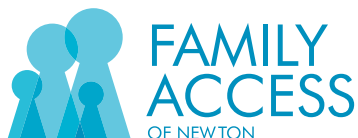




115 Years of Unlocking Opportunities

EMPOWERING CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES FOR GENERATIONS

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP



Dear Friends of Family ACCESS,

As we reflect on Family ACCESS' remarkable 115 years of supporting children and families, we are filled with gratitude and warmth for the incredible community that has allowed us to reach this monumental milestone. It has been a year of exceptional achievements, essential transitions, and promising growth, all made possible by your unwavering support.

In 2023, we had the privilege of witnessing the remarkable journey of our marathon runner, Mike Moynihan, who tirelessly raised over \$10,000 for

Family ACCESS. His dedication and commitment embody the resilience that defines our community.

While we embraced moments of triumph, we also faced challenging decisions, including the necessary contraction of our CAP program. Such choices were made with the utmost care and consideration, ensuring that our services continue to be of the highest quality and efficiency.

Throughout these transitions, our core commitment to empowering families remained unwavering. Family ACCESS serves as a vital social safety net,

providing crucial support to over 7,600 participants in need this past year. We are dedicated to ensuring that every family in our community has the resources and guidance they need to succeed and thrive.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our amazing staff, volunteers, Board, donors, community partners, and foundations for your unwavering support over the years. It is your dedication, compassion, and generosity that drive our success and propel us forward into a future filled with promise.

In gratitude,



MAUREEN LISTER
Executive Director



JIM RAPOPORT
Chair of the Board of Family ACCESS

OUR MISSION

Family ACCESS empowers and strengthens families and the community by providing programs that nurture child development, prevent trauma, promote effective parenting skills and support working parents.

For 115 years, our organization has served thousands of families from racially, economically and culturally diverse backgrounds in local communities across Middlesex and Norfolk counties.

Our three integrated programs are based on decades of research in neuroscience and early child development that point to the importance of early formative experiences and the power of engaged parents to raise strong, resilient children.

Our programs and services continue to expand to meet the needs of our community. In FY23, we now provide support and services across 19 communities in five languages.



IMPACT

74% of parents responded:

They have more conversations with their children than before enrolling in the program



IMPACT

84% of families report:

Visits helped me better understand how my child learns



IMPACT

55% of families responded:

They are reading more with their children than before enrolling in ParentChild+

FAMILY ACCESS CELEBRATES ITS 115TH



On a beautiful fall day, nearly 200 guests came to join in the fun celebration with Halloween and touch-a-truck activities, grilled cheese sandwiches, and decorate-your-own cupcakes.

Family ACCESS is grateful for the community's support as we continue our mission of empowering families.

"We are really happy with the Early Learning Center. Our son has been doing very well with transitioning. We feel he is in good hands. We love the teachers and the type of activities he does every day. Also, we like the communication and organization of things. Thanks for all your work! We appreciate it a lot!"

– Parent of a child enrolled in the Early Learning Center (ELC)

OUR PROGRAMS & HIGHLIGHTS



EARLY LITERACY SERVICES (ELS)

Provides a variety of evidence-based programs, resources, and referrals to help build literacy-rich homes, support parents in understanding their child's development and offer opportunities to engage with other families in the community. Programs include:

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: Empowering parents and children with literacy groups, child development support, and resources in underserved communities.

PARENTCHILD+: Home visits support early literacy and school readiness for underserved families.

RAISING A READER: Engaging children with interactive reading, supporting parents and educators in shared reading routines.

HIGHLIGHT: Served over 6,300 participants with 100% of ELS parents reporting improved understanding of child learning, daily reading habits, and school preparation.



COUNSELING AND CONSULTATION SERVICES (C&CS)

Provides comprehensive clinical services and social-emotional support to parents and their children to address present challenges and mental health concerns.

YOUNG PARENT SUPPORT SERVICES: Home-based support for pregnant women and young parents up to age 23.

ROOTS TO BLOSSOM: Extends support for pregnant and parenting young adults up to age 26.

PARENTING SUPPORT GROUPS: Culturally relevant and evidence-based groups (CIRCLE OF SECURITY, ABRIENDO PUERTAS/OPENING DOORS and SOLO NOSOTRAS) to build strong families.

PARENT CONSULTATION: Short-term counseling for parents of young children facing specific challenges.

HIGHLIGHT: Served 300+ participants with 1,500+ clinical hours (50%+ increase from FY22), leading to 95% of clients showing improved family stability.



EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)

Provides high-quality, play-based early education and family support services to infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and PreK as well, from economically and culturally diverse communities.

- Infant Childcare
- Toddler Childcare
- Preschool and PreK Program

HIGHLIGHT: Supported nearly 100 children and their families, a more than 50% increase over FY22, offering high-quality childcare and allowing parents to participate in the workforce. 90% of ELC children showed improved development across social-emotional, motor, cognitive, and language skills.



PROGRAM GROWTH

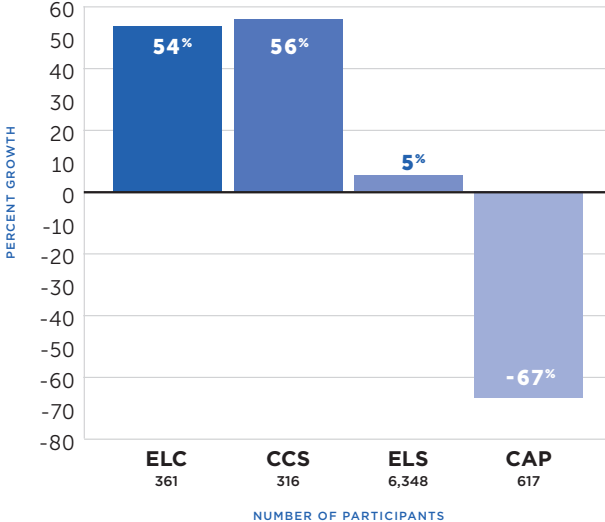
In 2023, amidst a backdrop of both challenges and successes, Family ACCESS served over 7,600 participants. Despite a slight dip in total participants, some programs, like the Early Learning Center (ELC) and Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS), saw remarkable growth, reflecting the changing needs of our community. This growth underscores our vital role in providing quality early childhood education and parenting support.

However, we also faced strategic decisions. Due to shifting community needs and our largest client, Newton Public Schools, launching a similar internal approach and program, we made the tough call to discontinue the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) program. This decision followed careful consideration and planning to ensure a smooth transition with minimal disruption.

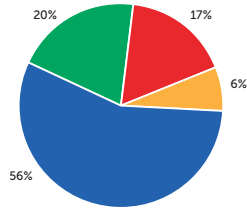
Though the decrease in CAP participants marks a shift, it doesn't diminish the program's significant impact over our 115-year history. Moving forward, we'll draw on the lessons learned from CAP to innovate and better serve our community's evolving needs.

PROGRAM GROWTH

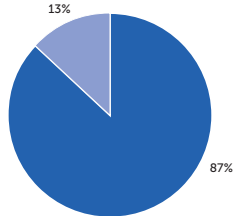
FY2023 total participants: 7,642



2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



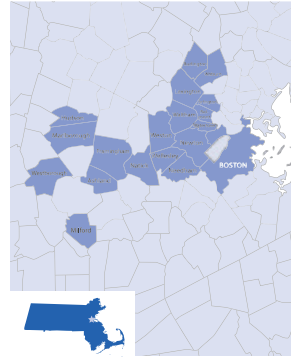
\$4,125,482
2023 Revenue



Where your dollar goes
For every dollar raised,
87 cents goes directly to
program services



19 Communities Served



“There was a time that I did not know what else to do and the guide sheets gave me new ideas how to play and use the books. Now we have a bedtime routine of reading together and reading to my kids.”

– ParentChild+ parent (ELS)



IMPACT

95% of C&CS families demonstrated:
An increased responsiveness to their child, which is essential to building a secure relationship



IMPACT

48% of families responded:
They are playing more with their children than before enrolling in ParentChild+



IMPACT

68% of ParentChild+ families report:
That they go to the library with their children



"I attended the OPENING DOORS program. I confess that it was the best thing that happened to me.

I learned a lot about being a mother. It was like therapy. I went in disoriented, worried, and my anxiety was high.

I have learned many things from Magda and Tamires and everything got better!!! Thank you very much for your dedication, for your knowledge, and for the things you taught me. It was great to meet you and other mothers like me."

– an Abriendo Puertas/
Opening Doors parent

STORIES THAT INSPIRE US

Magda Desouza's journey from Brazil to Family ACCESS embodies dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment. As a bilingual



Counselor in Counseling and Consultation Services, she provides personalized, empathetic support to pregnant teens and young parents. Magda's impact extends beyond individual interactions; she translated the Abriendo Puertas curriculum

into Portuguese, opening doors for Portuguese-speaking families. Her work embodies Family ACCESS' values of diversity and community empowerment.

"Education is essential to me, and I have seen firsthand how our teachers support and foster an inclusive culture that empowers and respects children. I also love our literacy program and the invaluable service it provides to families, especially immigrants. Not everyone is privileged to work for an organization that supports families in many ways."

Driven by a desire to continuously learn and grow, Magda is pursuing a master's degree in social work. Her story is a testament to the transformative power of belief, passion, and dedication.

BRIDGING CULTURES

At Family ACCESS, we're dedicated to creating environments where parents can thrive, grow, and build meaningful connections to lead their children towards positive outcomes.

Since 2020, Family ACCESS has proudly offered ABRIENDO PUERTAS/ OPENING DOORS, a culturally responsive parenting program designed for Latino communities. This evidence-based curriculum honors and supports parents as the leaders of their families and their child's first and most influential teacher.

Thanks to Magda DeSouza's initiative, **Family ACCESS is the first in the nation to offer the program in Portuguese.** This breakthrough allows us to reach diverse families, expanding our impact in the community.

Each program concludes with a special celebration of the remarkable achievements of parents who completed the program.



As one parent shared,
*"Opening Doors was wonderful.
It's a judgment-free space where
you can learn and grow as a
parent with the support of others."*

"I had such a wonderful experience taking CIRCLE OF SECURITY PARENTING. This course helped me recognize behaviors my daughter naturally goes through.

It helped me recognize my own emotional reactions towards her behaviors and identify where those emotions are coming from so, I can better respond to the needs of my child. I am a better parent for taking this course and my relationship with my daughter will be stronger because of it too."

– Parent who participated in Circle of Security Parenting Group (CCS)

Empowering Families, One Diaper at a Time

In May,
Family ACCESS hosted
a Diaper Drive &
Distribution event,
organized in
collaboration with our
community partners at
Newton Neighbors.
This initiative provided
over 21,500 diapers
to nearly 250 families,
addressing a critical need
in our community.



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\$1-\$999

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Supporting Learning: Backpack Donations

In August, WS Development’s generous donation of backpacks filled with essential back-to-school supplies made a significant impact on our community.

These donations were distributed to children from low-income families enrolled in our ELC, ELS, and CCS programs, providing them with the tools they need to thrive academically.



From the Playground to the Finish Line!

Family ACCESS was honored to collaborate with Mike Moynihan, a passionate advocate for children and families, who raised over \$10,000 through his marathon run. Among some of his fun fundraising activities was a family fun run at the Family ACCESS playground, where Mike connected with ELC families.



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\$1-\$999 *continued*

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MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY

Join us in empowering families by donating to Family ACCESS at:

www.familyaccess.org/donate

For more information visit www.familyaccess.org or contact Maureen A. Lister, Executive Director, at MLister@FamilyAccess.org

 **EARLY LITERACY
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Opening Doors
to Success

Entering School
Ready to Learn

Supporting
Families

Empowering
Young Students

Strengthening
Children and Families
in our Community



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