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Sunny Days Ahead for Home Visiting!

Dave and Debbie Walker recently made a \$1 million donation to Every Child Succeeds through the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, designating it as a challenge grant! ECS already has raised \$1.5 million in the "quiet phase" of the fundraising campaign -- we will share more information as the official launch approaches. The Walkers have been advocates for ECS since the organization's earliest days. Dave is a founding board member, early board chair and the person who came up with the name "Every Child Succeeds." The Walkers "walk the walk" in their support of home visiting, and we are grateful!

Gov. DeWine Prioritizes the First 1,000 Days of Life

By Margaret Clark, Program Director

Governor Mike DeWine is making home visiting a top priority of his administration, and that is exciting news for Ohio families! At a press conference at Cincinnati Children's March 8, he announced plans to more than double state funding for home visiting programs, and he has set a goal of tripling the number of families receiving in-home visits and care during and after pregnancy.

Currently, the state of Ohio provides about \$20 million per year toward helping fund home visiting programs statewide; local government and philanthropic partners contribute additional dollars. DeWine is asking for an additional \$30 million in state funding over the next two years. His plan grew out of recommendations from his Advisory Council on Home Visitation, whose vice chair is ECS President Judy VanGinkel. The executive budget also creates Pay for Success pilots, public-private partnerships aimed at increasing the availability of home visiting programs.

How gratifying it is to see home visiting get its due with a proper focus on the first 1,000 days of life and two-generational programming!

It is critical that we let Ohio legislators know about our support of this investment. The public-policy research and

Also In This Issue

[From Grad to Home Visitor](#)

[Research Study to Expand](#)

[New Year, New Board Members](#)

[Home Visitor of the Year Honoree](#)

[Program Notes](#)

advocacy organization Groundwork Ohio provides excellent suggestions in its most recent newsletter, [available here](#). Please join us in this important effort!



Governor DeWine signs an executive order forming the Governor's Advisory Council on Home Visitation, in February.



ECS Grad Shares Her Success Story



Life is looking good for Latia, her fiancée, Trey, and her children Carter and Chloé!

Latia Houston made us proud at Gov. DeWine's press conference on March 8, when she shared her story from the podium. Here, an edited excerpt of her comments.

I am proof that home visiting works. I enrolled with Every Child Succeeds prenatally in 2013 and graduated from the program in 2016. Little did I know how this program would change my life! My home visitor, Diana Raabe, was a godsend. She provided consistent, knowledgeable, caring support for me at a difficult time.

I gained parenting confidence, improved my housing situation and advanced my career. Diana encouraged me all along the way. Best of all, I completed college and am now an ECS home visitor with Pathways to Home! I get to support other moms. I let moms know that I have been where they are and that they will be successful.

Home visiting is a wonderful, evidence-based program, and I thank you, Governor DeWine, for your commitment to pregnant women, babies and families.

SAVE THE DATE!
Every Child Succeeds Strollerthon
Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 10 a.m.
Starting Line at the Purple People Bridge (Cincinnati side)

This inaugural 5K Run/Walk is designed to celebrate our 20 years of service to Greater Cincinnati, show parents of young children how much our community cares about them, and provide fundraising support for our organization.

We hope to attract families with young children and their friends, extended family and other support providers, as well as the wider Cincinnati walk and run community. The emphasis is on families with young children--children can walk or ride along in strollers, wagons and baby carriers! A one-mile option will be available. Participants can celebrate at the finish line, with an event featuring food and fun!

ECS is seeking corporate sponsors to underwrite event costs and offer free registration to ECS families.

To learn more, [contact Margaret Clark](#).

New Grants Allow PRIDE Study to Expand

Every Child Succeeds' Cincinnati PRIDE Study recently expanded, thanks to research grants from Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The study is led by **Ted Folger, PhD**, ECS director of evaluation and epidemiology; **Robert Ammerman, PhD**, ECS scientific director; and **Katherine Bowers, PhD, MPH**, associate professor of pediatrics, Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at Cincinnati Children's. Its goal is to understand how early environments can influence a child's development through changes in the way genes (DNA) are expressed.

"This cutting-edge research may eventually lead to changes in how we think about the types, intensity and timing of services that we deliver to individuals in our community," says Folger. "The study team collaborates closely with ECS agencies, which is something that has caught the attention of local and national programs and funders."

The researchers' latest finding links a specific child epigenetic marker and child social-emotional health. This work is [publicly available in the journal *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*](#).

ECS Welcomes New Board Members

ECS installed new board members at the January board meeting. Welcome to:

- Kaneesha Johnson, ECS mom
- Ericka King-Betts, PhD, Division Manager/Administrator, City of Cincinnati
- Keith Lum, Vice President of Investments, UBS Financial Services, Inc.
- Leshia Lyman, Vice President, Success by 6 and Area Communities, United Way of Greater Cincinnati
- Florence Malone, Outreach & Enrollment Manager, Cincinnati Preschool Promise
- Gwen Robinson, Retired President, Community Action Agency
- Karen Schuster Webb, PhD, President, Union Institute and University

Board members approved the following new board officers: James K. Spurlino, chair; Jill Frondorf, first vice chair; Ruby L. Crawford-Hemphill, secretary; and Chad Boyd, treasurer and finance committee chair. Our leaders are outstanding advocates, and we thank them for their service and commitment!

Kudos to Emily White!

Congratulations to Emily White (center), ECS/Butler County ESC, who was named Supervisor of the Year for our region at the Ohio Home Visitation Summit on March 27! Also pictured are BCESC home visitors Kelly Backer (left) and Alana Spear.



Program Notes

Effective May 3, Beech Acres Parenting Center will no longer be an ECS provider agency. Children's Home has hired a majority of the Beech Acres/ECS staff and will pick up Clermont County and additional zip codes in Hamilton County. Thanks to all for making this a smooth transition and best case scenario for our families.

Congratulations to Lacy Dickerson, who was recently promoted to the position of ECS referral coordinator. Well deserved!

Jenny Berndsen, senior specialist-program management, did a workshop about smoking cessation at the recent Ohio Home Visiting Summit. Thank you, Jenny, for representing ECS so well at this event!



Welcome to our new business director, Kristin Perviz! Kristin is a certified public accountant, and earned her master's in business administration from the University of Cincinnati. Prior to joining ECS, she worked for Cincinnati Children's for about seven years. She specializes in accounting and internal audit, focusing on improving processes for greater efficiency and better outcomes. Kristin has two young children of her own in their first 1,000 days of life, and so has a special connection to the ECS mission.

Congratulations to the following ECS staffers celebrating anniversaries in the last three months. We appreciate the good work you do!

- 1 year: Jennifer Scott and Cory Pfefferman, ECS; Yvette Maldonado, SM; Selena Carr, BCESC
- 2 Years: Emily White, BCESC; Emily Wheelright, BA/CLBA; Allison Smith, YF;
- 3 years: Jessica Allison and Maya Hamler, CH
- 4 years: Lisa Haverkamp, BA/CLBA; Brandi Davis, GCB
- 5 years: Shauna Knox, CH
- 6 Years: Maegan Mitchell, PW; Judy Thompson, GCB; Bobbie Bailey, SM
- 7 Years: Kirsten Fletcher, BC
- 10 Years: Jessica Schierling, BC, and Anne Wilburn, SM
- 11 Years: Elaine Whittle, STE; Robin Brock, PW; Colleen Healey, SM
- 12 Years: Gina Pingleton, BC; Julie McGregor, SM; Alyssa Terrell, YF for 1 year and CHOC for 11
- 16 years: Marjorie Crouse, ECS (off and on!); Michelle Robbins, YF
- 20 Years: Margaret Clark, ECS; Teresa Hortenberry, CH

Every Child Succeeds, 3333 Burnet Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039

4/27/2019

New Funding Opportunities Create a Brighter Future for Home Visiting!

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