PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

2016 was an exciting year for Early Learning Indiana and early learning champions throughout Indiana. In partnership with United Way and the ALL IN 4 Pre-K coalition, we advocated for expansion of quality pre-K for low-income Hoosier children. The result of these efforts was $10 million increase in state funding and extension of pre-K to 15 new counties.

We expanded our work statewide to promote access to quality child care and preschool though the expansion of our quality improvement and capacity-building efforts in partnership with Indiana’s Office of Early Childhood and Out of School Learning. These efforts include more training for professionals, more services for families, and more early childhood providers getting the support they need to advance in Indiana’s Paths to QUALITY rating and improvement system.

Our local services - Child Care Answers and Day Early Learning centers - continue to serve thousands of young children and their families in central Indiana by providing families with quality child care and preschool, while ensuring more of them have great options in their neighborhoods and near their workplaces. These locally-based services will get even better with the help of a new $2.2 million grant from Lilly Endowment received in late 2016.

With your support, we will continue to educate and care for children who start kindergarten ready for success as we deepen programmatic impact to ensure that Hoosier children have access to quality education and dedicated teachers. This means, ongoing investment in our teachers, from recruitment and credentialing, to training and ongoing coaching.

2016 Financial Report

Audited results for the 12 months ended December 31, 2016.

REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year ended 12/31/16</th>
<th>Year ended 12/31/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REVENUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program fees</td>
<td>4,509,659</td>
<td>4,485,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
<td>12,024,227</td>
<td>7,399,335</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation grants</td>
<td>3,518,895</td>
<td>1,223,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>854,672</td>
<td>897,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment returns</td>
<td>511,142</td>
<td>(69,180)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>50,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUE</td>
<td>21,419,065</td>
<td>13,987,710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year ended 12/31/16</th>
<th>Year ended 12/31/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>19,621,328</td>
<td>14,995,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>1,570,263</td>
<td>957,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>304,799</td>
<td>248,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>21,496,390</td>
<td>16,201,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets*</td>
<td>(77,325)</td>
<td>(2,214,093)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Partnerships for Early Learners expenses paid from Lilly Endowment, Inc grant revenue recorded in 2014.
Early Learning Indiana is known for our excellent child care centers, and maintaining excellence requires ongoing commitment to classroom environments that meet the highest level of quality. It also means partnering with families, who are their child’s first and most important teachers. When we give children a good start, the benefits last well beyond their early years of life. Your support helps reshape the future of Indiana.

Early Learning Indiana’s programs and outcomes we achieve are made possible thanks to the support of partners like you. As we grow our services, we know our challenges will also grow. We appreciate the longstanding support we have enjoyed from this community, partners all over the state, and individuals committed to our mission.

As my tenure ends as CEO of Early Learning Indiana, I am proud of what we have accomplished together. I’m also excited about what is next for this great organization and its important work. Looking ahead, I believe Early Learning Indiana is standing in a place of possibility. You will continue to change lives of children today and to make an impact on future generations. Positive change will continue. Together, we will be proud of what Indiana will become – the best place for a child to learn and a family to thrive.

Ted Maple, Ph.D.
President and CEO

2016 PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day Early Learning</th>
<th>Child Care Answers</th>
<th>Partnerships for Early Learners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1,510</strong> Children served in our Day Early Learning centers.</td>
<td><strong>6,000</strong> Parents found child care with the help of Child Care Answers.</td>
<td><strong>1,353</strong> Families engaged through Pre-K family engagement Americorps program and Bloom Bright texting program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>61%</strong> of children who attend Day Early Learning received need-based financial aid.</td>
<td><strong>953</strong> Training sessions were provided by Child Care Answers.</td>
<td><strong>$418,000</strong> In Lilly Endowment support invested in seven Indiana counties to create high-quality early learning seats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>727</strong> Children served by our Tuition Assistance Program.</td>
<td><strong>96</strong> ★★★★★ Providers increased their Paths To Quality™ level with Child Care Answers coaching.</td>
<td><strong>144</strong> Early childhood professionals enrolled in a degree or credential program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Amanda’s introduction to Early Learning Indiana began over lunch with our preschoolers in 2015. Amanda chatted with the three-year-olds about their day as they all ate lunch together. Several children got seconds of Ms. Anita’s green beans, and they all took note when Amanda did not even touch her green beans!

Despite being scolded by preschoolers for not eating her green beans, Amanda lead her volunteer team at Eli Lilly on a year-long project to survey our Day Early Learning teachers. Throughout the interview process, Amanda says she “was struck by the dedication and sense of commitment the teachers had to their work and the kids.”

Inspired by the “passion and dedication that Early Learning Indiana has for making sure kids are thriving,” Amanda has continued her partnership with our organization. Amanda has helped to coordinate volunteer projects with teams at Eli Lilly and serves on our development committee.

When asked why she supports Early Learning Indiana, Amanda explains she believes education is at the root of other issues she’s seen in the community through various other United Way volunteer projects. She says the idea of a strong early education is the foundation for solving those issues and we couldn’t agree more.

Thank you Amanda for your time and commitment to Early Learning Indiana and children throughout the community!

Day Nursery Auxiliary’s Annual Style Show & Luncheon is Thursday, November 2, 2017.

The Day Nursery Auxiliary presents its annual luncheon and style show on Thursday, November 2, 2017, at the Ritz Charles in Carmel.

Proceeds from the event help support Early Learning Indiana’s Tuition Assistance Program and the LifeCubby program for Day Early Learning centers.

Tickets are $50 each. Reservations may be made until October 25 with Denise Hancock at Early Learning Indiana, 317.737.1222 or deniseh@earlylearningindiana.org.

The event includes shopping for clothing, jewelry, leather and furs from The Secret Ingredient, Day Furs and Kendra Scott Design; a fashion show; a silent auction and raffle, and a wonderful fall menu to pleasure the palate.

Auxiliary co-chairs for the event are members Becky Ayres and Helen Pesavento. Committee chairs include Marilyn Pecsok, Pat Hubley, Judy Pearce, Yolanda Schmidt, Kathy Wall, Carol Critchlow, Carolyn Cook and BJ Maley.
Kroger’s Generosity Funds New Math Curriculum.

New math curriculum will be implemented in our 10 Day Early Learning centers over the next three years.

We are grateful for your support and the support of many other investors in educating children. Every donor makes a difference - big and small.

We’d like to highlight one generous and new donor: Kroger Co. donated $90,000 to Early Learning Indiana to implement new math curriculum in our 10 Day Early Learning centers serving more than 1,000 children, infant to age 5.

The grant, which will be distributed over three years, will be used to purchase a new evidence-based math curriculum, supporting materials and technology, as well as for ongoing teacher training.

More than two-thirds of the preschool students we serve are from low-income households and don’t have basic language and math skills. Through this award, children will learn, grow and be better prepared for kindergarten and beyond.

“Early Learning Indiana has earned a tremendous reputation for providing so many years of service to local children,” said Katie Wolfram, President of Kroger Central Division. “Kroger is proud to fund the math curriculum because we believe this kind of education is essential to the needs of modern society. But, at a more basic level, it is important to support Hoosier students from the moment they start school. Our Kroger grants are just part of a continuing, long-term commitment to the educational goals we all share. We believe, in the long run, that our contribution to Early Learning Indiana will both encourage students while in school and enable them to lead more productive lives when they graduate.”

“Through this award, children will learn, grow and be better prepared for kindergarten and beyond.”
Alethia Minzlaff has been putting smiles on the faces of young children at the Day Early Learning (DEL) Lilly Family Center for two years as a teacher in the one-year-old room. Each day, Alethia comes to work and shepherds her youngest learners through a busy day of play time and reading books, of learning to socialize and beginning to learn sounds. Her experience tells her that when a teacher is patient and kind and ensures that social growth accompanies academic growth, the student will flourish. She knows first-hand the power of an engaged teacher and the important role she plays in helping children grow.

Alethia knows what to expect from young children. They repeat the sounds she makes and use simple gestures to get her attention. They copy their classmates as they play and figure out the world around them. Along with the parents, Alethia identifies the learning and growth milestones that will allow these young students to achieve future success. However, Alethia also knows that some kids take a little longer to reach important milestones. She knows this because Alethia is not only a teacher at the DEL Lilly Family Center, she is also a parent of a student who was diagnosed with sensory processing disorder at a young age.

Alethia was a stay-at-home mom when her youngest son, Miles, was born. Her older son, Ashton, was three and had progressed seamlessly through the early childhood milestones. Alethia was attending school for a degree in library science. But after staying home with her two little ones, she realized she had a passion for working with children. She was pondering a career with children around the time Miles turned one. Miles was a quiet baby and seemed to have a more difficult time with some of the tasks that Ashton did not. At Miles’ one-year-old checkup with the pediatrician, Alethia was told that kids progressed at different rates. By the time Miles was 1½ Alethia and her husband, Thad, realized that Miles might need some special assistance. He was nonverbal and having trouble with fine and gross motor skills. He was diagnosed with sensory processing disorder, a condition in which the brain has trouble receiving and responding to information that comes in through the senses.

Alethia began working at the DEL Lilly Family Center and enrolled Miles and Ashton. Ashton completed pre-K and moved to kindergarten at Irvington Elementary. Thanks to Mrs. Marti at DEL Lilly, Ashton was very prepared for kindergarten. He was ahead of the game at reading and quickly picked up on math. Alethia was most impressed by his social skills. “He gets along great with everyone,” she said. “He learned how to be a friend.”

Miles started in Mrs. Coombs’ room. She worked with him daily to improve his fine motor skills and used sign language to help him express himself. Other symptoms of Miles’ condition are lack of coordination and difficulty engaging in play. Mrs. Coombs discovered ways to help him grow both academically and socially. She encouraged jumping
and playtime and helped him to engage with other students. Miles has made great improvements and continues to do so. Miles is currently in preschool with Ms. Asia and Ms. Amber. He has started talking and enjoys playtime with his friends. An occupational therapist, speech therapist, and resource teacher meet weekly or more with Miles at DEL Lilly Family Center. They coordinate with his teachers to ensure Miles is continuing to meet important developmental milestones.

“Mrs. Coombs, Ms. Asia, and Ms. Amber put in the time and effort to make sure Miles will be successful in school and in life,” said Alethia. “They are always very patient and understanding, as it takes him a little longer to adjust to things like potty training.”

Miles is on track to start kindergarten with his peers. Ashton has successfully transitioned into elementary school and he is loving it. Alethia is working towards an Associate’s degree in early childhood education and loves her job. Early Learning Indiana provides its teachers with funding for continuing education, as well as, paid time off to attend class and study. Not only is DEL Lilly Family Center a job for Alethia, it is a career. “It’s so rewarding and the best part about it is that I get to be a kid with them every day.”

“He gets along great with everyone. He learned how to be a friend.”

But Alethia also knows that, just like Miles, there are many more children who would benefit from the high-quality early care that the Day Early Learning Centers can provide. Early education has increasingly been moving into the community spotlight as a critical part of young children’s development and research shows it not only prepares children for life-long learning, but impacts community prosperity, high school dropout statistics and crime rates. Unfortunately, not all families can afford this crucial community need. The programs of Early Learning Indiana have forever impacted the Minzlaff family and many other families like theirs. To help make a difference in the lives of Indiana’s youngest learners and donate towards scholarship assistance, visit www.earlylearningindiana.org.
Our mission is to ensure the highest level of early care and education for children in Indiana.

How to Get Involved

DONATE. Give online at EarlyLearningIN.org or mail a check.

VOLUNTEER. Contact us for more information: info@earlylearningindiana.org

• Participate in advocacy efforts
• Assist with playground landscaping
• Serve on a board committee
• Provide skilled services

Volunteers from Echopoint Media did some landscaping at our infant & toddler playground at our Lilly Family Center.

Join Our Social Network

Follow us for cute pictures of kids, news from Early Learning Indiana and the field of early education, plus resources for parents and providers!

Facebook.com/DayEarlyLearning PartnershipsForEarlyLearners ChildCareAnswers
Twitter @EarlyLearningIN @PartnersinEarly @ChildCareAnswer
Instagram @DayEarlyLearning @PartnersinEarly @ChildCareAnswersIndiana

Family time is learning time. Text ‘BLOOM’ to 95577 for free texts full of fun, simple learning ideas for family time for children age 0 to 5.