

Early Learning... Lifetime Impact

Columbus Early Learning Centers' latest
news of growth and responsiveness



IMPACT REPORT COVERING JANUARY – DECEMBER 2024



Care Centers

Our early learning centers are the cornerstone of the work we do. We use a holistic play-based curriculum and partner with families to support the success of each of our 300+ students.



Home Visiting

We support healthy development where it starts: the home. We empower parents by giving them the tools to support and teach their children. We utilize the nationally-renowned ParentChild+ program.



Family Support

In addition to providing guardians with the time and resources they require to sustain employment, we offer family engagement experiences, learning materials, and basic needs support.

From CELC Chief Executive Officer Gina Ginn, PhD



This past year at Columbus Early Learning Centers has been one of growth, resilience, and deepened purpose. As I reflect on the progress captured in this Impact Report, I am filled with immense pride—not only for what we’ve achieved, but for the everyday commitment, creativity, and care that continue to define our community.

In 2024, we expanded our reach to six high-quality centers, ensuring that more children across Columbus have access to exceptional early learning. With the support of generous funders and dedicated partners, we introduced new services to meet the holistic needs of our families, from targeted therapy to nutrition support. We also launched a new strategic plan, guided by our Board of Directors, to strengthen our foundation for future growth with equity and purpose at the core.

Our work is about more than education—it is about building opportunity, stability, and hope. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our educators, the trust of families, and the generosity of supporters like you. Together, we are shaping a future where every child has the chance to thrive.

Thank you for your unwavering partnership. We are honored to walk alongside you in this mission and excited for the work ahead.

With gratitude,

Dr. Gina Ginn

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COLUMBUS EARLY LEARNING CENTERS

Our Locations



CHAMPION AVENUE

240 North Champion Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43203



ALUM CREEK

1350 Alum Creek Dr.
Columbus, Ohio 43209



MAIN STREET

1150 E Main St.
Columbus, Ohio 43205



MYRTLE

1400 Myrtle Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43211



HILLTOP EARLY LEARNING CENTER

45 North Clarendon Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43223



SOUTH SIDE

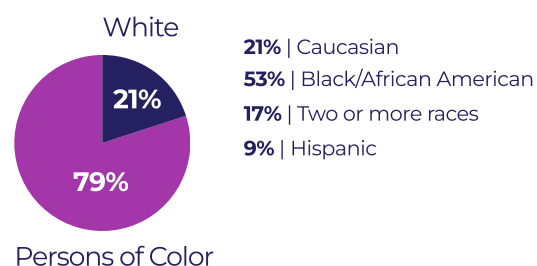
280 Reeb Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43207

Children Served

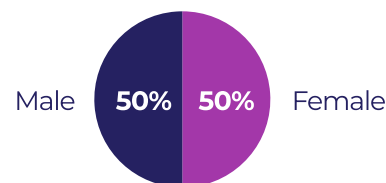
In 2024, the children we served reflected a rich diversity of backgrounds: 53% identified as Black, 21% as Caucasian, 17% as Biracial, and 9% as Hispanic/Latino. This diversity is a cornerstone of our community and strengthens the inclusive learning environment we strive to create every day.

331
ENROLLED IN 2024
ACROSS 6 CENTERS

RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS



97% of our students graduated CELC ready for kindergarten



In Loving Memory: Jerri Braswell

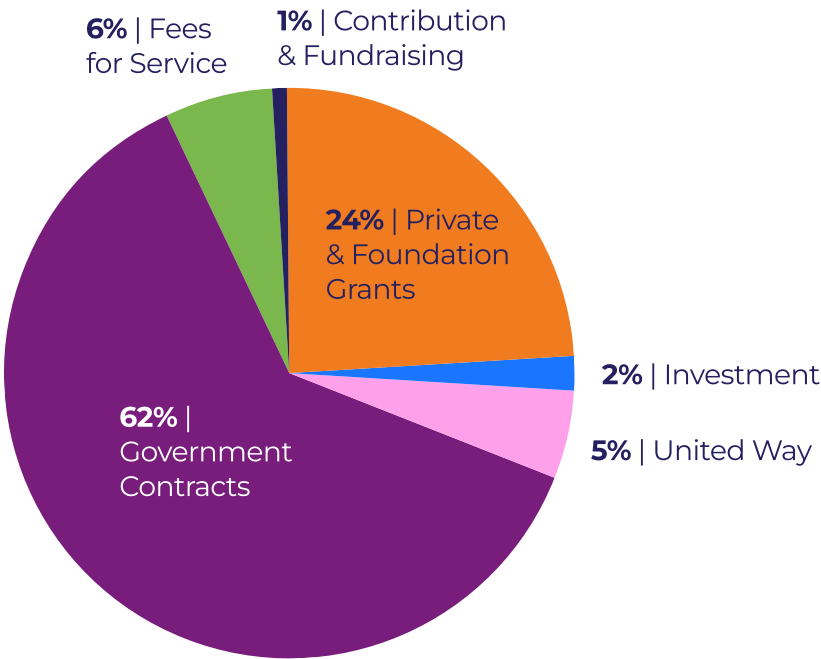
In 2024, we experienced an unimaginable loss with the passing of Jerri Braswell, a beloved teacher, mentor, and friend. Jerri was tragically lost in an auto accident, leaving behind a legacy of compassion, wisdom, and unwavering dedication to children and families. For years, Jerri poured her heart into Columbus Early Learning Centers, nurturing young learners, guiding fellow educators, and uplifting everyone fortunate enough to know her. Her impact continues to ripple through our classrooms and our hearts.

We remember Jerri not only for her incredible skill as an educator, but for the joy, humor, and kindness she brought to every day. She is deeply missed, and her memory remains a source of inspiration to us all.

A Glimpse of the Year

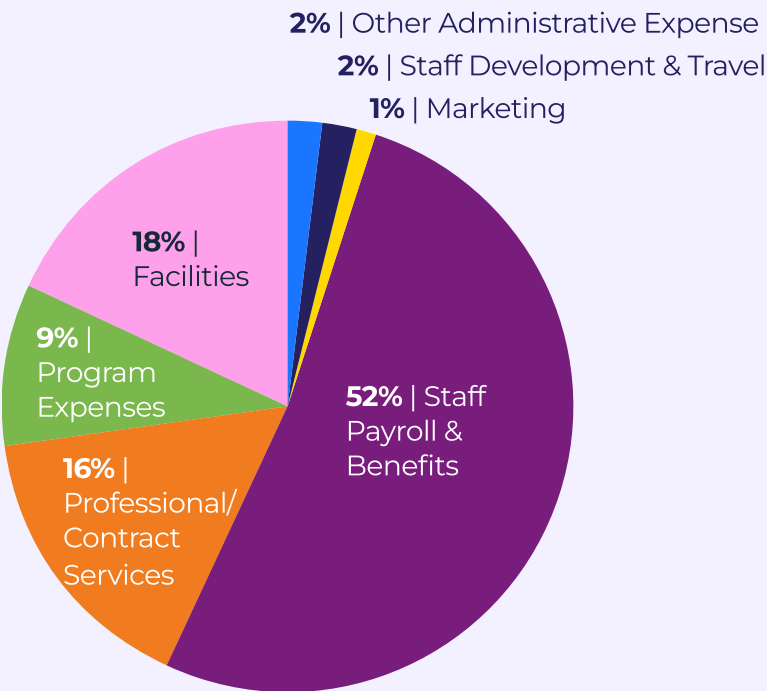
2024 Revenue Breakdown

NUMBERS ARE UNAUDITED



2024 Program Expenses

NUMBERS ARE UNAUDITED



Highlights & Triumphs



Columbus Early Learning Centers was honored to receive a two-year, \$125,000 grant from the OneOhio Recovery Foundation. This critical funding supports expanded access to therapeutic and mental health services for the children in our care. With this investment, we are strengthening our commitment to nurturing the whole child, ensuring that every learner has the emotional support they need to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

This year, Columbus Early Learning Centers launched a new board-guided strategic plan to chart our path forward. Developed in partnership with our Board of Directors, this plan sets clear priorities to strengthen program quality, expand access to early learning, and invest in staff development and sustainability. Rooted in our mission and informed by community needs, this roadmap ensures we continue delivering high-quality early education while growing our impact for years to come.

Hometown Heroes: Our own Dr. Gina Ginn, CEO of Columbus Early Learning Centers was honored as a 2024 MLS All-Star Hometown Hero for her unwavering commitment to early childhood education and community empowerment. Under her leadership, CELC has expanded from two to six high-quality centers, earning the highest rating in Ohio's Step Up to Quality program. Dr. Ginn's visionary approach ensures that children from birth through pre-kindergarten have access to exceptional learning experiences, regardless of their economic background.

In 2024, Columbus Early Learning Centers distributed more than 3,000 monthly food kits to families across the year in partnership with Broad Street Presbyterian's Food Pantry. These kits provided essential nutrition and helped ease food insecurity for hundreds of households in our community. This initiative is a vital part of our whole-child approach supporting not just early learning, but the health and well-being of the entire family.

In 2024, our new partnership with Blossom Pediatric Therapy Partners significantly enhanced the range of supportive services available to children across our centers. Through this collaboration, 99 students received critical interventions including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and mental health support.

Over the program year, Blossom providers delivered 526.75 hours of Occupational Therapy and 456.75 hours of Speech Therapy, ensuring children received individualized care to support their growth and development. This partnership reflects our ongoing commitment to meeting the diverse needs of every child we serve.

Thank You to Our Supporters

INDIVIDUALS

John & Marybeth Auletto
Hima Bindu Chamarthy
Teresa Brown
Amanda & Robert Bundy
Jon Bunker
Peter Busch
The Cano Family
Edward Chadd
Harriet Chinakwe
David Chonowski
Brandon Cowan
Kathleen Dunn
Molly Eyerman
Jenny Feheley
Kristin Fisher
Juliann Forcina
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Oyauma Garrison
Gina M Ginn & Darren Arnett
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Allen Sanders
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Libby Villavicencio
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Jane White
Jill & Matt Wienke
David & Sharon Wilhelm
Katherine I Wolfe Lloyd
Giusep Wong

CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS

Adena Corporation
Advocates for Kids
American Electric Power (AEP) Foundation
Bailey Cavalieri
Big Lots Distribution Center-West
Big Lots Foundation
Blossom Pediatric Therapy Partners, LLC
BMI Federal Credit Union
Bread Financial Services
Broad Street Presbyterian Church
City of Columbus
Columbus Blue Jackets Foundation
The Columbus Foundation
Columbus Speech & Hearing
Downtown Computers
Education 1st Credit Union
Fifth Third Bank
Fortuity Holding LLC
Happy Chicken Farms
Harry C Moores Foundation
Hexion Inc.
Hilltop Education Corporation
Huntington National Bank

Ingram-White Castle Foundation
Junior League of Columbus
Kadiant
King Business Interiors
Kiwanis Foundation
Kroger Community Rewards
Major League Soccer
Market Bar Bridge Park
T. Marzetti/Lancaster Colony Corporation
Maven LLC
Mollard Consulting
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Nationwide CyberGrants
Ohio Children's Foundation
OhioHealth
OneOhio Recovery Foundation
OSU Wexner Medical Center East
Peoples Bank
PNC Foundation
RSM US Foundation
Schneider Freight
ServeOhio
Sheetz

Siemer Family Foundation
State of Ohio
Tanger Columbus
The Hills Market Worthington
Waxing the City- Shawnee Hills
Wolfe Foundation
Worthington Companies Foundation

Add Your Name.
Give Today!





Join the **Bright Minds Brigade**

Help us nurture the next generation of thinkers, creators, and leaders. As a member of the Bright Minds Brigade monthly giving circle, your support directly empowers early learners with the tools, care, and opportunities they need to thrive. Whether you give, volunteer, or advocate, you become part of something bigger: a community committed to giving every child a bright beginning.



Board of Directors

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Susan Hart | Board Treasurer, The OSU Wexner Medical Center (retired)

Beth Rick | Board Secretary, CCS Medical

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Hima Bindu Chamorthy | Cardinal Health

Jessica Cano | American Electric Power

Kristin Fisher | Hexion, Inc.

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Lance Ginn | OhioHealth

Bart Logan | Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services

Sushma Manjunath | JP Morgan Chase

Lyle Mohler | KPMG

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Faith Rivera | Alo Civitas Consulting LLC

Katelynn Sandy | Root Insurance

Demetrius Thomas | Ohio Chamber of Commerce Research Foundation

Dr. Kristopher West | Nationwide Children's Hospital



If CELC didn't exist, I think it would deeply impact the community, especially the urban community, because there just aren't many prominent, quality child care centers here truly focused on getting children ready for school. Without it, things would be totally different.

— **PHILLONDA GRAHAM**
· CELC PARENT

