

CARE CENTER FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



www.carecenterfoundation.org

The Care Center Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Care Center Foundation (CCF) had a year of revival, growth, and connection with our community as it continues to serve at-risk families in West Chester. The first day of daycare operations under CCF's leadership was June 4, 2024. Incredibly talented staff was hired, and doors were opened to parents needing immediate childcare services as they work, go to school, or search for employment. Fiscal fluidity is a must in our community to sustain income for food, rent, gas, care expenses and utilities. Families in transition can encounter many barriers to meeting those needs on a monthly basis which in turn increases stress and leads to rash decisions. That stress can trickle down to young, rapidly growing minds and have an impact through adulthood. Our daycare center focuses on giving children the tools they need for a healthy body and mind, leading to a healthy future. Staff are trained in trauma-informed support for behaviors, building healthy structure, and the development and nutritional needs of children – babies from just 6 weeks old to children aged 12.

There were many layers and many challenges to opening the doors of CCF again as an independent daycare facility. Inspections from the health department and child care agencies, website revisions, marketing tools, bilingual supports, recruiting, hiring and training of staff, revising parent and staff handbooks, purchasing food to feed the children breakfast, lunch and snacks, the never ending need for diapers, the cleaning of the building to keep all healthy during flu season, maintenance and care of an old historic building, financial accountability, and more - not to mention the ongoing need for operating during a time of economic uncertainty.

The growth of the program, enrolling children and onboarding staff, over the last year, allowed us the time to fine tune and navigate the many requirements that are necessary in serving ONLY low-income families. For some of our families, they are new to the area and the language, and for others they are in crisis and have moved their family out of a violent situation to be safe. These individuals need employment to provide for their families and this doesn't happen quickly. CCF can provide immediate care for their children in order for them to be able to search for and find a job that pays a sustainable wage. CCF is proud of how we pull families in – providing guidance and support; caring for their children (they are smiling and happy at pick up); and becoming a part of their extended family. CCF is part of a network of agencies, churches, and outreach services that partner together to support some of our most vulnerable neighbors.



MISSION: To support the needs of at-risk families in West Chester—beginning with access to high-quality education and childcare services, and connecting them with community resources to help them thrive.

VISION: A thriving West Chester community where every child has the opportunity to grow in a safe, nurturing environment and every family has the tools and support to succeed.

Internally, CCF has hired an excellent Day Care Director who has navigated the many steps to becoming a highly rated day care for children. Staff have 50 years of combine childcare experience and training and are able to speak with families in their native languages of both Spanish and Russian. CCF has also diversified its Board of Directors who support the many layers of operations and oversight. The Board expanded its expertise to include professionals with a background in finance, human resources, marketing, day care operations, law, budgeting, and ministry. The Board met for a retreat this past spring to build its internal capacity and revise the mission and vision of the Care Center Foundation to better reflect the current day to day services.



Our updated mission statement is to support the needs of at-risk families in West Chester by offering access to high quality education and childcare services and leveraging community resources to help them thrive.

With this renewed mission for our community CCF is ready to bring high quality, safe, nurturing care to the most vulnerable members of our community –babies and children. When they thrive during the first 5 years of life, they have the tools for ongoing resilience, and positive health and mental wellbeing as adults. It's the CCF's hope that if we invest in these children now, we build a healthy, thriving future for West Chester.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Over the last year CCF has celebrated incredible achievement including:

- Serving 38 children and their families with education and childcare services
- The launch of the Six Pillars of Mental Health, reaching 50+ families with monthly wellness education and training
- Healthy self-care initiative – giving of CCF branded water bottles and education for self-care
- 18,900+ meals served to families during our Easter, Thanksgiving, and emergency food initiatives
- Over 400 hours of volunteer time contributed
- The launch and integration of a new contact and donor giving software
- The launch of a new website and streamlined contact system
- Expansion of social media presence and community awareness strategies
- Monthly emails to supporters were created to provide updates and engagement opportunities
- A sold-out Sinatra Tribute VIP Fundraiser with over 200 guests – raising over \$13,000
- Monthly themed donation campaigns that connected cause with community

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT:

Early Childhood Education:

Our daycare program continues to provide safe, structured care for children, giving parents the confidence to pursue employment and stability. CCF has a scholarship program to help all families afford the highest standard of care for their family.

Summer Camp:

Educational and recreational programming extends throughout the summer months providing families with a high quality summer camp experience for their children.

Six Pillars of Mental Health:

A six-month parent support program delivering wellness strategies in multiple languages. Topics include sleep, nutrition, affirmation, and family bonding—building resilience in children and confidence in parents.

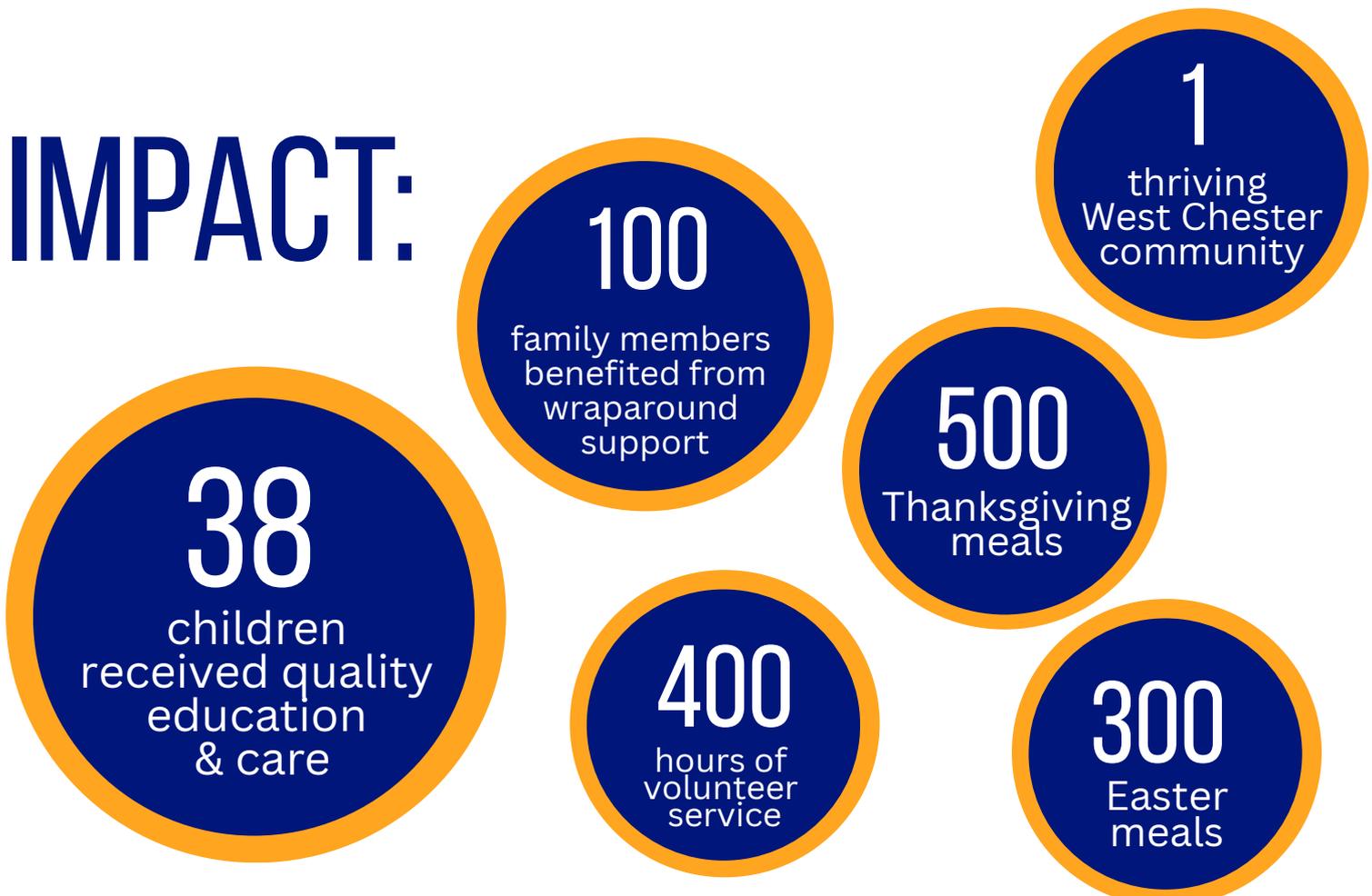
Holiday Drives:

Our community came together again to deliver meals, gifts, and new bicycles, essentials to families during Thanksgiving and the winter holidays—ensuring no child goes without.

Birthday Club:

Families are provided with support to help them celebrate birthdays without breaking the bank. Birthday Bags include party decorations, cake mix, presents, wrapping supplies and more because CCF believes that all children deserve to be celebrated.

IMPACT:



LOOKING AHEAD:

Over the next year, CCF plans to:

- Invest in the leadership development of staff to ensure the highest quality care is provided to the children in our care.
- Expand Six Pillars of Mental Health into a year-round support system for families.
- Explore new and individualized ways to support families through complicated life challenges.
- Upgrade classroom technology and materials.
- Build partnerships for job-readiness support for parents.
- Launch a recurring donor program and legacy giving options.
- Grow our marketing reach to connect with more local families.
- Engage more donors, volunteers, and supporters through community awareness and brand recognition.

GET INVOLVED:

You can be a part of the building blocks of life for at-risk children in West Chester. Together, we can do so much more than we can do alone.

- Donate monthly or one-time to support CCF's mission.
 - CCF relies on the generosity of the community to support this work. Your gift in any amount goes to providing high quality childcare and educational services to at-risk families in our community.
- Volunteer your time.
 - Join us at a community event.
 - Support the birthday bag initiative.
 - Distribute meals at the holidays.
 - Collect toys for distribution to families.
- Sponsor an event or family.
 - Scholarships are provided to families so they can afford the cost of care.
 - Less than 15% of our families pay full price for services.
- Share our mission with your network.
 - Tell a friend about CCF.
 - Like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.
 - Find out if your employer has matching gift programs or would be interested in supporting our work



For more information on all of the ways you can get involved, please visit us at www.carecenterfoundation.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Wendy Wallace, Board President

Valerie Schaeffer, Board Treasurer

Pastor Chris Franz, Board Member

Christine March, Board Member

Marjorie Constable, Board Member

John Cigler, Board Member

Michelle Benoit, Board Member

Andy Rongaus, Board Member

STAFF:

Stephanie Brancato, Daycare Director

Yimari Santiago, Lead Infant Teacher

Gloria Aviles, Toddler Teacher

Olga Nagirna, Infant Teacher

Sharo Pulgarin, Preschool Teacher

Adeline Varney, Program Support

Jonathan High, Community Advocate

Claudia Brown, Community Advocate

We need your help now more than ever!
Contact us today to find out more about how
you can volunteer, support, or donate. YOU
can help change the lives of children in
West Chester today.

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610-436-6226

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