

*A family of ministries
providing help,
offering hope and
restoring health
to those in need*



SISTERS of CHARITY HEALTH SYSTEM

MARCH 2026, ISSUE 27



Growth is All Around Us

A MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL

President & CEO, Sisters of Charity Health System



As we begin to feel the warmth of spring and see signs of new life emerging all around us, we are reminded that this season is one of renewal, growth and reaching toward the light. That same spirit is alive across the Sisters of Charity Health System.

Throughout our ministries, foundations and initiatives, we are seeing meaningful momentum — new ideas taking root, partnerships strengthening and impact continuing to grow in the communities we are called to serve. It is a powerful reflection of who we are: a mission grounded in faith, carried forward through action and always oriented toward hope.

In this month's update, you'll see that growth in many forms, including:

- Continued celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, honoring a legacy that continues to guide our work today. It's especially fitting this month, Women's History Month, as a time to celebrate the faith, strength and contributions of women, including saints and leaders who have shaped the Church and society.

- A significant step forward in behavioral health through our partnership with The Centers, including a \$3 million commitment to support the Behavioral Health Crisis Center and the Rosary Hall Withdrawal Management Center, reinforcing the critical role of addiction medicine in our continuum of care.
- Expanded efforts across our St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub, including future developments like the Goodwill Opportunity Center.
- The relaunch and renewed focus of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, investing in long-term community impact.
- Leadership updates, including the appointment of a new executive director at Joseph & Mary's Home.
- Ongoing ministry impact across Light of Hearts Villa, Regina Health Center and the Early Childhood Resource Center, strengthening care, connection and community.
- Continued progress and collaboration across South Carolina ministries and the foundation, advancing advocacy, family support and systems change.

Continued



Pictured at the Naples, Florida, event are (front row) CSAs Sr. Nancy Hendershot, Sr. Judith Ann Karam, Sr. Jane Lab, Sr. Marian Durkin, and Manager of Events & Donor Engagement Mackenzie Phelps; (back row) Senior Director of Major Gifts Colleen Corrigan Day, Chief Marketing Officer Michelle Burgess, Senior VP, Fund Development Mark Cotleur, John Bastulli, M.D., Board Treasurer Sean Hennessy, Board Chair Bob Varley, President & CEO Michael Goar, and Senior VP of Mission and Ministry Miguel Chavez

We are also energized by the opportunity to share this work more broadly. In March, members of our leadership team traveled to Naples, Florida, to connect with supporters and share the good work happening across our ministries, including exciting new programming that will serve more than 3,500 area students in grades K-12, helping to create pathways for learning, growth and opportunity.

Each of these efforts reflects something greater than any one program or place. They are signs of a system that is growing with intention, rooted in our mission and reaching forward to meet the evolving needs of those we serve.

We wish you a blessed Easter holiday.

Warmly,

Michael

A PRAYER FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Loving God, we thank You for the strength, wisdom and resilience of women throughout history. May we honor their contributions to our world, and walk alongside them in the love of Your Creation. Grant us the courage to act justly, to protect the earth and its inhabitants, and to uplift the voices of women in all spaces of life and leadership. Guide us, Lord, to serve You through compassion, as we care for the planet and each other, in the spirit of Your love.

AMEN.



◆ SISTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE 175TH ANNIVERSARY:

My CSA Story – Giving Me the Courage – “We’ve never done it alone,” said Sister Mary Patricia Barrett, CSA, and those words have never been more true. Co-ministers and collaborators have been an important part of the CSA mission from the beginning. One of those co-ministers and collaborators, Fred DeGrandis, recently shared one of his CSA memories as part of the 175th anniversary “My CSA Story” project:



“My first encounter with [CSA] was with Sr. Mary Patricia Barrett. I was 9 years old,” DeGrandis said. “At that moment I was a patient at St. Vincent Charity Hospital, awaiting eye surgery scheduled for the following morning. After visiting hours ended – which were very short back then – my parents had to leave, and I suddenly found myself alone and very frightened. Overcome with fear, I decided to pack my suitcase and leave the hospital to go home.

“I called my parents to tell them about my plan, not realizing my mother and Sr. Mary Pat had been friends since their college days at Notre Dame College. As I was preparing to leave, Sr. Mary Pat came to see me in the hospital lobby. She gently asked me if she could talk before I made my decision. She escorted me back to my hospital room and spoke with me, offering comfort and ultimately giving me the courage to have the operation the next morning.

“Many years later I was honored to be a candidate for the position of president and CEO of St. John West Shore (now

St. John Medical Center) in Westlake, Ohio. During my interview with the CSA congregation leaders, Sr. Mary Patricia was one of the interviewers. [...] Although it felt a bit awkward, I asked if she remembered me, and she said yes. The interview continued, and a few weeks later, I was offered the opportunity to serve as hospital president.”



Sr. Mary Patricia Barrett, CSA, and Fred DeGrandis at the St. John West Shore Festival of the Arts in 1997

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

What’s your connection to CSA? The Sisters invite you to share your memories and experiences by participating in the 175th anniversary story project. Visit srsfcharity.org/story to learn more and to submit your story.

Cleveland News

◆ **HEALTH SYSTEM: Bringing Cleveland to Naples** – The Health System leadership team traveled to Florida to meet with a number of Cleveland snowbirds in Naples, Florida, on March 26 to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Sisters and share all the exciting things happening across our ministries. They also dove deeper into what’s happening in Cleveland’s Central neighborhood with The Sr. Ignatia Gavin, CSA, Center for Addiction Medicine and what’s happening on the St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub campus. The Health System team included President & CEO **Michael Goar**, Board Chair **Bob Varley**, Sr. VP, Fund Development **Mark Cotleur**, Senior Director of Major Gifts **Colleen Corrigan Day**, Manager of Events & Donor Engagement **Mackenzie Phelps**, Senior VP of Mission and Ministry **Miguel Chavez**, and Chief Marketing Officer **Michelle Burgess**. They were honored to also be joined by **Sr. Judith Ann Karam**, **Sr. Nancy Hendershot**, **Sr. Marian Durkin** and **Sr. Jane Lab**, as well as guest **John Bastulli, M.D.**, Board Treasurer **Sean Hennessy** and Board Chair **Bob Varley**.



CLEVELAND PARTNERS



◆ **CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CONNECTION (CCC): Recruiting for 2026 Summer Fellows Program** – Catholic Community Connection is seeking four students to participate in the 2026 Summer Fellows Program. **Jack Bedell**, executive director of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and **Kelly Shaw, SVdP** development director teamed up with CCC President **Marian Rubin** at the John Carroll University Career Fair actively seeking candidates. Their outreach generated strong interest, with 22 students registering to pursue a Summer Fellow position.

Students from Ursuline College will also take part in the interview process, expanding the pool of qualified candidates. From Monday through Thursday during the summer, Fellows step directly into meaningful (paid) work at their assigned sites, collaborating with seasoned professionals who provide hands on mentorship. Each Friday, Fellows come together for immersive programming designed to deepen their commitment to service. Activities include orientation to Catholic ministries, targeted sessions in leadership development, professional skills, social justice education and a visit to Mount Augustine to explore the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine archives. Fellows will contribute in key functional areas, including marketing, communications, development, and volunteer culture and engagement, gaining real world experience while advancing the mission of Catholic organizations.

◆ **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CLEVELAND: Hines Trust Nursing Grants** – Cleveland, and the nation, faces a critical demand for nurses and frontline caregivers. While there’s great opportunity in this career path, getting trained through nursing school or continuing education can be very expensive. The Sisters of Charity Health System in partnership with Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland is committed to meeting this need while creating pathways to socio-economic mobility for residents of Cleveland’s Central neighborhood and Cuyahoga County. Through the generosity of the Hines Trust, this new grant will help pay for community members entering or advancing in the nursing profession. Applications are now open for continuing education in nursing. These are flexible, rolling grants to support residents who want to pursue careers in nursing with up to \$5,000 grants per applicant (on a rolling basis). Priority is given to residents of Cleveland’s Central Neighborhood, but they are also open to those living in Cuyahoga County and employees of the Sisters of Charity Health System. In 2027, Hines Trust Nursing Cohort Grants for high school students pursuing a nursing degree will begin, with grants up to \$10,000 per student annually. [To learn more, click here.](#)



MINISTRY NEWS

ST. VINCENT CHARITY HEALTH & HEALING HUB

◆ **THE SR. IGNATIA GAVIN, CSA, CENTER FOR ADDICTION MEDICINE/ROSARY HALL: Transformational Investment to Support Behavioral Health Crisis Center Led by The Centers**
 – The Sisters of Charity Health System recently announced a \$3 million funding commitment to support the development of a Behavioral Health Crisis Center (BHCC) led by The Centers. The funding announcement marks a landmark investment in the behavioral health infrastructure of Cuyahoga County and a commitment to create a crisis receiving and stabilization center in Cleveland’s Central neighborhood to support individuals experiencing a mental health and/or addiction emergency.



Michael Goar, President & CEO, Sisters of Charity Health System; Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA, Congregational Leader, Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine; and Eric Morse, President & CEO, The Centers, at a check presentation supporting the Behavioral Health Crisis Center.

The Centers is currently renovating the former St. Vincent Charity Medical Office Building at 2322 E. 22nd St. to become the BHCC. It is part of the campus of the St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub. Once opened in Fall of 2026, the BHCC will be a first-of-its-kind facility in Cuyahoga County, serving as a key entry point for individuals in crisis to receive immediate coordinated and compassionate care. It will provide 24/7 crisis stabilization services, withdrawal management services and connections to long-term treatment, which can help reduce dependence on emergency rooms and the criminal justice system for behavioral health needs. As part of this commitment, the withdrawal management services within the BHCC will be named the Rosary Hall Withdrawal Management Center, honoring a longstanding legacy of addiction treatment rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. [Read the full news release here.](#)

Goodwill Opportunity Center Planning Underway – Plans are proceeding for the Goodwill Opportunity Center, which will be home to a number of nonprofit entities all under one roof that will help in addressing social drivers of health. The Opportunity Center will feature classrooms for learning opportunities to encourage social economic mobility, a grocery store to combat the neighborhood’s food desert, and opportunities for family and social engagement.



Honoring BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2026



- ◆ CLEVELAND CENTRAL PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD: Multiple Engagements for Black History Month** – During Black History Month, the Promise Neighborhood turned up the volume on celebration, connection and community impact with several engagements across the neighborhood:
 - Relay Cleveland at the Cleveland Public Library** – The Celebration kicked off at the Cleveland Public Library (CPL) during Relay Cleveland: Passing the Baton for Educational Equity. Promise hosted a resource table highlighting its afterschool programming, Mission Kitchen and the St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub, connecting with 65 community members eager to learn more about the supports available in Central.
 - Sons and Daughters of Central** – The partnership with CPL continued with them providing historical photos of what the team at Promise has named the “Sons and Daughters of Central” and sending **Olivia Hogue** to deliver presentations that truly moved audiences. Olivia highlighted how residents of Central shaped the Civil Rights Movement locally and nationally. She lifted up giants such as Carl Stokes, the first Black mayor of a major U.S. city; **Louis Stokes**, civil rights attorney and longtime Congressman; and, **Jane Edna Hunter**, a visionary social service pioneer, among many others. Olivia also reminded audiences that Central’s impact reverberated through the music industry and beyond with legendary artists like **Bobby Womack** and **The O’Jays**, while trailblazers in social services and the legal system paved the way for equity and justice nationwide.
 - More Celebrations** – Across three days, Promise connected with nearly 100 residents at Arbor Park Village, Skyline Tower and the Phillis Wheatley Association. In addition to Olivia’s presentations, Promise shared information about the Health System, the Health & Healing Hub, afterschool programming and Mission Kitchen. Residents were also treated to food, games and prizes – and music from **DJ TY** that simply would not let anyone stay seated.

A Powerful Full-Circle Moment – There was a particularly meaningful highlight at the Phillis Wheatley Association with the great-great nephew of Jane Edna Hunter, the founder of the Association (Emertius House). **Craig Thompson** is its board president, which his great-great aunt established as a residence to provide safe housing and opportunity for young Black women. His depth of knowledge about Black history was extraordinary. Moments like these grounded the celebrations, reminding the Promise team that it is standing on powerful shoulders, and building for the next generation at the same time.

Pathways to Purpose Summer Experience for Central Neighborhood Youth – It’s going to be a busy summer for youth in Cleveland’s Central neighborhood with the development of the Pathways to Purpose Summer Experience. The community-based learning and enrichment experience is designed for youth ages 5 – 18 who either live in the neighborhood or attend Central schools. Running June 15 – July 24, the program provides structured academic enrichment, workforce exposure, mentorship, creative expression and family engagement. This initiative is designed to reduce summer learning loss, increase workforce readiness, strengthen social-emotional skills, and connect youth to trusted adults and positive community resources. For high school students, there’s also an Enhanced Certified Nursing Assistant Training Experience to prepare them not just to pass the state exam, but to get hired, stay employed and grow in the health care field. Full scholarships are available for anyone who registers before April 30. [Learn more and register at stvincenthhh.org](https://stvincenthhh.org)



ST. VINCENT CHARITY
HEALTH & HEALING HUB

A Neighborhood Legacy Initiative
of the Sisters of Charity Health System

♦ **JOSEPH & MARY'S HOME: Anna Stormer Named Executive Director** — Anna Stormer began as executive director on March 10. Previously, Anna served as vice president at a national financial institution building pathways out of poverty. Earlier in her career, she worked with individuals navigating housing instability and complex medical and behavioral health needs. In this role, Anna oversees strategy, operations and program excellence. Her focus will be on ensuring vulnerable neighbors have a safe place to recover, stabilize their health and move forward with dignity. “I’m honored to steward Joseph & Mary’s Home’s work while strengthening partnerships with health care, housing and community providers,” said Stormer. “I look forward to working alongside the board, the Sisters of Charity Health System and the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine to ensure the ministry continues serving our most vulnerable neighbors and adapts to evolving community needs.” Anna’s email is Anna.Stormer@jmhome.org if you would like to offer her words of welcome!



Renovare performing at Joseph & Mary's Home

Renovare Performs for Residents — Music filled the halls in early March as Renovare, a nonprofit chamber ensemble that performs quarterly at Joseph & Mary’s Home, entertained residents. Renovare musicians play a variety of songs and also share stories and anecdotes with residents that encourage them to rest, heal and lean into becoming their best selves. One of the songs they played recently — “Your Work is Happening Here” by The Porter’s Gate — speaks well to the Joseph & Mary’s Home mission and the residents served:

*Slowly, slowly roots will grow to where they find water
Slowly, slowly Your work is happening here*

Feast of St. Joseph Mass and Celebration — Joseph & Mary’s Home supporters came together on March 19 to celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus and husband of Mary. Mass was celebrated in the Holy Family Chapel at fellow Sisters of Charity Health System ministry Regina Health Center. A luncheon reception followed. **Deacon Mark Yantek**, executive director of Regina Health Center, delivered the homily. “Just like St. Joseph said yes to doing God’s will, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine said yes to God when they established Joseph & Mary’s Home,” he said. “They knew God was calling them to fulfill a need.”

Joseph & Mary’s Home staff members and donors continue to say yes to ensuring residents are treated with dignity and respect while receiving medical respite care. “May we all continue to humbly say yes to God even if we don’t know where the road will lead us to next,” said Deacon Mark. Special thanks to Health System Senior Vice President for Mission & Ministry **Miguel Chavez** and his brother, Cleveland Clinic Mercy Hospital Director for Mission and Ministry **P.J. Chavez**, for providing the music at Mass.



At the Feast of St. Joseph (l to r) Health System Senior VP, Fund Development Mark Cotleur; Health System President & CEO Michael Goar; Joseph's Home “A New Home for Healing” Campaign Chair Tom Tyrrell; and Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine Congregational Leader Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA

✦ **LIGHT OF HEARTS VILLA: Lights, Camera, Villa!** – In early March, Light of Hearts Villa welcomed Health System Chief Marketing Officer **Michelle Burgess** and videographer **Jeff Mancinetti** for a special day of filming on campus. The day captured the heart of the Villa through interviews and scenes of everyday life. Residents and staff had fun participating and sharing what makes the Villa such a meaningful place to live and work.



Michelle Burgess interviewing Breanne Cavileer



Pictured are Board President Sister Anita Maroun, SC, Breanne Cavileer, Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA, and Michael Goar

Annual Board Meeting Brings together Board Members and Leadership – Light of Hearts Villa recently held its annual board meeting, bringing together board members and leadership to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future of the ministry. The presentation was led by Executive Director **Breanne Cavileer**, Director of Mission Advancement & Communications **Amy Huntley**, and Director of Pastoral & Special Ministries **Sister Regina Kusnir, SC**, with a financial report shared by Finance Director **Chris Sanders**. Health System President & CEO **Michael Goar**, Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine Congregational Leader **Sister Judith Ann Karam** and Health System Chief Program Officer and President, Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, **Marisa Rohn**, joined the conversation to hear about the Villa’s wins, challenges and momentum from 2025. The meeting sparked thoughtful and productive dialogue, with one board member remarking that it was “the best board meeting we’ve had so far.” It was an energizing conversation in continuing to advance the mission of compassionate care at Light of Hearts Villa.

Eggstravaganza at the Villa – Light of Hearts Villa hosted its annual Eggstravaganza on March 28 with families from across the community joining the fun. Children enjoyed an egg hunt, crafts and a special visit with the Easter Bunny. The festive morning was a joyful way for residents, staff and community families to come together and celebrate the season.



✦ **REGINA HEALTH CENTER: Winter 2026 The Heart Newsletter Now Available** – The latest issue of *The Heart of Regina Health Center* is now available online. This edition’s feature story is on Director of Nursing **Natalie Kennedy**, who earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing while working at Regina Health Center. Natalie now promotes a culture of educational advancement within her own staff. Other stories include a Holy-In-One 2025 wrap-up and 2026 preview; a resident spotlight on **Father Elmer Marquard**; 2025 service milestones and employees of the month recognition; a front plaza construction progress update; and much more. [Read the full newsletter by clicking here.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS: REGINA HEALTH CENTER

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20 | Holy-In-One Golf Outing and Luncheon

Save the Date for the 27th Annual Holy-In-One Golf Outing and Luncheon, set for Thursday, August 20, at Firestone Country Club in Akron. Holy-In-One again features four fantastic raffles, with ticket sales open now. Raffles include a trip for two to Pebble Beach; a getaway for two to The Greenbrier Resort in West Virginia; golf for four on Firestone’s South Course; and a bar cart filled with premium liquors valued at more than \$1,000. To purchase raffle tickets, visit www.holyinone.com. Questions? Contact Mackenzie Phelps at mphelps@sistersofcharityhealth.org.

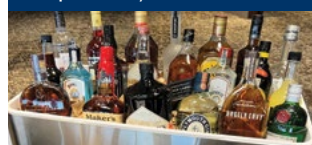
PEBBLE BEACH
\$100 per ticket Only 200 sold!



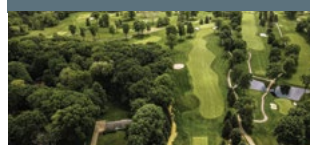
GREENBRIER GETAWAY
\$50 per ticket



19TH HOLE ROLLING BAR CART
\$10 per ticket/three for \$25

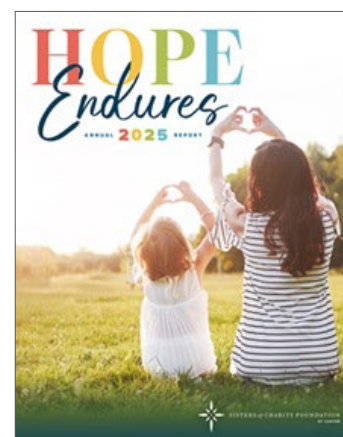


FIRESTONE SOUTH COURSE
\$25 per ticket/five for \$100



Canton News

♦ **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CANTON: Hope Endures in 2025 Annual Report** – The Foundation has released its 2025 annual report, which reflects upon the amazing HOPE found in the incredible organizations funded by the Foundation in the past year. The Foundation provides support through funding and collaboration to lift up these nonprofits and their various missions, serving thousands of individuals, children and families in Stark County and beyond. Read the full annual report by [clicking here](#).



ConnectWell, Connecting Care Providers so Communities Can Be Well – Dr. Anju Mader, chief integration officer at Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery and director of ConnectWell, joined the Foundation at its February board meeting to provide an update on ConnectWell, the region’s new Community Information Exchange (CIE). What is ConnectWell? The CIE is the newest way for providers of all kinds in Stark County to ensure that each person who walks through their doors can be connected to the resources they need to achieve holistic wellness, without the potential trauma of retelling their story over and over again. Core components of a CIE include network partners, a shared communication tool, a resource database with two-way referral capabilities, and a technology platform to collect and integrate data. ConnectWell currently has three dedicated staff members, including Dr. Mader. The team is meeting with committees on governance and operations, and it relies on Goodwill Industries as its backbone/infrastructure.

In May, the CIE team will also host its first Community Advisory Committee, where community members can share their experiences to make sure ConnectWell is effectively meeting community needs. About 40 providers are currently participating in a trial of the platform, and individuals can also use the platform to self-refer to needed resources and services. The project has raised just under \$2 million to support ConnectWell to date, including funding from the Foundation. Foundation staff believe ConnectWell will improve the quality of life for all in the community, including the poor and underserved, and are excited to see what data comes from this project in the future. This information can help guide Foundation work to ensure the most pressing needs are being met. Learn more about ConnectWell at [ConnectWell » Goodwill](#).



Sr. Kathy Andrews, CSA, and ECRC Parent Youth Ambassador Lindsey Hosking



Pictured are a number of Sisters and CSA associates who attended the prayer service. They're joined by Michael Goar and Miguel Chavez (far left, top row) and ECRC Executive Director Angela Moses (far right, top row).



Open house at ECRC's new Akron office following the prayer service

CANTON MINISTRY NEWS

♦ **EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCE CENTER (ECRC): CSA Anniversary Prayer Service and Open House** — On March 11, the ECRC hosted a prayer service celebrating the 175th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and Akron office open house event. Staff and board members plus community partners and Sisters of Charity Health System leaders gathered in the new space within Akron's 915 North Main Community Connection Center.

The evening began with a prayer service honoring the legacy of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. Their faith, compassion and commitment to serving those most in need continue to inspire the ECRC's work today, carrying forward their mission through support of children, families and early childhood educators across the region. Held during Women's History Month, the evening offered a particularly meaningful opportunity to recognize the women who paved the way for the ministry. The Sisters answered a call with bold hearts and steady hands 175 years ago, laying a foundation that continues to guide and inspire today. It was an honor to have so many Sisters be there for this special event.

As **Sister Judith Ann** often says, "We have never done it alone." This prayer service was a beautiful reminder of this, of the power of community and of how the Sister's work continues on through each co-minister. The service celebrated the love, mission and purpose the Early Childhood Resource Center brings to every child, parent and educator it serves.

Mission Moment: Supporting Kindergarten Readiness One Backpack at a Time — The ECRC doesn't just support early learning, it also offers tools that help bring it home. Sprout Early Learning Backpacks are one way the ECRC extends its mission beyond direct services, helping children build kindergarten readiness skills through play. Sprout Backpacks are designed to support both skill development and family engagement, making them a valuable resource for families, libraries, schools, child care providers and community organizations. Designed to be developmentally appropriate at various age levels, these kits help children build the foundational skills they need to succeed in school, while using fun and interactive learning techniques.

There are 33 unique Sprout Backpack options available. Each backpack relates to a specific subject area and is filled with themed, high-quality early learning materials, engaging children's books and hands-on activities to serve as a helpful school readiness resource. Backpacks also include a user-friendly activity guide that provides simple instructions, tips to foster learning at home and conversation starters to encourage meaningful interactions between parents/caregivers and their young learners.

Sprout Early Learning Backpacks are already in use by libraries and other nonprofits in over 30 states, giving families vital access to early learning resources. At \$69 each, these educational kits are an easy way for organizations to equip families with



Sprout Early Learning Backpack

EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH CENTER *continued*

take-home tools that support school readiness beyond the classroom. Best of all, every backpack purchased helps further the Early Childhood Resource Center’s mission by supporting the development of young learners and strengthening families. If you’d like to learn more or want to share this resource with partners, please visit www.ecresourcecenter.org/sprout.

Casual Friday, Sister Style – Members of the ECRC Canton team sported a little extra spirit during a recent Casual Friday by proudly wearing their new Sisters of Charity Health System sweatshirts, which were generously gifted in honor of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine’s 175th anniversary. While it wasn’t planned, many staff members showed up in their new swag, turning the day into a fun and unexpected moment of connection and team pride. It was a great way to celebrate the shared mission and connection to the Sisters of Charity legacy – all while staying cozy.



ECRC looking cozy and on brand

South Carolina News

SOUTH CAROLINA PRAYER SERVICE CELEBRATES SISTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE’S 175TH ANNIVERSARY

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina, Healthy Learners and the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families held a joint prayer service in Columbia on March 24 to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. Nearly 50 supporters, staff, and past-and-present board members of the Foundation and ministries and the Health System, plus multiple Sisters and CSA Associates from the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine attended the service, with more viewers joining by Zoom.

◆ **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA: Connection, Collaboration and Community on Display** – The Foundation was well represented at the 2026 SC Nonprofit Summit, hosted by Together SC this month. With a sold-out crowd of 700+ attendees, the summit is the state’s largest gathering of nonprofit, philanthropic and community leaders. Foundation President **Donna Waites**, Director of Community Engagement **SK Catalano** and Senior Director of Grantmaking & Strategy **Melinda Merrell** enjoyed making new connections and catching up with longtime partners. This year’s summit theme, “Woven Together,” highlighted the power of connection, collaboration and community in driving meaningful change across the state.



Sr. Nancy Hendershot, CSA, blesses attendees with holy water



Sr. Nancy and Sr. Judith Ann with South Carolina ministry and foundation leaders (Derek Cromwell, Healthy Learners, Donna Waites, Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina and Karriem Edwards, South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families)

SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA *continued*

Donna Waites (back row, to the left of the middle) at the Legislative Action Day



SK Catalano, Donna Waites, Melinda Merrell at the 2026 SC Nonprofit Summit

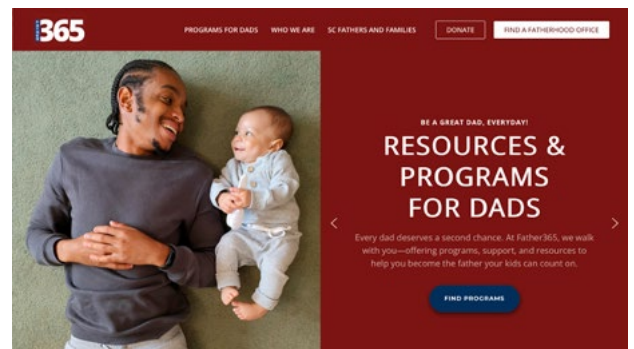
Connection, collaboration and community were certainly on display in and around the South Carolina State House this month. Key events that had Foundation support:

- H. 4270, a House bill that would reform the eviction process, unanimously passed out of subcommittee. Several grantee partners have been leaders and advocates for this important bill to strengthen tenants' rights.
- During their Advocate Call Day, Cover SC, a grantee partner dedicated to expanding health care access, reached senators in 35 of South Carolina's 46 counties.
- The South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development (SCACED) held their inaugural Legislative Action Day to help lawmakers better understand the value and impact of the Community Development Tax Credit.

Back in the office, the Foundation team is busy preparing for the first round of Systems Change Grant Letters of Intent and Community Engagement Grant Applications. Both are due this month, marking a major milestone in the new 2026-2028 Strategic Plan. In other news, **Vanessa Brown** has joined the team as the new office administrator.

MINISTRY NEWS

✦ **SOUTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR FATHERS AND FAMILIES: [Father365 Website Transformation Empowers Dads Statewide with New Resources and Seamless Support](#)** – What began as a simple one-page website in 2019 to facilitate federal fatherhood grant deliverables – serving as the primary digital gateway for the thousands of fathers supported across every corner of the state – has now evolved into a comprehensive, user-friendly resource center designed to meet dads where they are and help them thrive in their most important role. **The newly expanded Father365 site** delivers far more than information; it serves as a practical lifeline. Visitors now enjoy a wealth of curated resources for fathers and families, ranging from practical guides and access to co-parenting strategies, as well as success stories from South Carolina dads who have rebuilt stronger family connections.



Navigation has been dramatically improved with quick-access tools that connect users instantly to SCCFF's network of fatherhood offices. This statewide accessibility eliminates geographic barriers that once made support feel out of reach. Recognizing that many fathers – particularly non-custodial dads – navigate complex legal landscapes, the site now features

SOUTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR FATHERS AND FAMILIES *continued*

a dedicated Legal FAQs section written in clear, straightforward language.

Perhaps the most impactful addition is the innovative new referral portal developed in close collaboration with the South Carolina Department of Social Services. This secure, automated system streamlines how agencies refer families to SCCFF's proven fatherhood programs. Referrals now flow directly and instantly to the appropriate regional fatherhood office, reducing paperwork, eliminating delays and ensuring fathers receive timely, targeted support. The result is a seamless handoff that respects privacy, accelerates enrollment, ensures accountability, and strengthens partnerships between state agencies and community-based fatherhood services.

"Father365 is a great brand for our mission: helping fathers become great dads every day," said **Dr. Lawrence Ford**, SCCFF director of marketing and communications. "Phase 1 of this site update provides an enhanced mobile-friendly resource for thousands of fathers to access the help they need to connect with our fatherhood practitioners anywhere in the state and get back on track with their families. Phase 2 will include even more direct resources for fathers, families and community partners."

The updates arrive at a critical time. Research consistently shows that involved fathers improve child outcomes in education, emotional health and economic stability. By making high-quality support instantly available, Father365 removes traditional obstacles and meets modern dads on their terms – whether they're on a lunch break, at the bus stop or winding down after a long shift. [Check out the enhanced father365.com today.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS: HEALTHY LEARNERS

SEPTEMBER 11 & 12 | Nashville Songwriters in the Round

Save the dates for two unforgettable nights of music and storytelling! It's the return of the annual Healthy Learners Nashville Songwriters in the Round. This September, Healthy Learners is bringing the heart of Music City to South Carolina. It's a unique opportunity to listen to talented songwriters perform their hits acoustically and share the incredible stories behind the music, all while supporting a fantastic cause. Every sponsorship and ticket sold helps Healthy Learners ensure that children across the state receive the essential medical, dental and vision care they need to thrive in school and in life.

Mark your calendars for one of our two spectacular venues:

- **Friday, September 11** – The Laundry | Columbia, SC
- **Saturday, September 12** – Kaminski House Museum | Georgetown, SC

Visit the Healthy Learners website at www.healthylearners.com for updates as they happen. Early Bird tickets go on sale Monday, June 1.



Like us! Love us! Follow us! Through the Sisters of Charity Health System, news about successes, events, amazing employees and the people we uplift is shared on social media. When you're scrolling through your feeds, be sure to find and engage with our posts. Every "like," "love" and "follow" helps amplify our message and extend our reach. Below is a list of "handles" (usernames) and links associated with many of our social media platforms.

CSA Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

Facebook: @srssofcharity
Instagram: @srssofcharity

Sisters of Charity Health System:

Facebook: @SistersOfCharityHealth
Instagram: @sochealthsystem
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sisters-of-charity-health-system
Twitter/X: @SOCHHealthSystem

St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub and Northeast Ohio Ministries and Programs:

Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood

Facebook: @ClevelandPromiseNeighborhood
Instagram: @clecentralpromise
Twitter/X: @CLE_Promise
YouTube: socfcleveland-clevelandcen9249

Early Childhood Resource Center

Facebook: @EarlyChildhoodResourceCenter
Instagram: @earlychildhoodresourcecenter
Twitter/X: @ECResCenter
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/early-childhood-resource-ctr

Joseph's Home / Joseph & Mary's Home

Facebook: @jmhome.org
Instagram: @jmhomecle
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/jmhome
YouTube: josephshome8286

Light of Hearts Villa

Facebook: @lightofheartsvilla
Instagram: @lightofheartsvilla
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/lightofheartsvilla
YouTube: lightofheartsvilla1319

Regina Health Center

Facebook: @reginahealthcenter
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/reginahealthcenter
YouTube: reginahealthcenter4885

Rosary Hall & Mental Health Services

Facebook: @StVincentCharityRosaryHall

St. Vincent Charity Health & Healing Hub (formerly St. Vincent Charity Medical Center)

Facebook: @StVincentCharity
Instagram: @stvincentcharity
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/st-vincent-charity
Twitter/X: @StVCharity
YouTube: CLEStVincentCharity

Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sisters-of-charity-foundation-of-canton1
YouTube: sistersofcharitycanton

Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland

Facebook: @SOCFCleveland
Instagram: @SOCF_cleveland
Twitter/X: @SOCFCleveland

Catholic Community Connection

Facebook: @CatholicCommunityConnection
Twitter/X: @CatholiCommConn

South Carolina:

Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina

Facebook: @SCFSC
Instagram: @SCFSC
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sisters-of-charity-foundation-of-south-carolina
Twitter/X: @SCFSC

Healthy Learners

Facebook: @HealthyLearners
Instagram: @healthylearners
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/healthylearners

South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families

Facebook: @SCCFF
Instagram: @scfathersandfamilies
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/south-carolina-center-for-fathers-and-families
Twitter/X: @scfathers