



City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Agenda - Final-revised Healthy Neighborhoods

Chairperson, Jan-Michele Kearney
Vice Chairperson, Victoria Parks
Councilmember Anna Albi
Councilmember Scotty Johnson

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

11:00 AM

Council Chambers, Room 300

AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS

Intro To Healing Cities Initiative

Pastor Ennis Tait

Cincinnati Urban Promise: Leaders of Tomorrow After School Program

Abe Brandyberry, Executive Director

Families Forward: Victory Over Violence

Michelle Toney, Executive Director

1. [202401872](#) PRESENTATION, dated 08/06/2024, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, from Ennis Trait Ministries, Bishop Ennis Trait, regarding Intro to Healing Cities Initiative.
Sponsors: Kearney
Attachments: [Presentation](#)
2. [202401875](#) PRESENTATION, dated 08/06/2024, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, Cincinnati Urban Promise Abe Brandyberry, Executive Director, regarding Cincinnati Urban Promise: Leaders of Tomorrow After School Program.
Sponsors: Kearney
Attachments: [Presentation](#)
3. [202401758](#) PRESENTATION, dated 08/06/2024, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, from Families Forward, Michelle Toney, Executive Director, regarding Families Forward: Victory Over Violence.
Sponsors: Kearney
Attachments: [Presentation](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Healing Cities Cincinnati Initiative
Presented by
Bishop Ennis Tait
Ennis Tait Ministries
Healthy Neighborhoods Committee
August 6, 2024



Healing Cities Cincinnati

WHAT: A community-based engagement strategy. Our work will support advocacy with key stakeholders including elected officials, funders and community leaders to support adoption of Healing Cities legislation.

WHY THIS MATTERS: A trauma-informed approach is necessary to ensure healing for systemic harm and providing a framework

based equity.



Healing Cities Initiative National Partners

Leading the Nation in Trauma-Informed &
Community Based



\$25,000 Award to Support Local

Efforts

- Support Community Advocacy, Engagement and Education in support of Healing Cities Legislation for Cincinnati.
- Coordinate national efforts to lift up community voices and experiences of trauma-informed practice with Healing Cities Baltimore and the Center for Community Resilience.
- Provide stipends for community members to participate in advocacy and education efforts.
- Support workshops, community conversations and advocacy efforts in Avondale, Riverside and West End to address long-term community trauma and inequity.
- Work with Center for Community Resilience's Policy Lab to host a Congressional visit in Jan/Feb 2025 to view local efforts to support a citywide trauma-informed transformation.



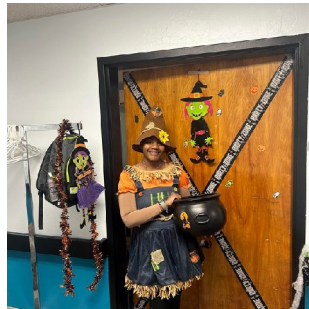
Local Partners, Neighborhood Focus

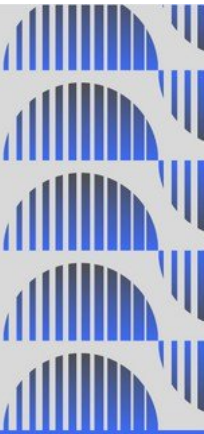


Avondale
Riverside
West End









IMPACT REPORT

To Teach. To Empower. To Love.

A message from our Executive Director - Abe Brandyberry



This past year has been a thrilling period for CUP! We are grateful for the abundance of resources and talented individuals that God has provided to lead our efforts. Throughout the year, we have witnessed significant enhancements in our staffing and their dedication to our organization's mission. The progress detailed in this report demonstrates substantial improvements across all areas over the last three years. This success is largely attributed to our exceptional staff and supporters, like yourself, who have contributed to our achievements. The promising future of Cincinnati Urban Promise is evident from the positive trends in the data. I encourage you to explore the details in this report and reflect on how you could support our ongoing efforts to nurture and empower youth and their families to overcome poverty and flourish in their futures. The impact of Cincinnati Urban Promise is paving the way for a brighter future in our Westwood and East Westwood community. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Impact Snapshot

397

Individuals served by our organization in the 2023-2024 academic year.

102

Students in grades K - 12 served by our academic enrichment and workforce development programs

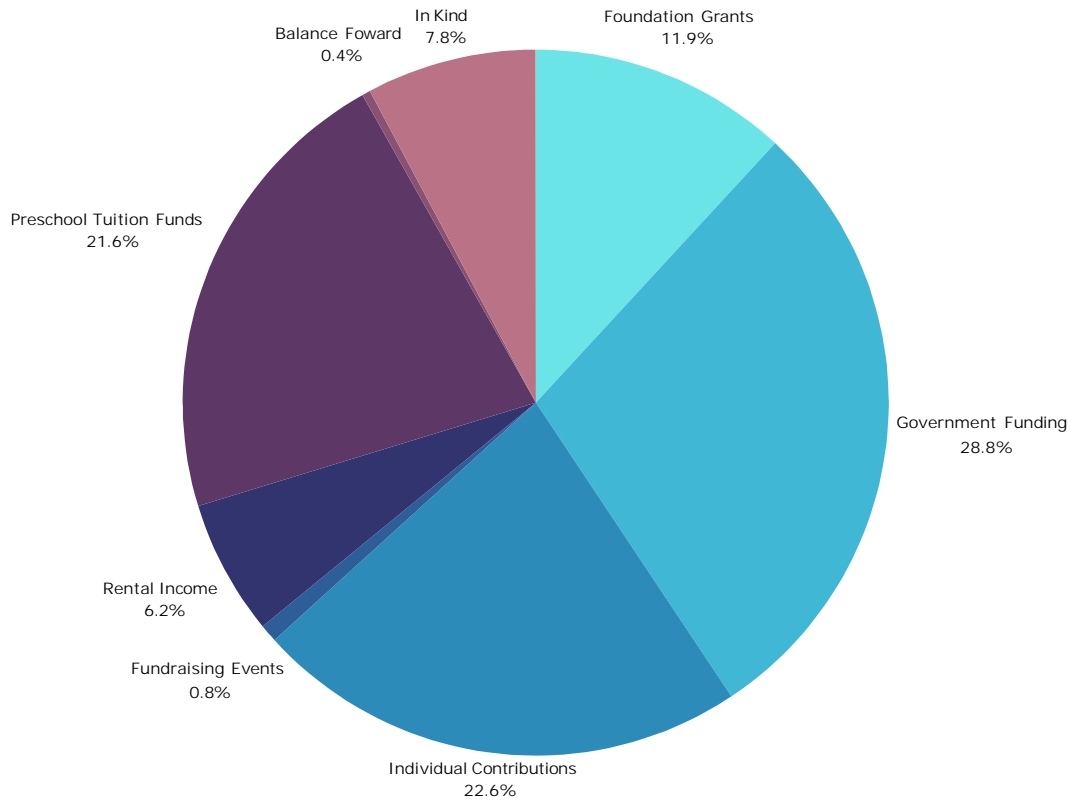
48

Students ages 2.5 to 5 years old served by our Early Childhood Education Programming

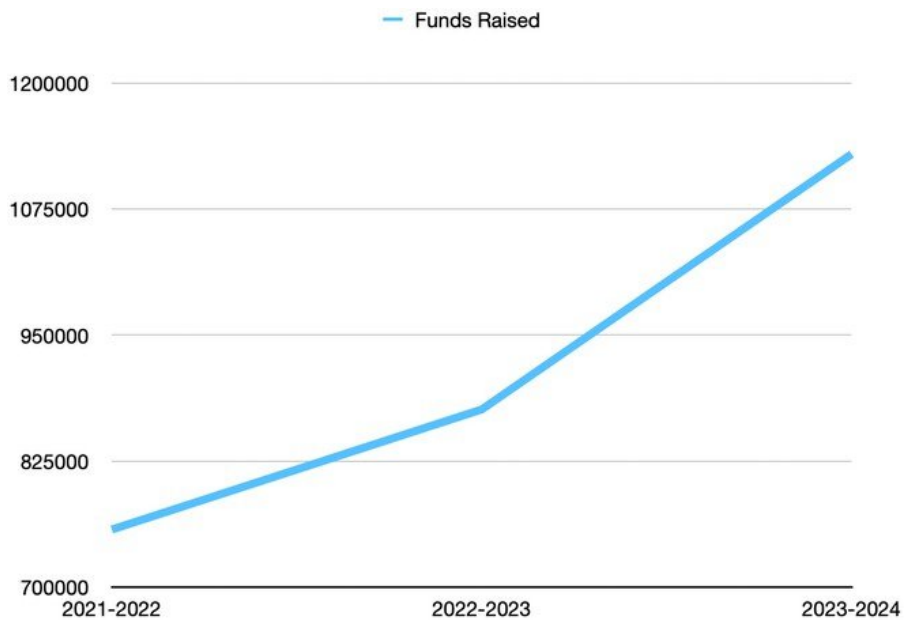
Program	Achievements	Outcome
Early Childhood Education	With the addition of the Ohio ECE Grant funding, Little Promises was able to provide additional scholarships.	12 students were able to attend preschool who were previously ineligible for tuition assistance.
Leaders of Promise After School Enrichment	A new staffing structure allowed for more program hours within the same budget	Full time staff are able to support more students with higher quality programming.
Summer of Promise Academic Enrichment	A new partnership with Notre Dame's Bridge program allowed 4 student interns to learn new skills from our seasoned staff.	Saving on summer staffing costs allowed us to increase the number of summer staff and therefore provide higher quality programming for more students.
WestRoots Urban Agriculture	In its first year, funding from Hamilton County's Workforce Development grant provided renovated space and initial staffing to jumpstart the program.	30 students from Gamble Montessori High School were able to engage with planning our new hydroponic farm.



Funding Breakdown



Funds raised: \$1,129,580



Measurable Results Assessment Data

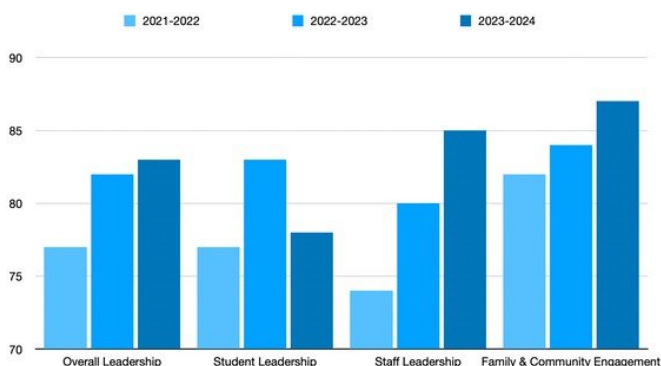
Thanks to the Leader in Me program, CUP has seen substantial development in the areas of Leadership, Culture, and Academics.



Cincinnati Urban Promise utilizes the Measurable Results Assessment (MRA) which measures student performance and reports student outcomes related to improving leadership, culture, and academics. It is an evidence-based, comprehensive model that builds leadership and life skills in students, creates a high-trust afterschool culture, and lays the foundation for sustained academic achievement. All CUP Students, Parents, and Staff participate in the survey. All scores in the MRA Report are presented on a 0 - 100 scale, with 100 being the most ideal and 0 being the least ideal.

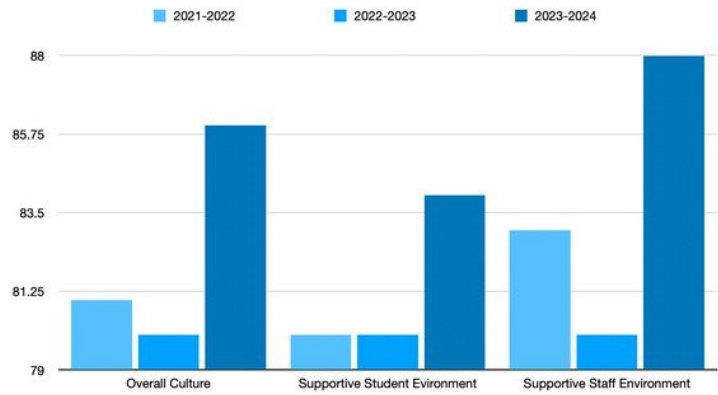
Leadership Scores

Leadership: 84 (met goal)
Leadership subcategories:
a. Student Leadership -- 78
b. Staff Leadership -- 85
c. Family & Community Engagement -- 87



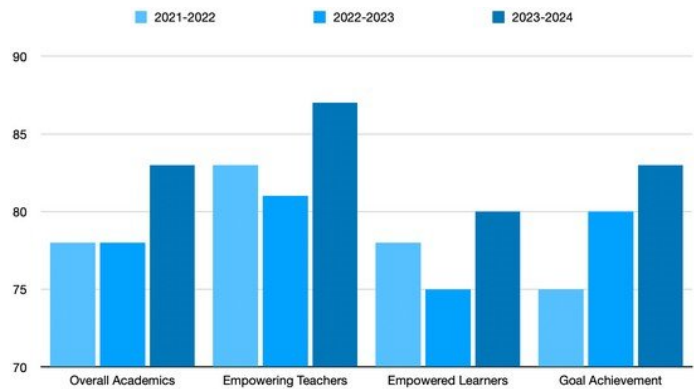
Culture Scores

Culture: 86 (met goal)
 Culture subcategories:
 a. Supportive Student Environment - 84
 b. Supportive Staff Environment - 88



Academics

Academics: 83 (met goal)
 Academic subcategories:
 a. Empowering Teachers - 87
 b. Empowered Learners - 80
 c. Goal Achievement - 83



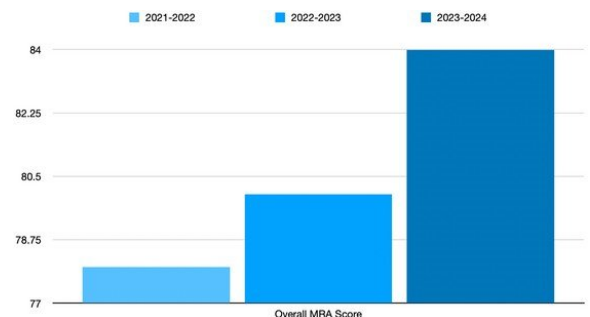
Overall MRA Scores



Over the last three years, Cincinnati Urban Promise has witnessed a significant rise in overall assessment scores, thanks to several strategic initiatives. One of the primary drivers behind this improvement is the increased focus on professional development. By investing in ongoing training and educational opportunities for staff, the organization has empowered its team with the latest teaching methods, behavioral intervention strategies, and youth development tools. This continuous learning environment not only enhances the skills and knowledge of the educators but also translates into more effective and engaging teaching practices, directly benefiting the students.

Another crucial factor contributing to the improved assessment scores is the emphasis on maintaining a healthy work/life balance for the staff. Recognizing the importance of well-being, Cincinnati Urban Promise has implemented policies that promote manageable workloads, flexible scheduling, and sufficient time off. This supportive environment helps reduce burnout and stress among educators, allowing them to bring their best selves to work each day. When teachers are well-rested and mentally healthy, they are more patient, creative, and effective in the classroom, which positively impacts student learning outcomes.

Additionally, Cincinnati Urban Promise has increased attention to the spiritual development of its staff, fostering a sense of purpose and fulfillment that goes beyond the professional realm. By creating a community that values spiritual growth, the organization cultivates a supportive network where staff feel connected and inspired. This holistic approach to employee well-being enables educators to model positive behaviors and attitudes for their students, fostering an environment where young people can thrive. Combined with a comprehensive approach to positive youth development that addresses academic, social, and emotional needs, these efforts create a nurturing and dynamic atmosphere conducive to student success. Consequently, the overall assessment scores have surged, reflecting the profound impact of these multifaceted improvements.



Little Promises Preschool

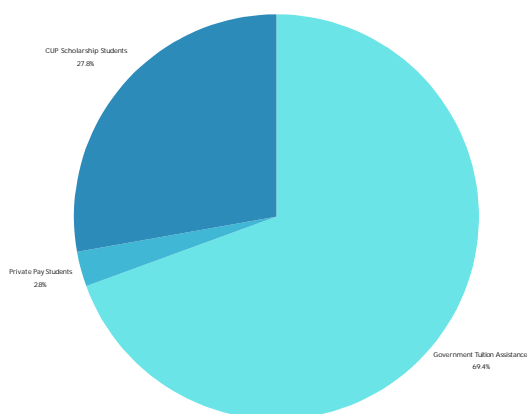
A message from our Preschool Director - Melia Proffitt



This past year has seen remarkable growth in our preschool. Our families are delighted with our program, with nearly all of our graduating students returning for our new Kindergarten program in the 2024-2025 academic year. Throughout the school year, we have maintained almost full capacity. There has been a decrease in teacher turnover, and overall staff satisfaction and unity. We have enjoyed many field trips including to the Cincinnati Children's Theater for multiple performances. We have had strong family participation in events like prom, the Christmas performance, and graduation. To further engage with the community, we have welcomed visitors such as firefighters and police to the preschool. Additionally, we have reached out to the community to attract families, resulting in three families from Mali and one Hispanic family joining us. We continue to enjoy the increasing diversity in our school family!

Looking ahead to next year, our plans include adding more activities to our daily schedule, such as a multi-cultural room, art activities, dramatic play, and a muscle room. We also incorporate American Sign Language (ASL) in our teaching and intend to utilize it more in the upcoming school year. All of this new growth will allow our students to flourish as they learn in early childhood!

Little Promises Funding Breakdown



- We were able to provide access to early childhood education to 13 students tuition free who were otherwise unable to afford tuition and did not qualify for tuition assistance from any other source.
- We re-opened a Toddler Room and began preparations for our newest addition: a Kindergarten class!
- 12 Preschool students graduated to Kindergarten and 10 of those students will remain with Little Promises for Kindergarten.
- Amanda Stegman, moved up to become the Little Promises Assistant Director - allowing our administrative team to function more efficiently, effectively increasing our enrollment from 22 to 34. Through the year we served a total of 48 students.

Leaders of Promise After School and Summer Programs



In my first year as the School Age Director, I have achieved several significant milestones. First, I effectively built a team that not only embraced the program's vision but also cultivated strong relationships among themselves. It is often a challenge to find a team dedicated to their roles and the students they serve. Another notable accomplishment was the rapport developed between myself and our families. Prioritizing connections not only with students but also with their parents or guardians is crucial in establishing trust and fostering enduring relationships. Lastly, I successfully implemented a more comprehensive daily and weekly schedule, which has improved the organization and structure of the afterschool program. I am hopeful and excited for the expanded programming the coming year holds for us as we continue to support our students!

Leaders of Promise Program Highlights

- ◆ Served 67 students for Afterschool Programming and 72 students for Summer Enrichment in 23-24' Academic Year.
- ◆ Partnered with Project Yoga as well as other community members to offer Yoga and Zumba to encourage healthy and holistic exercise.
- ◆ Students engaged in several community service projects including a March to End Violence and singing Christmas carols at area nursing facilities.
- ◆ Program restructured to include themed days including: Health and Wellness Monday, Creative Expression Tuesdays, Social Emotional Learning Wednesday, and Thoughtful Thursdays!
- ◆ Program staff structured enhanced by adding 4 full time staff positions that allow for quality preparation and a higher degree of community involvement.



WestRoots Urban Agriculture

A message from our Agriculture Director - Julia Lankisch



This year, the Urban Agriculture program flourished in several new areas. Volunteers helped to build and fill garden beds and mulch pathways to improve our growing spaces. Many students ages 2-18 benefitted from agriculture lessons during CUP's after school, preschool, summer camp, and Gamble high school partnership programs. The best part of the program this year has been watching students and community members connect with each other and the Earth that sustains us, and facilitating transformative experiences that allow safe and educational interaction with the outdoors and plants.

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Agriculture Program Highlights

- Built 10 community garden beds with University of Cincinnati students and rented them to local gardeners
- Painted garden signs with afterschool students to mark the learning and community gardens
- Planted various vegetables and flowers with afterschool students and put on a plant sale for the community
- Hosted a recycling activity with ReSource for school age students
- Hosted 3 community garden workshops with gardeners in partnership with Mary Dudley from Westwood Grows
- Collaborated at Seeding Community meetings with Westwood native gardeners
- Investigated, planned, and built hydroponic systems with Gamble students
- Worked with Gamble students on planting, weeding, garden planning, hydroponic maintenance, composting, and more.
- Lead preschool students through developing Grow journals and learning about the stages of plant growth.
- Cut honeysuckle and removed invasive species from garden lots with volunteer groups from Tau House, University of Cincinnati, and Xavier University.

Looking to the Future

A message from our Director of Programming - Dr. Joni Brandyberry



In the coming academic year, Cincinnati Urban Promise will be expanding by adding a new Kindergarten classroom, enhancing after-school partnerships with local schools, and launching a new agricultural business run by community teens. This expansion will have a significant impact on students, families, and the community as a whole.

The new Kindergarten classroom will provide early education opportunities for young learners, setting a strong foundation for their academic journey. The expanded after-school partnerships will offer additional support and resources to students, helping them excel academically and personally.

The agricultural business launched by community teens will not only provide valuable skills and entrepreneurial experience but also contribute to the local economy and promote sustainability practices within the community. Overall, these expansions will positively impact the educational growth, family engagement, and economic development of the community served by Cincinnati Urban Promise.



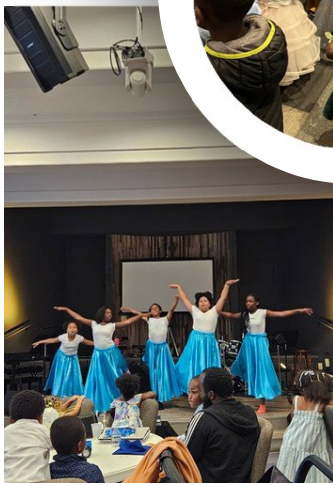
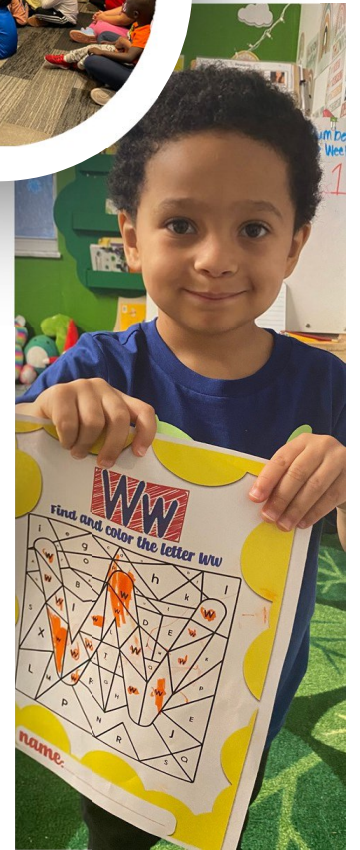
2023-2024 Donors

5 Star Auto Care
 AJ Rahn Greenhouses-Gray Rd
 Absolutely Needlepoint-Miami Ave
 Allison Zent Edwards Charitable Fund
 Beth and Brian Connor
 Big G's BBQ and Catering
 Bob Willis
 Bonnie Perrino
 Brandon Snyder
 Brian Kirkpatrick
 Bryan Bucher
 Business Network International
 Carla Carr
 Carol Sears
 Cakes and Pastries by George-Muddy Creek Rd
 Cincinnati Preschool Promise
 Cincinnati Bank
 Cinemark Theaters
 City of Cincinnati
 Cloud IT
 Country Fresh Market-Vine St
 Covenant Foundation
 Daniel Murphy
 Diane Iseman
 Diane's Restaurant-Anderson Ferry
 Dohn Community High School
 Driveway Dumpsters
 Edelweiss Foundation
 Elizabeth Stauch
 Elizabeth Warwick
 Ethel Cogen
 Eugene and Nancy Jacob
 Fawn Candy-Western Hills
 Fred Redeker
 Gary Markus
 Gayle & Mike Rece
 Great Parks of Hamilton County
 Greg Landsman
 Greg Rece
 Hamilton County
 Harvest Home Fair Association, Inc.
 Hoeting Realtors-Bridgetown Rd
 Izzy's-Glencrossing Way
 Incline Public House-8th St
 Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trust
 Jean M Rieder
 John and Teresa Foister
 Joni & Abe Brandyberry
 Joni and Abe Brandyberry
 Johnson Investment Counsel, INC.
 Karen Lankisch
 Karen Weed
 Knox Presbyterian Church
 Koch Foods

Laronald McKinney
 Laurie and Bob Wissel
 Laura & Doug Skidmore
 Linda Owen
 Lindsey Dietrich
 Linette Ayers
 Liz Martini
 Lowes Home Improvement-Harrison Ave
 M & M Kowitz Family Foundation
 Maria Meyer
 Mark and Jan Hosterman
 Martha & Gary Steier
 Matthew Collins
 Max Monk
 Maxwell C Weaver Foundation
 Michaela Buczek
 Morgan Harden
 Muse Cafe-Westwood
 Nakeeshia Rosser
 NAMI - Urban Great Cincinnati
 Nation Kitchen & Bar-Westwood
 Nick & Tom's Restaurant and Bar-Bridgetown Rd
 Ohio Department of Children and Youth
 Ohio Department of Education
 O'Reilly's Auto Parts-Harrison Ave
 Paragon Salon-Harrison Ave
 Price Hill Chili-Glenway Ave
 R&R Quality Meats-Harrison Ave
 Robert Ehram
 Ron's Roost-Race Rd
 Rueve Landscaping-Bridgetown Rd
 Sam's Club-North Bend Rd
 Sarah Summe Pies
 Small's Hardware-Harrison Ave
 Skyline Chili-Glenway Ave
 James Episcopal Church
 Tamara Collins
 The Andrew Jergens Foundation
 The Cincinnati Reds
 The Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens
 Third Presbyterian Church
 Timothy and Joy Murray
 Tiara Peyton
 Tonya Edmonson
 Trussler Insurance-Cheviot Rd
 United Way of Central Ohio
 United Way of Greater Cincinnati
 University of Cincinnati
 Unnewehr Family Foundation
 Westwood United Methodist Church
 Western Bowl Strikes & Spares-Glenway Ave
 Western Gardens-Blue Rock Rd
 White Oak Gardens-Blue Rock Rd
 Wild Birds Unlimited-Harrison Ave
 William Bronson
 William Lewis
 Wohlgemuth Herschede Foundation
 Wyoming Florist and Shop on the Green

2023-2024 Community Partners

Abrakadoodle
Amicus Adult Pre-Apprenticeship Training
Amicus Youth Pre-Apprenticeship Training
Cincinnati Preschool Promise
Cheviot Elementary School
ChildFocus
Civic Garden Center
Gamble Montessori Elementary School
Gamble Montessori High School
Hamilton County Youth Employment
Harbor/Lighthouse EAP
Leader in Me
My Neighbor's Place
Peanut Butter & Jam
Project Yoga
Roll Hill Elementary School
St. James Episcopal
Strategies to End Homelessness
Third Presbyterian Church
University of Cincinnati
University of Notre Dame
WestCURC
Westwood Community Kitchen
Westwood Elementary School
Westwood Grows
Westwood United Methodist Church
Westwood Works
Western Hills Athletic Association
Whole Again
Xavier University



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on TikTok @littlepromises6



on TikTok @cincyurbanpromise



FAMILIES
FORWARD.®

a learning grove organization

Enriching children's lives ... every day!

Overview

About Families**FORWARD**

- Founded in 1875 as the Ohio Humane Society and eventually became The Children's Protective Service
- 30-plus years as Families**FORWARD**; merged with Learning Grove on Jan. 1, 2023, and we maintain our name and brand
- Mission Statement: Our mission is to help children develop the attitudes and behaviors necessary to become productive, independent and responsible citizens through a school-based, family-centered program



Families**FORWARD**

Guiding Principles



- Every child has a need to be nurtured and supported.
- Our interpersonal relationships thrive because we are sensitive to the many cultural influences in the community.
- We are responsive to the needs of our community.
- We demand of ourselves the utmost integrity in everything we do.
- We foster innovative approaches to accomplish shared goals.
- We nurture self-respect in our relationships with children, teachers, parents and ourselves; and we respect each other's point of view.
- We operate as partners with family, school and community in a highly professional manner.
- We relate with compassion to those in our care.
- We strive to be the leader in providing school-based, family-centered programs.

Families**FORWARD** is about Community



Families**FORWARD** is co-located in six Cincinnati Public buildings, providing assistance to students and families at:

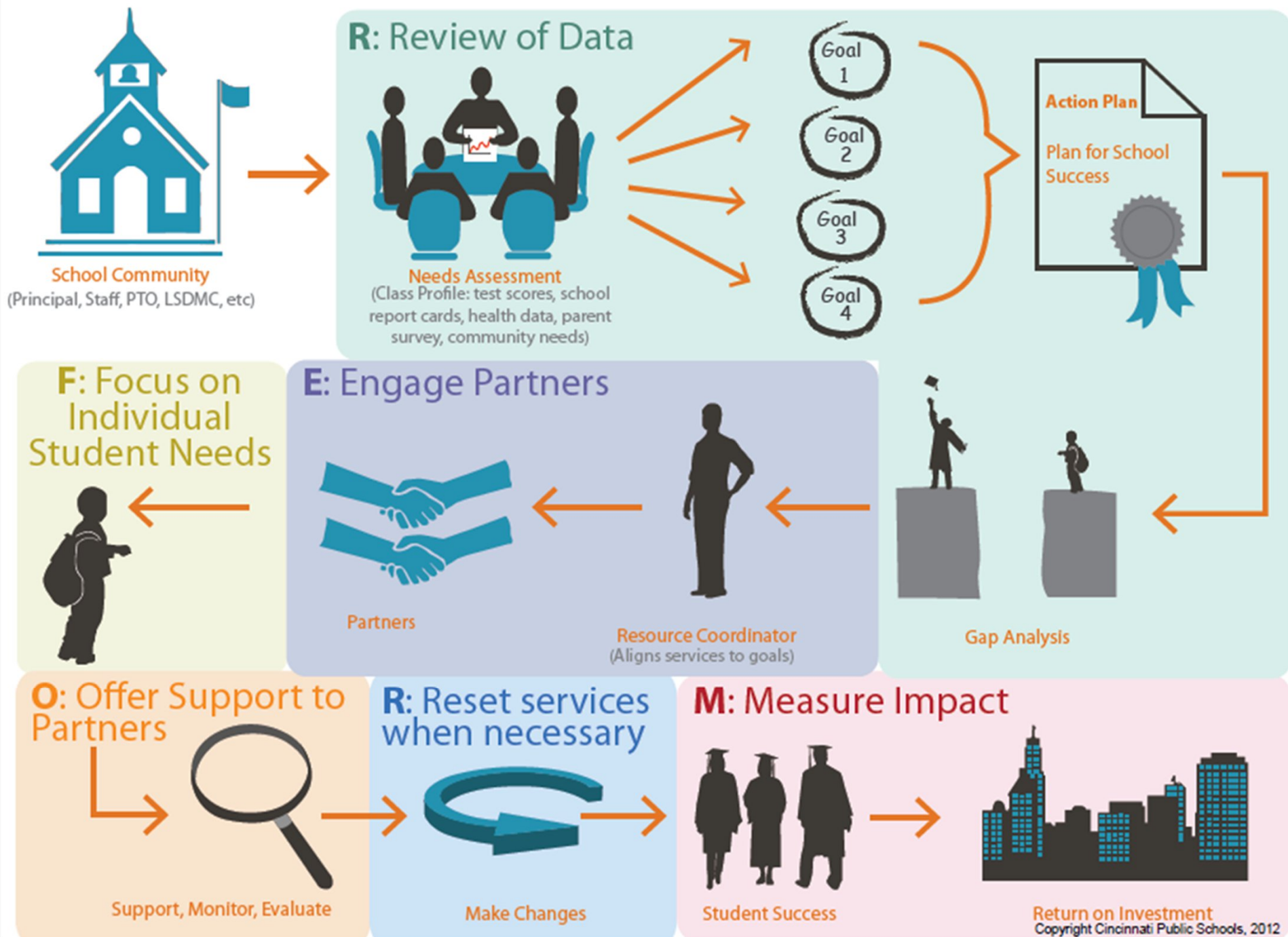
- Academy of Multilingual Immersion Studies (resource coordination)
- Bond Hill Academy of Math and Science Discovery (resource coordination and After-School Program)
- Carson School (resource coordination and After-School Program)
- College Hill Fundamental Academy (resource coordination)
- Hays-Porter School (resource coordination and After-School Program)
- Withrow University High School (resource coordination and After-School Program)

In the past five school years, through 2022-23 and including the COVID-19 pandemic years, Families**FORWARD** directly served an average of 882 students each year.

Our organization was a charter United Way agency partner, starting in 1915

District Model for Resource Coordination

Resource Coordination- The **REFORM** Process



Families**FORWARD** is about Volunteers

We love our volunteers! We typically have more than 100 annually who give several thousand hours of their time throughout the school year.





Families FORWARD is about After-School Academic Support

- Homework help
- One-on-one tutoring
- After-school curriculum aligned to newest Ohio and CPS academic standards
- Leadership development
- 21st century essential skills / social-emotional learning
- Community-service learning
- Technology teaching
- College test prep help



Families**FORWARD** is about Student Enrichment

Activities include:

- Adopt-a-Child holiday gift program
- African & hip-hop dance
- Cincinnati Arts Association events
- Cincinnati Nature Center trips
- College Fair
- Conflict-resolution & self-esteem skills
- The Gifts We Share program
- Males**FORWARD**
- Martial Arts
- Musical Arts Concert
- Painting with a Twist
- Parent workshops
- Robotics / 3-D Printing
- Scouts
- Shared Reading program
- Social-emotional development
- SPCA animal-care program
- STEM projects
- Violin
- Volunteer coordination



Families**FORWARD** is about Accountability

- Dozens of community partner agencies, businesses, schools, other organizations
- Parents as collaborative partners
- Charter United Way agency partner since 1915
- BBB-accredited charity
- Annual evaluations by Innovations of Children's Hospital Medical Center



Families**FORWARD** is about Results

- Increased grade-level promotion
- Increased retention rates
- Increased graduation rates
- Increased college-enrollment rates
- Increased community involvement
- Decreased behavioral incidents
- Decreased dropout rates
- Decreased absenteeism and tardiness





FamiliesFORWARD
thanks the City of
Cincinnati for your
financial support!

- None of the academic offerings and enrichment opportunities would be possible without our key partners — including the Human Services Fund.
- Our students are engaged in extended learning in the critical afternoon hours. A 2019 report released by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids analyzed law-enforcement and FBI data and found that the time from 2 to 6 p.m. during the school week is the peak time for juvenile crime.
- We help students with life skills, to become resilient and to start thinking about future careers in a fun, safe learning environment!

QUESTIONS?

Michelle Toney, Executive Director
mtoney@learning-grove.org
513.262.4811 (office) or 513.961.2690 (mobile)



a learning grove organization