MISSION

To creatively and collaboratively address the economic, educational, social and community needs of at-risk children and families.

PROGRAMS

PARENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

Services include parent education seminars, early learning activities, home visiting, case management and referral and advocacy services. Services are provided throughout Wayne and Macomb counties.

All parents received support, recommendations and assistance in identifying other programs to meet their children’s child development and childcare needs. New books are distributed to every child. The agency’s four Early Learning Resource Rooms are staffed one day weekly each and provide resources for parents with children birth through 5 years old. Services are designed to assist children get ready for kindergarten. Families may use the materials and learning toy lending libraries.

- 96 parent/child interactive learning groups were provided to 451 adults and their children. These groups focus on early math and reading skills, playful literacy, family assets and parent/child together time. These groups are held at Kennedy Early Childhood Center in Warren, the Eastpointe Schools Early Childhood Center, M&M Center in Dearborn and Dickinson East Elementary in Hamtramck.
- 1,050 new children’s books were distributed to program family participants. Additionally, 548 emergency food orders, baby supplies, winter gloves, hats, and school backpacks were distributed to program participants.
- 1,745 home visits were completed for 125 Wayne and Macomb County high-risk children 0-5 years and their parents. Visits focus on early learning activities, early child development, health and wellness information, and support services.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: CHILDCARE PROVIDER TRAINING

The neighborhood-based Early Learning Communities provide home and center-based childcare providers with free training in early child development, health and safety as well as support services, access to free learning materials and to family/community events. The training sites are located in Detroit, Sterling Heights and Warren. The program helps childcare providers have the training and resources necessary to insure that children enter kindergarten ready. Additionally, the agency provides support and technical assistance to providers in improving quality.

- 388 training sessions were provided; each session is two hours in length. On average, childcare providers attend 10 training sessions.
- 235 childcare providers received quality improvement support through the agency’s participation in the region’s initiative. 107 licensed centers and family day cares submitted their quality improvements to the state of Michigan’s rating system
- Over 32,560 hours of training, assistance and technical support was provided.
The agency provided a focused training series for childcare professionals wishing to earn their national credential from the Council for Professional Recognition. The Child Development Associate is a national certification for childcare providers. During this year, 27 individuals completed the five-month training series and received their national credential.

RECRUITMENT

In FY 2018, the agency informed parents and childcare providers about services through 14,158 emails, 17,550 letters, 4250 phone calls, and visits to 326 childcare centers. Face Book likes increased by 200% and website visits increased by 145%. Please visit our website at WWW.Leapsnbounds.org & Like Us On FACEBOOK.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION/ADVOCACY

The organization participates in a host of collaborative efforts including Great Start Macomb Executive Committee, Great Start Macomb and Great Start Wayne Collaborative, United Way for Southeast Michigan’s Regional Early Learning Community, Wayne County Home Visiting Group, Social innovation Fund Learning Community and the tri-county Quality Improvement Advisory Committee. The agency participated in 4 community events providing resources, activities for 825 adults, their children, distributed resources, and new children’s books at all events.

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

Strong support from volunteers included 1,086 hours of Board members contributed time during this past year and 2,080 hours of time from community members.
FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The organization continues to practice sound, conservative financial management and ended the year within its approved operating budget. Sources of revenue include United Way (59%), state and county contracts (17%), grants (16%), interest and investments gains (3%) and special events/ general donation support (5%). The agency remains committed to a diverse revenue mix. The agency’s cash reserve remains strong.

This year’s Annual Dinner was a celebration of the Agency’s 30-year history of service to the community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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