



Seeds of Potential

THE POWER OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



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



LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends of Family ACCESS,

As we reflect on this past year, it was a year marked by both significant achievements and unexpected challenges. The landscape of early childhood education and family support continues to evolve, and Family ACCESS has demonstrated remarkable resilience in navigating these shifts.

Despite the challenges of staffing shortages, rising costs, and the lingering effects of the pandemic, our dedicated leadership and staff remained committed to providing high-quality services to the thousands of children and families who rely on us.

This year also brings a significant leadership transition as we bid farewell to Maureen Lister, who dedicated 14 years to Family ACCESS, including the last four as our Executive Director. We are deeply grateful for Maureen's leadership, vision, and commitment to our mission. As we embark on a search for our next Executive Director, we are excited for the opportunities this new chapter presents.

In the coming year, we will focus on consolidating our gains, deepening our impact, and laying the groundwork for the next phase of Family ACCESS's journey. We are confident that with the continued support of our dedicated staff, generous donors, and committed community partners, we will emerge stronger and more resilient than ever.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to our mission this past year. Your belief in our work makes a profound difference in the lives of countless children and families.

Thank you very much.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Rapoport". The signature is fluid and cursive.

JIM RAPOPORT
Interim Executive Director and Board Chair

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

BEYOND THE BOOKS: ONE VOLUNTEER'S DEDICATION TO FAMILY LITERACY

Barbara Neufeld wasn't ready to slow down after retiring from a fulfilling career in urban education research and teaching. Instead, she found a new calling with Family ACCESS's Early Literacy Services. For the past 9 years, she has been a ParentChild+ volunteer, providing in-home support to families, helping them prepare their young children for school through two-generational reading, play, and learning activities.

But Barbara's impact goes far beyond these activities. *"What's fulfilling about the work with families in their home is that it is as much learning from them and learning what they need and learning what they already can do,"* she shared. She truly invests in the families, assisting them with everything from school enrollment to navigating the complexities of the education system.

For Barbara, the rewards are immense. She finds deep satisfaction in witnessing the children and families as they grow in their ways of engaging with the books and toys the program provides and with each other. She shares in each



family's excitement and enjoyment as they see their children develop new language and fine motor skills. She believes so strongly in the program's impact that she generously donates both her time and treasure.

Barbara's story shows the transformative power of volunteering. *"I hope more people...will consider joining us,"* she says, encouraging others to experience the joy of making a difference in the lives of children and families.

Thank you, Barbara, for your incredible commitment to Family ACCESS!

Check out the full story about Barbara's incredible dedication to children and families on the Family ACCESS Blog. www.familyaccess.org/community-blog

IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

COUNSELING AND CONSULTATION

65% of young parents in the Young Parent Support program do not have a high school degree, 20% of parents have only completed the 10th grade

49% of our clients without a high school degree are currently enrolled in school and working toward graduation

75% of families speak languages other than English at home

51% of our counseling families are headed by a single parent

PARENTCHILD+

100% of parents report they read more often to their child thanks to their experience in ParentChild+

92% of parents report they know more about their child's development because of ParentChild+



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 10 Metrowest 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 **7,000** 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, including CIRCLE OF SECURITY and ABRIENDO PUERTAS / OPENING DOORS (*offered in Spanish and Portuguese*), and SOLO NOSOTRAS (*offered in Spanish*), to build strong families.

HIGHLIGHT: Served **340+** participants with **1,500+** clinical hours, leading to **81%** of clients demonstrated upwards economic mobility.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)

Provides high-quality early education and care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, fostering their growth and development through specialized curricula. Our diverse community represents a wide range of cultural and economic backgrounds, ensuring an inclusive and enriching environment for all.

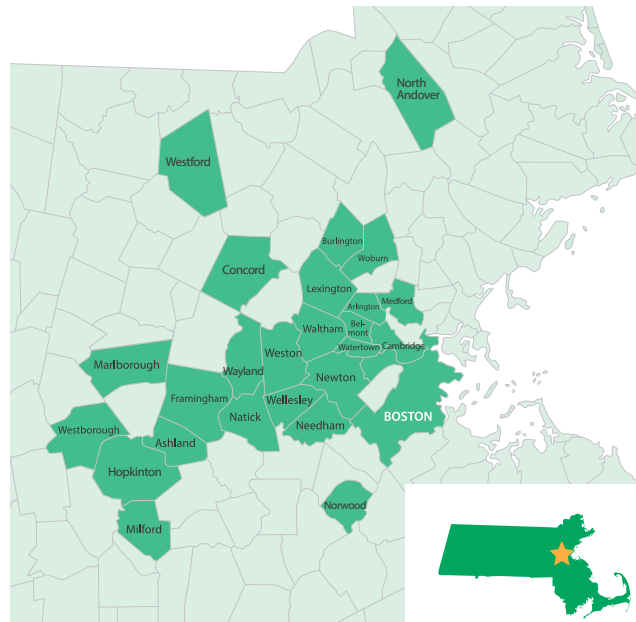
- Infant Childcare
- Toddler Childcare
- Preschool and PreK Program

HIGHLIGHT: Supported nearly **150** children, enabling parents to pursue their careers with the confidence that their children were thriving. Over **90%** of the children met developmental milestones and gained critical skills, setting them on a path to future educational success.

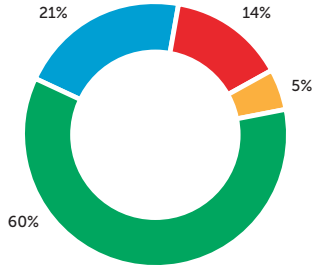




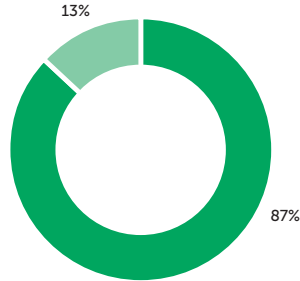
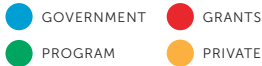
25 COMMUNITIES SERVED IN 2024
7,804 PARTICIPANTS



2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



\$4,481,541
2024 Revenue



Where your dollar goes

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



YOUR SUPPORT NURTURES FAMILIES

488 Playgroups held by
Early Literacy Services

19: The average age
of parents served by
Counseling & Consultation
Services, ranging
from 14 to 23

148 children
enrolled in the
Early Learning Center

"It was a very complete program, and it helped my daughter a lot in her learning to speak, have more words and learn her numbers. Very grateful for your support!"

– Parent who participated in ParentChild+ Program (ELS)





*Seeds of learning,
ready to sprout!
Thank you, Second
Church in Newton,
for gifts of books
and backpacks brimming
with potential.*



*Planting seeds
of warmth: Handmade
quilts from Newton
Patchworks.*

PLANTING SEEDS FOR SUCCESS COMMUNITY SUPPORT EQUIPS STUDENTS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community partners, Family ACCESS ensured that students of all ages started the school year equipped for success.

Newton Neighbors stepped up in a big way, providing nearly 50 preschool and elementary students with brand-new backpacks, lunch boxes, and water bottles. These essential school supplies not only eased the financial burden on families but also filled children with excitement while preparing them for the year ahead.

Recognizing the unique needs of young parents pursuing their education, the **Second Church in Newton** generously donated 20 backpacks filled with school supplies to teen parents in our programs. These backpacks will allow them to continue their learning journey while balancing the demands of parenthood.

And thanks to **Cambridge Savings Bank**, those backpacks weren't empty! Their generous donation of school supplies ensured that every child had the tools they needed to thrive in the classroom.

SEEDS OF JOY

HOLIDAY GIFTS NURTURE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

For 18 years, **WS Development** has brightened the holidays for Family ACCESS families. Their generous employees donated gift cards to 110 families, allowing parents to choose the perfect gifts for their children. Additionally, they donated toys for 140 children, from toddlers to teens, which sparked joy and imagination. WS Development's tradition of giving fills the holidays with joy for vulnerable children and families in our community.

For over two decades, **Newton Patchwork** has lovingly crafted handmade quilts, providing warmth and comfort to families facing challenging circumstances. Their longstanding commitment to our cause exemplifies the power of community support in making a difference in the lives of those in need.

Thank you to all our community partners for your generosity and compassion. Together we are empowering all students to reach their full potential!



BLOOMING TOGETHER

A PAINTING PARTY WITH PURPOSE

Family ACCESS's Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS) program hosted a "Painting Party" in June, providing a unique opportunity for mothers engaged in our home visiting program to connect, de-stress, and celebrate their commitment to parenting. Nine mothers participated in the event, joined by a community partner and CCS staff members.

The party fostered a sense of camaraderie and support, allowing mothers to connect with each other and the CCS team in a relaxed and creative setting. Each participant took home a floral arrangement, their painted masterpiece, and a Family ACCESS apron as a memento of the event.



RUNNING FOR A CAUSE & COOKING FOR COMMUNITY

Family ACCESS's "Cooking for Community" event at Third Space Kitchen celebrated the incredible fundraising achievement of marathon runner Brian Tate. Inspired by his pro-bono work with Family ACCESS, Brian set an ambitious goal to raise \$8,000 for our programs. Through his dedication and the generosity

of his supporters, he surpassed expectations, raising over \$8,200! The "Cooking for Community" event served as a culmination of his campaign, bringing together donors and supporters to celebrate his accomplishment and raise additional funds to strengthen families and empower children.



GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

**EMPOWERING FAMILIES,
ONE DIAPER AT A TIME**

In May, Family ACCESS hosted a Diaper Drive and Distribution event, organized in collaboration with our community partners at **Newton Neighbors**. Through this initiative, over 25,000 diapers were distributed to 320 families in need.



2024 DONORS & PARTNERS

\$1,000 AND UP

Aladdin Appraisal, LLC • Elizabeth Baker • Boston Evening Clinic Foundation • Bushrod H. Campbell and Adah F. Hall Charity Fund • Sandra S. Butzel • Cabot Family Charitable Trust • Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation, Inc. • Cambridge Trust Charitable Foundation • Bob Carter and Gail Bolte • Ellen R. Cohen • Community Foundation for Metrowest • Cummings Foundation • Eastern Bank Foundation • Shawn and Kate Fitzgibbons • Bob Fox and Andrea Mintz • Frieze Family Foundation • George & Louise J. Hauser Charitable Trust • Mary Beth and Chris Gordon • Hamilton Company Charitable Foundation • Lee and Dick Hardaway • Susan Heyman • Kay Khan • Stacy Klickstein and Craig Mulcahey • Benjamin and Helen Kohler • Ken and Carol Krems • Llewellyn Foundation • Kathy and Robert Mahoney • Margaret L. Robinson Trust • Metrowest Women's Fund • Microsoft Matching Gifts Program • Barbara Neufeld • Rodney and Sara Pollock DeMedeiros • Jim and Susan Carty Rapoport • A.C. Ratshesky Foundation • Katherine Read and John Houston • Rebecca Pomroy Foundation • Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation • Rotary Club of Newton • Gayle Smalley and Judith Curby • Anita E. Springer • Anonymous • Diane Tillotson and Karen Harvey • TJX Foundation • The Village Bank • Wayside Youth and Family Services • Wellesley Hills Junior Women's Club

\$1-\$999

Rachael Amos • Siani Andrea • Steven Asher and Rebecca Warner • Sandra and David Baird • Amy Barad • Ruth Barnett • Denise and Paul Barreira • Katherine Barry and Jacob Reinhardt • Mary Bell and Bill Joplin • In memory of Richard Berkman – Patience Berkman • Don and Ann Berwick • Craig Besant • Chris Bierly & Margaret Boasberg • Bowman Selig Families Charitable Foundation • Bernice Bradin and Cynthia Arcate • Stephanie and Ian Brady • William and Nan Braucher • In memory of David Axelrod – Sally Brickell and Jeff Kaplan • Michael Broad and Grace Massey • Sarah Brown and Stephen Plotkin • Nancy Brown • Michael Bruno • Debra and Alan Brush • Ann Buxbaum • Andrew Szanton and Barbara Cannon • In honor of Debbie Brush – Jocelyne and Stephen Caplow • Patrick Capozzi • Devon Carelli • John and Helaine Carroll • Bonnie Carter • Wendy and Ed Case • Tina Choe • Cynthia and Harvey Creem • William and Nancy Dignan • In memory of Betsy Dill – Peter Dill • Stacy & Richard Dimino • Paul Dionne • Charles and Sheila Donahue • Martha and James Doolin • David Dorfman and Carroll Eastman • Anne Dugan • Mary-ellen Efferen • Carol Stollberg and Thomas Engellenner • Andy and Karen Epstein • In memory of Louise Hauser – David and Rhonda Everts • Barbara Fain and Jason Gilbert • Bill and Vicki Falk • In honor of Susan Paley – Laurel Farnsworth • Mary Ferzacca •

Julia Fiore • Alejandra Fonseca • Mark Froimowitz and Marilyn Berman • Ruthanne and Joe Fuller • Anonymous • Patricia and Norman Gasset • Robert and Catherine Gaudes • Pamela Gerrol • Rob Gifford and Claire Sokoloff • Nicole Gill • Deborah Gilmore • Mitchell and Barbara Glazier • Marc Golden • Janet and Mark Gottesman • Janet Greenwald • Susan Haber and Stephen Buchwald • Meghan Hamilton • Hugh Hanley • Jennifer Harris and David Condon • David Harris • Carol and Steve Henry • Stephanie Hom • Michael and Eileen Horowitz • Susan Hurwit • Steven Jakob and Audrey Prager • In memory of Audrey Cooper – Christina Jameson and Robert M. Bloom • Cody Jenkins • In memory of Kate Hoffman – Bette Johnson • Kelly Johnson – In honor of Barbara Clivio's Book • In memory of Deborah De Witt – Ron Joseph • Martin and Karen Kafka • Claire and Jerry Kashuck • Louise Kittredge • Patricia Klarfeld • Stan Koper • Andrea Kozinetz • Katherine Krems • Krems, Jackowitz & Carman, LLP • Ben and Renee Krikorian • Ted and Janet Kuklinski • In Memory of Joan M. Kunitz – Daniel Kunitz • Anne and Bob Lerner • William Lynch and Ingrid Larson • Luciano Lauretti • Virginia Leavy • Bernadette Leber • Bill Leitch • Mark Leiter • In honor of Elaine Sands – Jodi Levin • Nancy Levine • Harold Lichten • Brooke and Paul Lipsitt • Jesse Lipson • Maureen Lister • John and Catherine Logan • Anonymous • LPL Financial • Ellen Luby • Mary Beth Maisel and

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**“I am very grateful for this program and for the specialist.
She dedicated quality time with my family.
Thank you for the all the help provided, now I understand
my daughter more.”**

– Parent who participated in ParentChild+ Program (ELS)

PLANT MORE SEEDS!

When you support
Family ACCESS, you are planting
seeds that will grow and flourish
for generations to come.

Join us in cultivating
a community where every child
has the opportunity to thrive:

familyaccess.org/donate



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



George & _____
_____ Louise J.
HAUSER CHARITABLE TRUST



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THE LLEWELLYN FOUNDATION



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