Union
Canton Kiwanis members
Richard Craig and his children
Day of Caring volunteers from Hendrickson
Employers Health employees
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Senior Group

Interns: Abbey and Elizabeth
Jamie Murphy
Notre Dame Alumni Club
PNC Bank managers and regional managers
Students from GlenOak High School, Hoover High School, and Perry High School



2010

2020



Building Expansion

We opened our expanded facility to the public in January 2020. The expansion will enable us to help our region's children and families learn, connect, create, and thrive.

We thank the generous donors whose investments made our expansion possible:

- Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
- Timken Foundation of Canton
- Stark Community Foundation
 - The Bill and Janice Conti Charitable Fund
 - The Hieronimus Trust Fund
 - The William J. Lemmon Charitable Fund
 - The Schroer Family Charitable Advised Fund
 - The Shira Charitable Fund
 - Jeff and Lisa Zellers
- Paul and Carol David Foundation
- GAR Foundation
- The Hoover Foundation
- Canton Rotary Foundation
- Rice's Landscapes Redefined
- Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland
- The Belden Brick Company



OUR VISION

The Early Childhood Resource Center is a leader, recognized for working together with community partners to ensure:



Parents have the knowledge and resources to support their children's healthy development;



Children have access to high-quality early learning experiences staffed by educated professionals;



Children begin school ready and eager to learn;



Schools are ready to receive, educate, engage and involve all children and families; and



Communities and policymakers understand and actively support the development of young children.





OUR MISSION

The mission of the Early Childhood Resource Center is to promote the healthy development of young children by strengthening families, improving the quality of early learning experiences, increasing school and community readiness, and informing public policy.



EARLY CHILDHOOD
RESOURCE CENTER

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System

1718 CLEVELAND AVENUE NORTHWEST CANTON, OHIO 44703 877.691.8521 ecresourcecenter.org