



Investing in **Children First A Return that Grows**

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Message From the Chairman

Far too many Black, Hispanic, and poor children in our communities grow up in early learning deserts, attend under-resourced schools, lack after school or summer enrichment options, suffer from poor quality health care, and often are harmed by the very systems intended to protect or rehabilitate them.

Children First is a one-of-a-kind organization that gives us each a concrete way to make the lives of kids better.

Your investment in Children First is paying dividends. This year, we looked at the return on your giving – or the ROI. Every dollar and volunteer hour you contributed to Children First generated a \$131 return for kids evidenced by more access to great early learning options, better performing public schools, innovative mental health services for youth coping with trauma, and new protections for the most vulnerable children in our region.



It's easy to make the case that Children First is a smart investment!

Each day, the Children First team sets its sights on goals that are more difficult to measure, but at the end of the day, are why we do this work. We see the potential unleashed when a child attends pre-K, the achievement gained when public schools have the resources to meet student needs, and life's chances increased because children are healthier and safer. These are the real returns that we produce together.

Through Children First, the power of your investment of resources and time unlocks the potential of more children, every day.

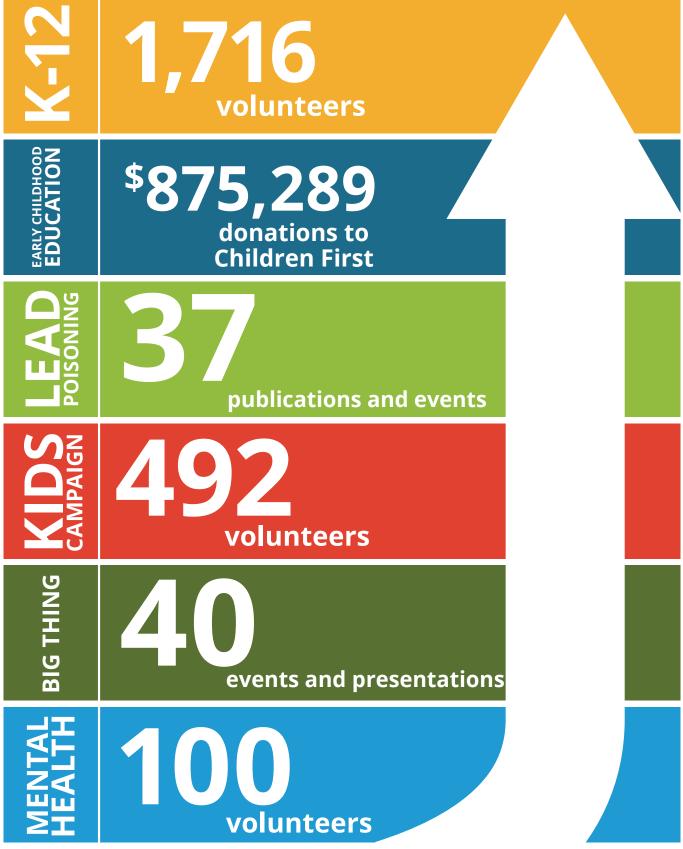
That's a lasting impact that we are grateful you helped make happen.

avier Suarez

V Board Chair



Children First Delivers



1,716 volunteers





Demanding Educational Opportunity, Unleashing Next Generation Advocates

The historical, legal victory that confirmed that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional fueled our momentum to persuade state lawmakers to invest in the public schools that educate 1.7 million students.



Instead of taking the sober court decision to heart, politicians attempted to thwart progress toward enacting a constitutional remedy by shifting the debate to old tropes that continue the status quo and divert attention from the needed changes. The youth in Children First's Justice in Education program are making clear demands by testifying before the Pennsylvania Basic Education Funding Commission and meeting with lawmakers. Their message is one of urgency and equity.

"Children First made sure that I knew that instead of funding public schools, state lawmakers were looking for ways to reduce public school funding and enrollment by increasing funds for private, and religious schools. My personal experience attending public, private and charter schools was enough for me to know that I had to act. We produced real results with more than half a billion dollars for public schools and no vouchers."

> **Fati Sidibe, High School Senior** Bodine High School, Philadelphia



CARE

\$875,289

donations to Children First



More than 100,000 Pennsylvania children are locked out of pre-K programs proven to boost their educational outcomes, in part because parents can't afford the cost. Children First made sure Philadelphia politicians made solving this problem for children and parents their priority. Thanks to our deep relationships with dedicated local elected officials, early learning providers, and parents, Philadelphia's pre-K programs expanded to give 5,500 kids the smart start in life we know they need.



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"I heard over and over again from Children First as we were debating the city budget. They demonstrated that parents wanted to send their kids to pre-K programs and that early learning programs were ready to expand. We were fortunate that the city budget could absorb the cost of expanding pre-K without cutting other programs, so I was happy to work with my colleagues to push for the increased funding. We are proud of the expansion and grateful that Children First kept us focused on what really matters — educating our children."

Mark Squilla, City Councilmember, Philadelphia



publications and events

Organizing to Protect Kids from Environmental Hazards

Tens of thousands of children in PA are exposed to lead paint and lead dust in their homes putting them at grave risk of the lifetime consequences of lead poisoning. The Center for Disease Control is very clear that there is no safe level of lead exposure. Thanks to the leadership and creativity of Children First, the statewide Lead-Free Promise Project secured \$2 million – the state's first appropriation of its kind – to remediate the presence of lead in homes.



"I have never been involved in leading an advocacy effort before, but I was eager to partner with Children First to learn how to do it. We have an amazing coalition of more than 60 organizations and, in record time, nearly every state lawmaker knows we have an urgent problem that must be fixed. When Children First asked me to lend my knowledge to this work, I never imagined we could see results so quickly."

> Harriet Okatch, Assistant Professor Thomas Jefferson University





Kids Campaign – Helping Parents Make Elections about Kids

Philadelphia elected its 100th Mayor in 2023. Children First's goal was to make kids the central focus of every candidate's campaign by recruiting more than 100 organizations and hundreds of parents and youth to join the Kids Campaign. Children First organized partners and helped them draft and release policy papers and hold candidate debates. Candidates knew what the Kids Campaign was demanding and that parents and kids were serious about making this election matter for them.



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"I was worried that the needs of my children and my community would be ignored in this very important election. I am so grateful Children First assembled an amazing coalition of parents, youth, and many powerful organizations to design a campaign to make sure we could not be ignored. When I met with candidates to explain what the Kids Campaign expected of the next mayor, they listened. That's because Children First supported us to strategically use our time, voice, and networks to put kids front and center."



40 events and presentations





Helping Philanthropists to Think Big

Children First convened 300+ parents, youth, and child serving leaders in the Summit to Change Young Lives focused on tearing down the biggest obstacles to a child's success. Now, more than 100 organizations are our partners focused on creating a robust youth mental health system, enact strategies to diversify the teacher corps, and stimulate a dramatic expansion of high schools offering students college courses, apprenticeships, and high-quality career and technical education.



"When I was asked by Children First to be on the Steering Committee of the Summit to Change Young Lives, I knew we were going to make history together. The youth involved yearned to be part of something that would change their lives and the lives of their younger siblings. They wanted modern schools, support for their mental well-being, and they urgently asked us to train teachers of color and help all teachers to combat their own racial biases. I own these causes now, and I venture everyone who attended the Summit to Change Young Lives feels the same way." volunteers

Partnering with System Leaders to Meet the Mental Health Needs of Children

More than four in ten youth in Pennsylvania report feeling sad or depressed, which accounts for the spike in youth suicides, now the second leading cause of death for children (behind gun violence). Kicking off this new area of advocacy, in just one year, Children First has already moved public officials to increase spending for youth mental well-being at the state and local level. Children First is on the cusp of winning the systemic changes parents and youth tell us are most needed.



"I've been using one-time funds to provide mental health resources and support in our schools. As a school community, we take the emotional well-being of our staff and students seriously despite the limited resources we have at our disposal. Over the years, we have developed a wonderful relationship with Children First, and we are grateful that they continue to do the leg work to get state lawmakers to put permanent resources in place. I've worked side-by-side with Donna and her staff for more than a decade. I am confident that together we can get this done."

> Dan McGarrity, Superintendent Upper Darby School District



ASSETS	As of May 31, 2023
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,878,378
Pledges and Other Receivables	3,122,261
Investments	1,536,984
Furniture, Equipment, Leases Net	277,336
Other Assets	18,947
Total Assets	7,833,906

LIABILITIES	As of May 31, 2023
Accounts Payable Accrued Expenses	250,691
Fiscal sponsorships	13,248
Accrued Leases	317,687
Total Liabilities	581,626

NET ASSETS	As of May 31, 2023
Without Donor Restrictions	3,453,715
With Donor Restrictions	3,798,565
Total Net Assets	7,252,280

Total Liabilities and Net Assets 7,833,906

SOURCES	As of May 31, 2023
Foundation	2,196,149
Individual	922,657
Corporate	590,716
Government	450,827
Special events	239,331
Contracts	173,314
United Way Of Greater Philadelphia	120,000
Other	70,601
Total	4,763,595

USES	As of May 31, 2023
Program Services	3,764,763
Fundraising	286,512
Management & General	344,712
Total	4,395,987



The numbers shown are unaudited and have been summarized from year end activity through May 31, 2023. Complete audited financial statements are available upon request or on our website at www.childrenfirstpa.org.

2022-2023 CITIZEN LEADERS

Anonymous Carolyn & Tim Adams Judy Adamson & Fred Jackes Lindsay & Sam Albright Nancy Bernstein Steven & Linda Bradley David Camp & Gwen Borowsky **Renée Cardwell Hughes** Diane Castelbuono Bruce & Carol Caswell Vinh Chau & Jude Bornstein-Chau Katherine Christiano Jolley Christman Albert Chu Michael Churchill & Tasha Stonorov David & Rhonda Cohen Donna Cooper & Arthur Meckler Harriet Dichter & John Schapiro Michael & Elizabeth Eagles Vicki Ellis Evelyn Eskin William Ewing Richard & Susan Frazier Alan Gardner Amy Ginensky & Andrew Rogoff Barbara & Stephen Gold Jane Goldblum Mary L. Goldman Philip & Estelle Goldsmith Ira Goldstein Mark & Judi Goldstein Carole Gravagno Rosemarie & Anne Greco Morrissey David & Jacqui Griffith Janet Haas David Hackett **Beverly Hahn Rosemarie Halt** Mary Hurtig Kenneth Jarin & Robin Weissman **Philip Jaurigue** Victor Keen & Jeanne Ruddy **Caroline Estey King** Kenneth & Eve Klothen Kurt & Lindsay Kolakauskas Nadia Kunz **Charisse Lillie** Elaine Lindy

Nancy Lucas Ed Mahlman & Moya Kinnealey James Martin Diego Matamoros **Ruth Nerken** Sara Nerken Kathleen Noonan & Johnathan Lipson Lisa Panepinto Nicole Parker Susan & Curt Parnes Jeffrey Pasek & Kathy Hirsh Pasek Carol Pate & John Melvin Joseph Neubauer **Kate Philips** Heidi Ramirez Brian, Soozung & Robert Rankin Mustafa Rashed Michael Rashid David Richman & Janet Perry Estelle Richman Ann Rosewater & Robert Kronley Jim & Cathy Schunder **Donald Schwarz** Staci Scott Sister Mary Scullion Patty & Stephen Segal Elliott & Ellie Seif Frances Sheehan & Ricardo Gelman Judith Silver & Donald Stevens Sandi Slap Darren Smith & Jamie Ware Jeff & Claudia Sparagana Tracey & Shanin Specter LaTi Spence H. Lynn Starr Frances Stier **Javier Suarez** John & Jane Summers John J. Taylor, Jr. Judith von Seldeneck Peggy Wachs **Teresa Ward-Maupin** Liz Werthan & Bob Brand Patricia West & Tom Vernon **Reagan Willard** Dr. Cleon & Tasha Williams Nora Winkelman Flora Wolf & Laslo Boyd Wendy Wolf

2022-2023 INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Anonymous Aynye Adams Tara Ahmed Mattan Alalouf Amber Allen **Courtney Altemus** George Aman, III Diana Anderson Eleanor Anderson **Emily Anderson** Andrew Arbutina Joyce Arbutina Kelly Attridge **Carol Austin** Saumya Ayyagari Marcy Bacine Jacqueline Baker Vicki Baldwin Maureen Barden **Dennis Barnebey Brad Barnett** Harry Beam Julie Becker Michael & Irene Beer Beth & Gershon Ben-Avraham Jodi Benjamin Millie Berg Margaret Berger Bradley Gregory Bergman Lisa & Arthur Berkowitz Ralph Bertke Unis Bey **Judith Borie** Barbara Boroff Marcy Boroff Ari Borthakur George & Rebecca Bostick Deena Brooks **Marion Brown** Thomas Brown Lynette Brown-Sow Suzanne Brubaker Judy Buchanan & Jim Parker Laurie Buck Marianne Callaghan Carla Campbell Carla Canuso **Christine Carlson Jeanie Carpenter** Rafi Cave

Frank Cervone Gladys Chen Joan & Joel Chinitz Katie Chisholm Robert Cicco Elisha Coffey Monique Collier Nickles Anne Connelly Zoraida Cordero **Deborah Cousins** Susan Cousounis **Barbara** Craig Jim & Jan Creedon Sara & Allan Crimm Shannon Cronin **Tyrell Culcleasure** Beth Dahle Lauren Daniele

Maxine Field Veronica Fielding Donna Fields Janet Filante Leigh Filippini S. David Fineman Norma Finkelstein Kay & Graham Finney Mary Fish-Dembert Carol Fixman & Stephen Kobrin Jamie Forlenza Sara Forster Sabria Fountain **Michele Frank Cathy Frankel** Linda & James Freed **Rachel Freed** Karen & Jeffrey Freedman

Marsha & Jeff Gerdes Mary & Kenneth Gergen Nancy Geryk Eva Gold Edward Goldberg Joan Goodman Mary Catherine Gordon Kathy Gosliner George Gould Mary Graham Elaine Griffin Melissa Grimm Naomi Gubernick Lois Hagarty Anne Hagele **Ehmonie Hainey** Lyle Hall Linda Hansell

"We like to think our giving unleashes the powerful advocacy of staff and volunteers, allowing them to achieve great things for kids."

Rev. Dr. Cleon and Tasha Williams

Kathleen D'Auria Susan & Alex David Len & Judy Davidson **Bolivia Davis** Patricia Davis Tad & M. Candace Decker **Connie & Terry Dellmuth** Joan Denenberg Laura DeRiggi Kristyn DiDominick **Sharon Dietrich** Margaret Diorio Daily Gail Donner Kirk Dorn **Beth Dougherty** Lee Anne Douglas Ruth DuBois Joseph Dzierza Patrick Egan Zoe Ehrenberg **Patrick Eiding** Erica Elefant Steven Engelmyer Helen Evelev Cindy & Fred Farlino James Farmer

Meryl Freedman Kathy Fromell Marie & James Fynes Steven Fynes Danielle Gallagher John J. Gallagher Claire Gavin Jeffrey Gelles Caroline Harries LeAnn Hart Lynn Hartle Beverly Hayden Paulette Heath Violet Henighan Patricia Higgins Denise Hinkle



Heidi Hochstetler **Bettina Hoerlin** Diona Howard-Nicolas **Elena Huang** Eric & Kia Hubacher Veronica Art Hudson **Charlotte Hummel** Donna Hunter Yvonne Hyde-Carter **Germaine Ingram** Roberta Iversen Rosie Jacobson Sara Jann Rebecca Jarosh **Cory Johnson** Paul Johnson **Monique Jones Richard Jones** Aldustus & Keisha Jordan Anita Kaplan Dee Kaplan Jane Kasserman Linda Katz Marie Keeley Shelly Kessler Toni & Herb Kestenbaum Susan & Robert Kettell Deborah Klehr Nancy Kleinberg **Erich Klothen** Charlie & Susan Koerwer **Carrie Kohs Dierdre Konar** Nina Korsh Elizabeth Kozart Vicki & Don Kramer Alexander Kratchman Julie Krug Jamie Kudera Muriel Kudera Haley Kulp Jacob Kurtz Chau Wing Lam Sandra Lang Nancy Lanham Mary Laver Alan & Judith Lawit **Doris Leisch Emily Leopard-Davis** Burddiua Leuvv Alex Levin **Rosalind Lewis** Sandra Lieberman



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Theodore Lieverman

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Arleen Walker Sharon Ward Benjamin Waxman Jackie Weidman John Weidman Sam Weidman **Elliot Weinbaum** Debra Weiner **Deb Weinstein** Marlene Weinstein **Christopher Welsh** ML Wernecke Lois Whaley Gerald Whelan Mazz Whitaker Paul Whitson David & Betsy Wice Scott Wilds Sarah Winters Loretta Witt Samuel Wojnilower Kate Woods **Steven Wray** Judi Wren Shelly Yanoff & Gerald Kaufman Mary Beth Yarish **Alexander Young** Gerald Zahorchak Nancie Zane **Deborah Zubow**



2022-2023 BUSINESS, ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS

Ahmad Zaffarese LLC Adamson & Associates Alta Management Alterra Property Group, LLC AmeriHealth Caritas Services American Friends Service Committee **Bellevue Strategies Brightside Academy** Children's Hospital of Philadelphia **Chinatown Learning Center** CHUBB **Clear Point Communications** Comcast NBCUniversal Community Behavioral Health Conner Strong and Buckelew Cozen O'Connor **Creedon Management Associates** Delaware County Interactive Gaming Revenue Auth. **DLS** International DelCo Medical Society Public Health Fund **District Council 21 Diversified Search** Eckert Seamans Cherin Mellott LLC

Edens Corporation Esperanza Fox Rothschild LLP Geisinger Health Plan **GSL** Government Consulting Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller Health Partners Plans Holman Automotive Group Independence Blue Cross Foundation Independent Order of Off Fellows #37 Kolber & Randazzo, PC Laborers Local #57 Laborers Local #332 LOR-MAR Mechanical Services Mayfield Site Contractors Meridian Bank **Mosaic School Supports** National Philanthropic Trust NEPC, LLC Nueva Esperanza **PK Financial** Parker Philips, Inc. Pennrose Management Co. Pennsylvania Child Care Association Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency

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"Investing my time and money in Children First is my antidote to despair - a tangible way to shift parental anxiety into productive action. I trust their team to make real change for kids every day. It's my small revolutionary act of hope and the best ROI for my community and well-being!

Lindsay Albright

2022-2023 FOUNDATIONS

Allen Hilles Fund Amerihealth Caritas AMJ Foundation BlackRock, Inc. Community Behavioral Health CHG Charitable Trust Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback **Claneil Foundation** Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation Elizabeth B. and Arthur E. Roswell Foundation for Delaware County **Geisinger Health Plan** Gordon Charter Foundation Health Partners **Hess Foundation** Independence Blue Cross Foundation Independence Foundation

Independence Public Media Foundation **Ivywood Foundation** Judith S. Stein Family Fund Lark Family Fund Lindback Foundation NAML Foundation Nararo Foundation **Neubauer Family Foundation** Nonprofit Repositioning Fund Partnership for America's Children Pennsylvania Coalition for Oral Health Peter and Sung Kim Family Fund Philadelphia Foundation Philadelphia Health Partnership **Pincus Family Foundation** Pritzker Children's Initiative Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Saul Kaplan Foundation The Catherwood Family Fund of the

The EMSS Foundation The Huron Foundation The Patricia Kind Family Foundation The Rosenlund Family Foundation Thomas Skelton Harrison Foundation United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey Univest UPMC Urban League of Philadelphia U.S. Department of Education, EIR Program van Ameringen Foundation Vanguard Foundation W.K. Kellogg Foundation Wells Fargo Foundation William Penn Foundation Wyncote Foundation

Philadelphia Foundation

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children

THE ADVOCATE FOR KIDS

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