



ANNUAL REPORT 2016



PROGRAM SUMMARY

At Columbus Early Learning Centers (CELC), we have been providing high-quality early learning and care to our city's children for 130 years. Our tradition of affordable access to high-quality early childhood education has strengthened the lives of thousands of children and families and the communities in which they live. In 2016 we provided care for 206 children, ages 6 weeks to 5 years. CELC uses a play-based curriculum and positive discipline in our classrooms to meet the needs of children at our four locations. Our student to teacher ratios exceed state requirements, allowing our teachers to provide more attentive care and individualized instruction to prepare every child for kindergarten. CELC is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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GINA M. GINN, PhD

Executive Director

We are honored to share with you the statistics, photos, and stories outlining the significant accomplishments of Columbus Early Learning Centers (CELC) in 2016. By continuing to serve our community as a leader in early childhood education and care, CELC strives to give all children in Columbus an equal opportunity for a bright future.

Our most significant accomplishment of this year was the opening of two new centers! With the addition of these locations, we are now able to extend access to high-quality learning and care to over 300 of Columbus's children. Despite strides made this past year, the rising cost of quality child care remains a challenge within the field. Our work is made possible by our many friends, supporters, volunteers, advocates, corporate sponsors, and local, state and federal government partners.

In 2017, CELC will continue to strive for excellence as we provide high- quality, affordable early learning opportunities to the working Columbus families who need childcare the most, but are least able to afford it. Finally, I want to thank our stakeholders, community partners, donors, Board of Directors, staff, and families for their continued support and I look forward to building a better future for our children together.

Sincerely,
Gina Ginn

OUR MISSION

Doing what it takes to deliver the best early learning experiences and family support so every child succeeds in school and in life.



2016 at a Glance



3 Fundraising Events



165 Volunteers



206 Children Served



468 Facebook Likes



6 Family Outreach Events



2 NEW LOCATIONS

In 2016, CELC *doubled* its capacity to serve the children of Columbus!

- In September 2016, CELC assumed the management of the Central Community House childcare center. CELC is licensed for six classrooms in this facility, adding 82 additional spots.
- In October 2016, CELC opened a Pre-Kindergarten classroom in the Linden Park Neighborhood Early Childhood Education Center, a partnership between, CELC, the Columbus City Schools and the CDC of Franklin County.
- In October 2016, CELC also added two preschool classrooms to our Broad Street location, increasing our ability to serve 72 children total at that location.

Success Stories

Meet Nicole. A CELC parent referred to us by Amethyst.

During her pregnancy, Nicole struggled to overcome addiction. She was unable to stay clean at the time of delivery, and Franklin County Children Services ultimately had to take custody of her newborn son, Matthew. Nicole knew she had to make a change if she were to ever see her son again. One month after Matthew was taken into state custody, Nicole enrolled with a 6-month inpatient treatment center. After graduating, Nicole was placed locally with the Amethyst recovery program. Each day, Nicole worked to rebuild her family and part of that was enrolling Matthew into Columbus Early Learning Centers at the age of 18 months. In an interview, Nicole shared with us:



"CELC has helped me so much with Matthew. Being a single mom and a first time parent has been really rough. I really had no clue what I was doing and all the teachers at this program have been amazing. I can ask them anything, and they teach him so much. I am so happy that this is where my son gets to spend his time."

Having a safe and high quality early learning program for Matthew gave mom the confidence to continue to build a life for their family. We are happy to report that Nicole has been drug and alcohol free for 2 years and 6 months. She now lives on her own and works as a PCA at one of the Ohio State University's hospitals. In addition, she has just started a program in nursing at Columbus State Community College. Nicole ended by saying, "my life has turned around so much and I thank God for all the support and the amazing childcare and early learning program that teaches my son so much!"



Meet Alexa. A 2016 graduate of CELC.

Alexa White was our first CELC student to complete the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program, with the help of her mother, Ericka. CELC began the 1000 Books campaign in 2015 to help our students overcome the literacy gap faced by children in poverty. On average, children in poverty are exposed to 30 million less words than their peers in higher income households. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten is a national campaign that encourages schools and families to read and track progress towards reading 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, to help children

gain crucial literacy skills in their early years and overcome this literacy gap. CELC teachers track the books read in class, and parents are encouraged to read at home. Each CELC location provides a family lending library to help provide more literacy materials for students in their homes. We congratulate Alexa and Ericka on reaching this important milestone.

28 students (including Alexa!) graduated to Kindergarten in 2016!

Doing What It Takes...

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **BalletMet-** Led our preschool children in "Magic in Movement," a creative movement and literacy program; provided professional development opportunities for staff.
- **Broad Street Food Pantry-** Sponsored a *CELC Family Night* once a month for the families of our students to visit the pantry.
- **Intergenerational Programming-** In partnership with The Ohio State University, the students at our Champion Avenue Center participated in a variety of activities—games, music, artmaking, and even tai chi—with the clients of National Church Residences.
- **Local Matters-** Led lessons and cooking-based activities to our students at all of our centers.
- **Preschool Poets-** The Ohio Arts Council sponsored artist-in-residence, Nancy Kangas, to do poetry-making workshops with the students at our Champion Avenue Location. Their poems will be featured in a series of short animated films.
- **WeJoySing-** Led music and movement activities with our students at the Broad Street Center.

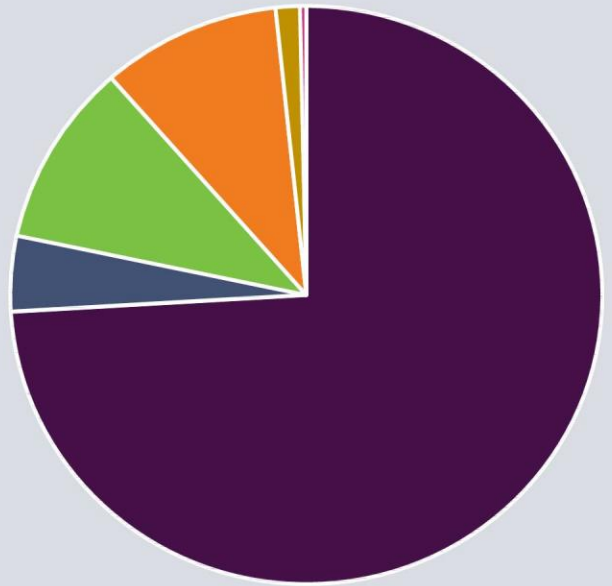
NOTABLE GRANTS AND AWARDS

- **Granted \$20,000** by the Women's Fund of Central Ohio to institute the Single, Working, and Nurturing Mothers (SWAN) Program in 2017.
- **Granted \$62,000** by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation for capital improvements, such as new classroom furniture, the construction of a new bathroom in the Champion Avenue location, and the installation of a new phone system for all four centers.
- Our Champion Avenue and our Broad Street Centers received 4-star ratings from the ODJFS Step-Up to Quality Program.

Financial Statements

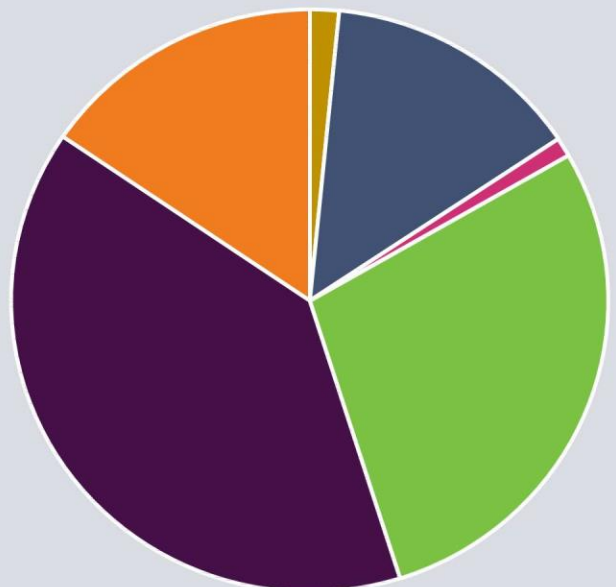
OUR 2016 EXPENSES: \$1,813,224.00

Staff Payroll and Benefits: 74%
Program Expenses: 10%
Facilities: 10%
Professional/Contract Services: 4%
Staff Development and Travel: 2%
Marketing: 0%



OUR 2016 REVENUE: \$1,797,461.99

Government Contracts: 39%
United Way: 28%
Fees for Service: 16%
Private and Foundation Grants: 14%
Contributions and Fundraising: 2%
Investments: 1%

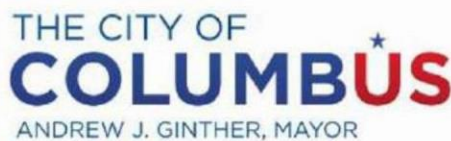


A Community of Support

We would like to recognize our community supporters who make our mission possible!



United Way
of Central Ohio



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



Let's Connect!

OUR LOCATIONS



Broad Street Center
at Broad Street Presbyterian Church
760 East Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43205
614.221.6102



Champion Avenue Center
at Champion Intergenerational Center
240 N Champion Ave
Columbus, OH 43203
614.253.5525



Main Street Center
at Central Community House
1150 East Main St.
Columbus, OH 43205
614.253.7267



Myrtle Avenue Center
*at Linden Park Neighborhood Early
Childhood Education Center*
1400 Myrtle Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211
614.365.7962



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columbusearlylearning.org