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. Services are designed to assist children get ready for kindergarten.

- 61 parent/child interactive learning groups were provided to 407 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 the Eastpointe Schools Early Childhood Center and Dickinson East Elementary in Hamtramck.

- 1,269 new children’s books were distributed to program family participants. Additionally, winter gloves, hats, and school backpacks were distributed.

- 1,170 home visits were completed for 108 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.

- 437 training sessions were provided; on average, childcare providers attend 8 training sessions.

- 224 childcare providers received quality improvement support through the agency’s participation in the region’s initiative.

- 35,000 hours of training, assistance and technical support was provided.
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: THE CDA, A NATIONAL CREDENTIAL PROGRAM

- 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. The program increased this training by 100% with 4 training cohorts serving 100 individuals.
- Additionally, a CDA renewal training cohort was provided to 19 individuals.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: BUSINESS TRAINING FOR CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

- During this fiscal year, two Business Conferences were co-sponsored by the agency. Working with United Way for Southeastern Michigan and ICA, a consulting group, a conference in December focusing on Business Basics and Shared Services had 48 participants, a conference in August focusing on Family Licensed Childcare and Accounting had 34 participants. A core group of providers meet regularly to explore shared services options.

RECRUITMENT

In FY 2019, the agency informed parents and childcare providers about services through 37,837 emails, 1,300 letters, 5,085 phone calls, and visits to 444 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 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 1,021 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, federal and county contracts (28%), grants (6%), interest, fees and investments gains (2%) 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 honoree at our Annual Dinner was Liz Mahoney, a supporter of the agency and community volunteer.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gina Cavaliere  Chief Community Impact Officer/BIZ Director, Downtown Detroit Partnership
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