

WHERE EARLY EDUCATION WORKS!™

CSC
Community Services for Children

cscinc.org | The Donley Children's Campus | 1520 Hanover Avenue, Allentown, PA 18109

OUR MISSION

Prepare young children and their families to succeed in learning and in life through innovative, comprehensive, leading-edge services.

Community Services for Children

Children's Ball

IMAGINE

FEATURING THE 2019 DONLEY AWARDS

OCTOBER 4TH
6:30 PM

CSC
Community Services for Children

THE CENTENNIAL CATERING & CONFERENCE CENTER, CENTER VALLEY

TOP WORK PLACES 2018

THE MORNING CALL

COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, INC.

Paula J. Margraf, President /CEO

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(As of June 2019)

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 Kim Capers, Capitol Blue Cross
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 Christopher P. Donigan, B. Braun Medical
 Elsbeth G. Haymon, Allentown Art Museum, retired
 G. Christopher Hunt, Ed.D., Lafayette College
 Joseph Jackson, Bracy Construction, Inc.
 Kathryn E. Leber, elementary school teacher, retired
 Colleen M. McGee, Crayola LLC
 Cammie Modjadidi, Moravian College, retired
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CSC Update

SUMMER 2019 | VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2



Donley Awards recognize individuals, organizations that advocate for children in the Lehigh Valley



Communities
In Schools

Lehigh Valley

THE 24TH ANNUAL DONLEY AWARDS

will be presented **OCT. 4, 2019**
at **CSC'S CHILDREN'S BALL**,
at the Centennial Catering
& Conference Center,
Upper Saucon Township.

Tickets: **\$150 for an individual**
or **\$275 for a couple**, available
at www.cscinc.org/events.

Community Services for Children is pleased to announce the 2019 winners of the Inez and Edward Donley Award for Children's Advocacy, presented annually to individuals and organizations who have significantly improved the quality of life for children in the Lehigh Valley.

The award, which recognizes those who advocate on behalf of children locally, regionally and nationally, is named for Edward and Inez Donley, who were the first recipients. They dedicated their lives to improving the health, education and general welfare of children, and it was through their support that CSC's Donley Children's Campus became a reality.

This year's honorees are J.B. Reilly, President and CEO of City Center Investment Corporation, Donald J. Bernhard, Executive Director of the Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative, and Communities in Schools (CIS) of the Lehigh Valley.

Reilly formed City Center Investment Corp. with Joseph V. Topper Jr. in 2011, and the company is helping transform downtown Allentown through development of a \$1 billion-plus mixed-use project. He is leading a vision for the development of Allentown that is inclusive and beneficial to the most disadvantaged children.

Under Reilly's leadership, City Center Investment Corp. donated more than \$4.3 million to 123

organizations in 2018 through its Building Community program. The initiative aims to revitalize downtown Allentown and its surrounding neighborhoods into a sustainable vibrant urban community by providing financial support, in-kind donations and volunteer service. In 2018, City Center's 25 employees volunteered more than 2,000 hours at approximately 45 organizations.

Reilly and his wife Kathleen have also given extensive financial support to Lehigh Valley Health Network. Most recently, they helped Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital upgrade its new neonatal intensive care unit and add a pediatric inpatient area with 30 private rooms.

Bernhard is an example of advocacy and leadership in action. Through his position with Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative, as well as his volunteer service, he is focused on ensuring low-income families benefit from the city's new prosperity. He is leveraging resources and bringing together like-minded people to make a lasting difference.

Before leading Downtown Allentown Community Development Initiative, Bernhard was director of community affairs for PPL. From 1996 to 2014 he managed corporate citizenship, economic development and local government relations. Prior to that, he was the City of Allentown's community development director. During his tenure with the city, he was instrumental in securing funding to transform Alliance Hall, an abandoned building at Sixth and Chew streets, into a multi-use building that includes affordable housing, the Allentown Health Bureau and a Lehigh Valley Children's Centers (LVCC) location that serves 200 children.

Continued on page 2



Children taking part in Summer Start building critical 21st Century skills.



Air Products volunteers spend time in the Learning Hub-City Center

Air Products helps CSC launch Summer Start to prepare children for elementary school

CSC is pleased to share details about its new summer learning program at the Learning Hub – City Center, made possible thanks to the generosity of Air Products.

In the City of Allentown, nearly two-thirds of the most vulnerable young children do without a high-quality early childhood education, and less than half enter kindergarten ready to learn. For those who start behind, many remain behind, or lose the critical gains made due to the "summer slide."

Summer Start, was operated by CSC, Allentown School District, and WLVT/PBS39 and provided an intense literacy-focused high-quality kindergarten readiness program.

Summer Start is a further expansion of the shared vision of The Learning Hub, a unique public/private collaboration between City Center Investment Corp. and CSC to create a vibrant learning center focused on high-quality, innovative early childhood education and family engagement.

Summer Start built upon the current school year operations, and provide a strong foundation for the development of early language and literacy, necessary social and interpersonal skills and ultimately ensure that every child will have the opportunity for success in grade-level reading.

EARLY HEAD START- SAFESTART SUCCESS STORY

Jovan Johnson's family has known its share of heartbreak and struggles in the past year, but today they have much to celebrate.

In March 2018, Jovan was removed from his biological parents. The 2.5-month-old had been exposed to marijuana in utero, and was developmentally delayed. His placement in foster care coincided with his enrollment in SafeStart, Community Services for Children's innovative Early Head Start program designed to help infants and toddlers who have suffered abuse or neglect.

Through the therapeutic classroom program, Jovan was referred to Early Intervention and began physical therapy to address gross and fine motor delays. Though he was not living with his parents, Maria Rodriguez and Jarrell Johnson, they were still engaged in the program and encouraged to visit their son in the classroom. Maria visited daily through July, when she secured full-time employment, and Jarrell came on his days off from work.

Jovan and his parents were reunited on July 24, 2018, and he was discharged from physical therapy in February of this year. He continues to attend SafeStart and is now on target developmentally in all areas. On April 4 of this year, in recognition of Month of the Young Child, the Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services recognized Jovan's family with the 12th annual Reunified Family of the Year Award.

This family's happy ending is thanks to the two-generational approach of Head Start/ Early Head Start of the Lehigh Valley. Through CSC's Early Head Start-SafeStart program, Jovan's needs were met while his parents were given the support they needed to make positive changes in their lives. This story is the embodiment of CSC's mission - celebrating children and their caregivers who are committed to helping them achieve future success.



Above: PNC held a book drive for our early education classrooms and ELRC offices through their Grow up Great program. Jessica Moore, of PNC, left, delivered the books to some of the students and teachers Alba Santiago, center, and Jennifer Wargo.

Right: Community Services for Children is the grand prize winner of BB&T's Lehigh Valley Charity Challenge, an online voting competition! Richard Kern, Senior VP, Business Services Officer, with BB&T, delivers the \$7,000 check to CSC President and CEO Paula Margraf (right) and Celeste Voyer, Director of PR & Fundraising.



To learn more about any of these stories, visit cscinc.org/news.

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Donley Awards recognize individuals, organizations that advocate for children in the Lehigh Valley

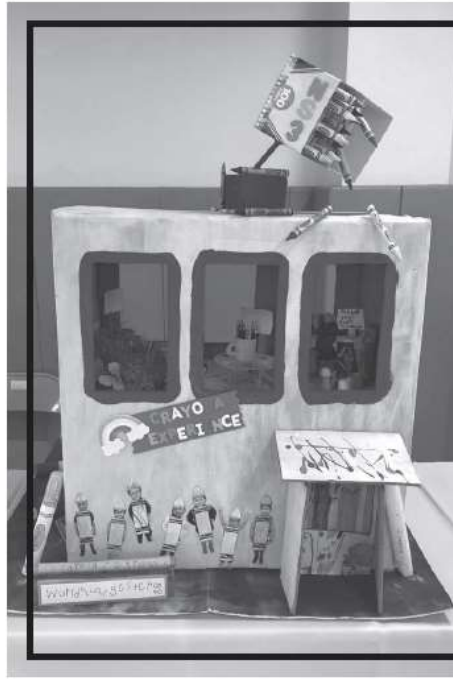
Bernhard is a board member and past chairman of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation and chairman and 38-year board member of the Allentown Economic Development Corporation. He served 23 years on Community Services for Children's Board of Directors and was instrumental in creating the Learning Hub at City Center. He became a Century Fund Trustee in 2017, reviewing proposals that come before the charitable trust and determining which Allentown programs to fund, including CSC and other early education initiatives. He also serves on the boards of Pennsylvania Economy League, Building 21, Upside Allentown and the Allentown Promise Neighborhood.

Bernhard worked directly with both Ed and Inez Donley and is passionate about carrying out their mission to improve the lives of children in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. He and Ed Donley served together for many years on the Pennsylvania Governor's Early Learning Investment Commission. Bernhard is now an executive committee member of this group, which advocates for additional funding for early education. He also served many years with Inez Donley on the Allentown Public Library Board, succeeding her as chair, a position he held for 12 years.

Communities in Schools (CIS) of the Lehigh Valley works to improve academic outcomes, attendance, behavior, social-emotional learning and family engagement. CIS has helped at-risk students for more than 36 years, and is the largest dropout prevention program of its kind, bringing much-needed supports into the public schools. The organization's mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. CIS accomplishes this by connecting students to caring adults and community resources designed to help them succeed.

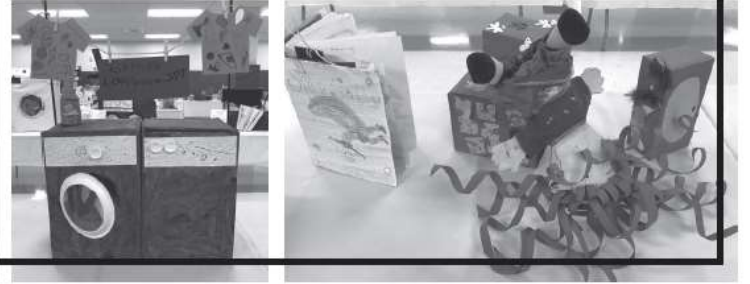
CIS provides programming before, during and after school to more than 20,000 students kindergarten through 12th grade in 30 schools, spanning six districts in the Lehigh Valley and Berks County – Allentown, Bethlehem Area, Easton Area, East Penn, Whitehall-Coplay and Reading. In addition to delivering school-wide and one-on-one supports through an evidence-based model, CIS also partners with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley to serve as lead partner at 10 Community Schools in Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton. CIS provides after-school math and reading support for middle and high school students at four 21st-Century Community Learner Centers, and empowers former out-of-school youth at the Allentown ReEngagement Center, which has successfully led more than 150 former high school dropouts toward a GED or high school diploma since its inception in 2015.

All three 2019 Donley Award recipients embody the Donleys' commitment to improving the lives of children as well as CSC's mission of preparing young children and their families to succeed in learning and in life through innovative, comprehensive, leading-edge services.



CREATIVE KIDS ENGINEERING & DESIGN EXHIBIT

Children in CSC's Head Start and Pre-K Counts classrooms used their imaginations, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) skills to turn recycled materials into innovative designs. The annual Creative Kids Engineering & Design Exhibit is just one way CSC provides preschoolers with the opportunity to sharpen 21st-century skills to build a strong foundation of problem solving and critical thinking.



Thank you to all who participated in the 2019 CSC Golf Tournament! Your commitment and support help make our work possible.



From left: Colby Kent, Golf Committee Chair and Paula Margraf, CSC President/CEO



From left: Pete Danchak, Richard Read III, Bill Alpaugh, and Jack Gross, all of title sponsor PNC Bank



From left: Jane Ervin, former CEO of CSC, Mary Gedney, Ruth Keblish, and Delores Laputka



From left: Peter Danchak and Richard Read III

THIRD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Brookside Country Club • Monday, May 13, 2019