



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



— EPISCOPAL —
**Children's
Services**

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

Every child has their unique strengths and our program works to develop those strengths into the skills that need for the rest of their lives.

And every member of the team at Episcopal Children's Services brings their unique strengths to our most important work – to provide the best early education possible for our community's most vulnerable children and families.

Our teachers create learning experiences that utilize children's creative and critical thinking so that they become confident to begin kindergarten. Our staff engages with each family that we serve with empathy and respect so that each parent and caregiver can do their most important work – to be their child's first, and most important, teacher. Our community partners collaborate with us to bring their programs and services to those we collectively serve. Our supporters and funders invest their resources, giving us the capacity to do this transformative work.

Every person involved in the work of Episcopal Children's Services is making a direct and positive impact for our children, our families, and our community.

We are so grateful to all of you because, together, we are changing the lives of thousands of children each year.



Connie Stophel
Chief Executive Officer



Thabata Ford
Board President

THE MISSION OF EPISCOPAL CHILDREN'S SERVICES

is to create opportunity so that the children we serve can achieve their full potential.

CREATE

We continually improve the art and skill of teaching young children to grow intellectually, emotionally, physically, and socially.

OPPORTUNITY

We build foundations for the future with strong learning environments for children, support and education for parents, and professional development for teachers and staff.

THE CHILDREN WE SERVE

We serve our community's most vulnerable children and families - those living in poverty and children with disabilities - with high quality early learning as well as comprehensive health and wellness services.

ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

Children who enter kindergarten ready to learn have better outcomes for their entire lives. It all begins with quality early learning.





2020–2023

Strategic Plan

An agency overview of our goals, strategy and roadmap.



MISSION

To create opportunity so that the children we serve can achieve their full potential.

WHO WE ARE

- Create working and learning environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming
- Recruit and retain highly qualified employees
- Invest in employees by providing training, coaching and professional development experiences



QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

- Implement trauma-informed system of care
- Achieve National Head Start Program of Excellence recognition
- Ensure quality of all services meet the highest standards

PROGRAM EXPANSION

- Fully implement the Alachua grant
- Increase awareness of ECS brand
- Evaluate growth opportunities to address community needs



DEVELOPMENT

- Increase non-federal match dollars
- Grow existing fundraising streams
- Cultivate and strengthen current relationships while identifying and engaging new supporters

TECHNOLOGY

- Streamline data access and reduce storage through reducing paper and on-site storage
- Increase SharePoint and Teams user competency
- Identify more robust HR and fiscal platform



VISION

ECS will be a recognized leader in early childhood education and a 501(c)(3) with a strong entrepreneurial spirit that uses research and best practices to help families ensure their children enter school ready to learn.

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HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START

Our Head Start/Early Head Start program provides comprehensive education, health, and nutrition services to our community's most vulnerable pregnant women, infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and their families. Our young students and pregnant women receive intensive child development services. Parents receive education and support for family well-being as well as tools to support their children's success in school.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Our children make tremendous gains across all learning domains, with individualized instructions from well-qualified teachers. When children begin school armed with skills and knowledge, they are more likely to graduate high school and attend college, be employed with a livable income, engage in healthy behaviors, and contribute to their community.



CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Children must be healthy to learn. Living in poverty often means a lack of nutritious healthy food, limited opportunities for outside physical activity and inadequate health care. We directly address these issues with a robust nutrition plan, outdoor play areas filled with opportunities to explore and grow, and health screenings and services provided by our staff and community partners.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

We work to support family well-being and promote children's development. Our parents focus on learning skills to support their children. Episcopal Children's Services directly supports the economic needs of low-income families because childcare costs create a significant barrier to employment, education, and job training. Because our services are provided to families at no cost, our families can direct their limited budgets to other life necessities.



EARLY LEARNING SERVICES

In partnership with the Early Learning Coalition of North Florida, we provide families with needed financial assistance, so their children can learn in quality care through the following:

- **Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten:** Episcopal Children's Services supported 213 programs serving 5,541 four-year-olds with free, high quality educational program using professional curriculum and staff to prepare our young learners for success in kindergarten.
- **School Readiness:** We helped 3,327 children from low-income families pay for childcare so their parents can earn income with the assurance that their children are thriving in high-quality care.

In addition, our Early Learning Services Program operates the Child Care Resource and Referral Program, where more than 14,000 parents and caregivers were provided with free information on local childcare providers to meet their family's specific needs.



COACHJAX!

To provide the best education for all the children in our communities, teachers must be equipped with tools and knowledge to nurture child development. In partnership with the Kids Hope Alliance and Early Learning Coalition of Duval, teams of certified coaches and technical staff worked directly with over 100 childcare facilities in Duval County to improve the outcomes for the 3,280 children they serve.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER AT GOOD SHEPHERD

With small class sizes and individual plans for each child, we are fostering childhood development in the Riverside area of Jacksonville. Because research has clearly identified the impact of early activities on brain development for young children, our center is equipped with environments that encourage exploration and playthings that engage young imaginations.



WINE WOMEN & SHOES

On May 12, 2022, our generous friends kicked up their heels for **Episcopal Children’s Services’ 2nd Annual Wine Women & Shoes** at Timuquana Country Club. Our first time hosting this one-of-a-kind event in person, we welcomed 120 guests to sip, shop and support ECS. Sampling wines from Justin, Landmark Vineyards, Lapis Luna, Quintessential Wines and more, attendees visited our Marketplace featuring shoes, clothing, jewelry, accessories, and makeup for every budget, with 20% of sales benefiting ECS. Guests also sampled delicious hors d’oeuvres, competed in the Best in Shoe contest, selected a surprise bottle from the Wall of Wine, entered to win a Key to the Getaway trip to Sonoma, CA, and bid in the silent auction. Our event program featured an unforgettable fashion show, mission moments, live auction, and the opportunity to give from the heart. The evening was emceed by **Jordan Wilkerson, co-host of First Coast Living on First Coast News**. Thanks to our generous supporters, Wine Women & Shoes netted more than \$90,000 to benefit our children and families. Please join us for the 3rd Annual Wine Women & Shoes on May 18, 2023!

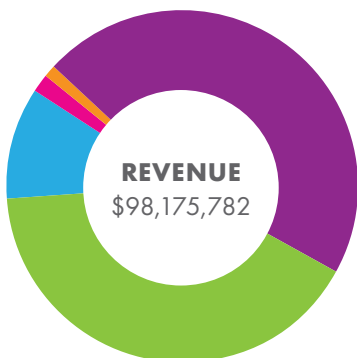


FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

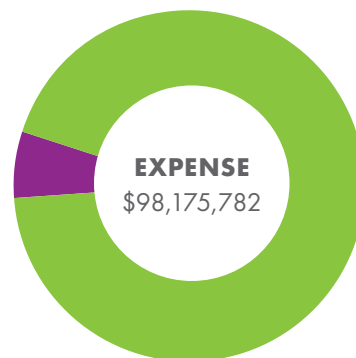
Episcopal Children’s Services is reporting our most successful year in our history.

With the hard work of a dedicated team, we continue to expand our revenues while maximizing the dollars that directly pay for desperately needed programming.

We are so grateful to all those who support us – corporate, government, foundations, service organizations, religious groups, and individuals – because every donation is critical to ensuring that our children are enter school ready to succeed.



- Office of Head Start
\$40,290,984
- Early Learning Coalition of North Florida
\$44,793,447
- Early Learning Coalition of Duval
\$1,341,920
- Child Care Food Program
\$1,446,262
- Contributions/Other
\$10,447,845



- Program Services
\$93,511,611
- Management & General
\$4,664,171



THANK YOU TO OUR 2021 – 2022 DONORS AND SPONSORS

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Our School Readiness Programs are sponsored in part by:

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**Children's
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8649 Baypine Road, Ste. 300, Bldg. 7
Jacksonville, FL 32256
904.726.1500
www.ecs4kids.org