Alivyah, age 4:
Master of jigsaw puzzles.
Future Software Developer.

Thanks to your support,
on track to be Kindergarten Ready for the Class of 2020-21.
Founded in 1968, Falls Church-McLean Children’s Center continues to fulfill its mission:

To provide a comprehensive, high-quality, early childhood education designed to give all children, regardless of their family’s financial resources, a strong foundation on which to build the rest of their lives.

80 children, ages 2-5, built their fundamental skills in FY-19.

Rising Kindergarteners
Of the 29 graduates who left for kindergarten in fall 2018, 86%, or 25 children attained or exceeded expected age-level skills in all six, fundamental skill sets: English Language, Literacy, Social-Emotional, Pre-Mathematics, Cognitive, and Physical Skills.

The Children’s Center assisted parents of the four children with delays to obtain support services for their children in elementary school to help them reach their potential.

Kyle, age 4:
A fan of Road-Building Vehicles.
Future Civil Engineer
Due to your support, a Bilingual Bibliophile.
Impact

Families

44% of children have parents who are first-generation immigrants.

Income Levels

39% with incomes of 100-250% of the federal poverty level.

Good Nutrition

“Fresh and nutritious. Varied and Seasonal. Whole grains. Grilled or baked. No Sugar Added. Low-Fat. Organic.” These adjectives describe the variety of healthy foods that children ate at the Children’s Center in FY-19. They consumed a total of:

- 5,443 breakfasts
- 16,332 morning snacks
- 16,332 hot lunches
- 16,284 afternoon snacks

Special Services

15 Children received Speech Therapy

3 Children received Mental Health Counseling and Play Therapy

2 Children received Occupational Therapy* (from private providers at family’s expense)

10 Children with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) received in-class or on-site special education services from Fairfax County Public Schools therapists

1 Child attended half-day, Special Education preschool at Lemon Road Elementary School.

Ethnicities

28% were Latino; 13% Asian; 8% African/African-American; 48% Caucasian; and 3% Multi-Ethnic.
The Children’s Center Receives NAEYC Reaccreditation

What does it mean to be an “accredited” early childhood education program?

For parents, it means they can be assured that their child will receive a high-quality, early childhood experience in a safe, nurturing environment. For donors, it means they are supporting a program worthy of their investment.

The Children’s Center was awarded reaccreditation in March 2019 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), renewing its standing for another five years. It’s a distinction shared by fewer than 10% of the nation’s 7,000 early childhood education programs.

Reaccreditation was based on a thorough evaluation of the Center’s program in a two-step process. First, examiners reviewed the curriculum and classroom practices depicted in the comprehensive portfolios that each classroom was required to create. Second, examiners made unannounced visits and observed teachers in three classrooms for four hours.

Programs are accredited if they demonstrate best practices in 10 areas, including:

1. **Supportive Relationships** (Does the program encourage each child’s sense of worth and belonging?)
2. **Curriculum** (Does the program consistently promote learning in social, emotional, physical, language and cognition?)
3. **Teaching** (Do teachers use a variety of developmentally and culturally appropriate approaches?)

You can read about all 10 criteria at:

www.naeyc.org/accreditation/early-learning/standards
The Children’s Center is a member of two programs that commit our teachers to ongoing improvement.

As an early model for the Virginia Smart Beginnings program for high-quality early education in 2005, the Children’s Center continues to participate in ongoing quality improvement through the newly named Virginia Quality program. Mentors from Virginia Quality and the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) program guide our teachers to expand their skills and ability to help all children reach kindergarten readiness. [VPI also places 4-year-olds who need an early education experience at qualifying preschools. The Children’s Center welcomed eight 4-year-olds this year and helped them reach kindergarten readiness levels.]

The Children’s Center was awarded the Catalogue for Philanthropy’s seal of one of the best small nonprofits in the National Capital Region, an honor it has maintained since 2002.
A total of 50 parents attended at least one of the three workshops conducted in FY-19, to help parents in the challenging job of raising their children, in all their complexity, to be ready for kindergarten. Licensed Clinical Social Worker Judith Martens and Licensed Behavioral Counselor Rebecca Goldberg each led a workshop that offered parents reassuring information about the stages of typical child development.

**Partnering with Parents**

**What’s Brewing After School?**

**Building GenC3: A Competent, Curious, Confident Generation with STEM Skills**

The dismissal bell at adjacent Lemon Road Elementary School indicated the start of the Children’s Center’s After-School Program attended by 11 students in FY-19. The program in its fifth year gave students a quiet place to have a snack, then settle in with a book, or find a partner for board games, creative arts projects or a challenge with any of the science and math materials funded by a second grant from Battelle Foundation. The grant supports

**Building GenC3: A Competent, Curious, Confident Generation with STEM Skills,** designed to build children’s interest and enthusiasm for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. In a special workshop with “Mr. Bond,” After-School students and preschoolers uncovered the mysteries of science as they created bubbling brews and goopy goop.
Recognizing Our Community Partners

**Reading Together.** Several generous community partners visited the Children’s Center this year, with arms full of books for our children.

Books ranged from children's classics to new stories with vivid illustrations, hot off the presses brought by the authors themselves. With each story, readers expanded children’s vocabularies, imaginations, and literacy skills, bringing them closer to becoming readers themselves. **Thanks go to:**

- **Potomac School Kindergarten and Third Grade students** for their second annual book donation;
- **Fairfax County Library Foundation** for a librarian’s monthly storytelling and books to take home;
- **Breakout Capital**, corporate partner of McLean, for donating two books to each child;
- **Ric and Jean Edelman**, local financial advisors and authors of “The Squirrel Manifesto,” their guide to financial habits for kids told in verse that debuted at the Children’s Center;
- **Nelda LaTeef**, author and illustrator from Great Falls, VA, who shared “African Village,” along with stories of her childhood in Africa that inspired the book;
- **New Dominion Women’s Club** (see below); and
- **Mr. Peter (Raudenbush)**, our steadfast reading volunteer!

**Spotlight on: New Dominion Women’s Club**

Founded in 1968, the same year as the Children’s Center, New Dominion Women’s Club (NDWC) is both a financial supporter and a literacy partner to the Children’s Center, representing Reading Is Fundamental.

NDWC is committed to promoting, encouraging, supporting and cultivating the civic, cultural, educational and/or environmental welfare of the community through volunteer service and/or financial contributions while providing an opportunity for fellowship among women. NDWC raises funds for grants to local organizations and for books to allow each Children’s Center child to choose a book to take home. NDWC members also impart their love of books by reading to our children.
Financial Summary
Revenue and Expenses for FY-2019

REVENUE: $1,753,498
- Tuition from Parents
- Fairfax County Child Care
- Tuition Subsidy
- Contributions from Individuals, Foundations, Faith Groups, Corporations and Events
- Contributed Rent
- USDA
- Contributed Services
- Investment Income

EXPENSES: $1,476,744
- Early Childhood Program
- Early Intervention Program
- Management and General Operations
- Fundraising

Note: The Children’s Center manages its expenses to end the year within its projected annual income. It maintains a reserve fund at industry-recommended levels to be able to operate without interruption of services to children and families in any economic environment. An Audited Financial Statement is available upon request. Call the Children’s Center, 703/534-4907.

Runners Prevail in 6th Annual Teddy Bear 5K & 1K

A cold rain didn’t dampen the enthusiasm of the estimated 250 walkers and runners on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2018. Sponsorships and runner registrations raised $24,802 for the FY-19 Annual Fund. Sponsors are listed in Bold starting on page 10.

A DJ from iHeartMedia kept spirits up with music throughout the morning. Falls Church Mayor Dave Tarter and McLean’s Bill Potter awarded teddy bears to runners as they crossed the finish line in Pimmit Hills Park. Many thanks to students from George Mason and George Marshall High Schools for their volunteer support. Special thanks to Fairfax County Police Auxiliary Officers from the McLean District Station for protecting our runners.
We Thank Our Generous Donors and Partners

Donations
Fiscal Year 2019

Donors names that appear in bold sponsored the 6th Annual Teddy Bear 5K & 1K Walk/Run. Many donors also made additional gifts.

$50,000-$65,000
John Edward Fowler Memorial Foundation

$20,000-$49,000
O’Shaughnessy-Hurst Memorial Foundation

$10,000-$19,000
Devotion to Children Scholarships
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan
The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia

$5,000-$9,999
Battelle Memorial Institute
Lynn Heinrich State Farm Insurance
Herb Block Foundation
Immanuel Presbyterian Church

Anne Kanter
Gerard and Kathlynn Lear
Lewinsville Presbyterian Church
A. Phoebe and Raymond Meyer
VA Delegate Marcus Simon
Ada and Albert Wibel Foundation
Michelle Harris and Eduardo Zavala

$2,500-$4,999
Bob’s Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation
CauseNetwork Foundation
Michael and Marianne Ernesto
Google Employee Giving Program
Hyphen Group
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

McLean Community Foundation
New Dominion Women’s Club
Optima Health/Sentara
Senior Housing Analytics
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
The Falls Church Endowment Fund
Woman’s Club of McLean

$1,000-$2,499
Breakout Capital
James and Kristina Cartwright
Chain Bridge Bank
Terry and Todd Gilman Family Foundation
JBG Smith
Drs. Love and Miller, Family Dentistry
Kim McCleary
National Home Library Foundation
Susan and Donald Poretz
Sara Madrigal
LS Litigation Team
Sumei Jin and Srinidhia Melkote
Net ESolutions
New Editions Consulting, Inc.
Powell Radomsky PLLC
Rotary Club of Tysons Corner
Margery Sher
TD Charitable Foundation
John and Nina Toups Charitable Fund
Women of St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church
Kathleen Woodward
Jean Schiro-Zavala and Vance Zavala

$500-$999
Carrie and Matt Dougherty
Digital Office Products
Dulin United Methodist Church,
United Methodist Women
Paul Denis and Cheryl Edwards
Jon and Judith Gabel
Good Food Company
Gayle and David Greene
Erin Hammel
Deanna and Rob Heier
Pulcinella The Italian Host
Susan Mooradian
NVAEYC
Peter and Helen Raudenbush
Safety and Health Foundation
Gail Smith
St. John’s Episcopal Church
St. Thomas Episcopal Church Women
Eric and Sarah Ten Siethoff
United Way Of The National Capital Area
Jennifer and Carl Wallace
Brenda Whalen
Marilyn Wilson

$200-$499
Judith and Mike Alexander
Allie and Ellen Ash
Alpha Kappa Alpha
Denise Balzano
Christian Nealson and Samantha Barker
BOWA
Abigail and Nathan Doble
Berman & Lee Orthodontics
Renée Boyle and Paul Emmons
Garfield Memorial Christian Church
Oytun Palas and Aygyn Gyul
Herbert and Ellen Herscowitz
Van Ness and Nancy Hough
Abby and Bernhard Knutsen
Lewinsville Presbyterian Church Women
Judith Martens
William and Shanna McVey
Cono and Frances Namorato
The Neal Team, US Bank
Ike Garcia and Summer Parrish
Paul and Melissa Papasavvas
Pillar To Post
Potomac Financial
Michael Devine and Sonya Powell
Laura and David Savage
Janice and Richard Tullos
Holan Lau
Mary and William Lewers
Super Kids Pediatric Dentistry
Mach V Motorsports
Michael and Kathryn Mackensen
Christine McLaughlin
Valerie Montgomery
Moss Building and Design
Cindy Oh
Elizabeth Page
Gerard Pelletier
Pew Charitable Trusts’ Matching Gifts Program
Jonathan and Brooke Salkoff
Nancy Scott
Christopher and Kelly Sexton
Timothy and Sara Shean
Susan and Samuel Simon
Marcus Simon
Ina and Karen Sood
Wes and Rebecca Spence
Elizabeth Stevens
TEGNA
Christy and Jeremy Thompson
Trinity United Methodist Church,
Church and Society Committee
Virginia529
Linda and Nicholas Wenri, Jr.
Women of Temple Rodef Shalom
Zebralation.Com

$100-$199
Rachel and Daniel Ackmann
Aetna Better Health Of Virginia
Chuck Berlin and Carol Gabel-Berlin
Laurie and Christopher Booth
Andy and Karen Briscoe,
Huckaby Briscoe Group
Linton and Barbara Brooks
Michael and Nadia Caddy
Amy Choi
Kyoung Choi
Yon Chung
Kate Coleman
Lizzy Conroy, Huckaby Briscoe
Conroy Realty Group
Sally and William Drohan
Mary Friedman and Alan Felser
Mary Frase
Zhihui Gao
Claire Grossi
Rachel Hekemian
Marsha Hertzberg
Keith Horenstein
Ayla Jean
Arthur and Amy Kales
Rosemary and Timothy Kendall
Paul Kohlenberger
Rollie and Jean LeForge
Lerner Family Giving Fund
Liberty Mutual Insurance
Pamela MacVicar
Erica Bomsey and Chris Marrow
Michael Zarnegar and Shafa Anahita
Progressive Pediatric Physical Therapy
Rotary Club of Falls Church
Kevin Moss and Amy Schwartzman
Lisa Shaffer
James and Anne Sherwood
Mary Salopek
Jack and Daisy Samarias
Mary Saunders
Bob and Dede Thompson
Marvin and Suzanne Tenenbaum
Frank Philippi and Sandra Udy
Megan Niewold and Ben Walzer
Gary Frisch and Susan Whitmore
Sonja Wickland

$50–$99
Richard Arkow
Jan Bojo
Sally Larisch and Tim Brown
Valerie and Alan Chien
Diane Clifford
Frederick E. and Jane A. Gilbert
Beth Harvey
Sharika Ismail
Nancy Kelly
Elizabeth and Richard Lee
Kathy and David Lett
Deborah Bear and Alex Leipziger
Matthew and Meredith MacVicar
Kim Marinus
John and Christine McLaughlin
George Gilbert and Alberta Mikulka
Jennifer Monsalve
Alison Rodden
Kent and Nancy Stansberry
Shannon Barrow and Mike Stark
Diane Wachtel
Pearl and Ronald Waxman
Glenn Yarborough
Steven and Susan Zimmet

$5–$49
Ingty Ali
Barbara Adams
Michael Zarnegar and Shafa Anahita
Saguna Anderson
Robert Babacz
Dee Boyle-Clapp
Marshall Bowie
Mary and Fred Brumfield
Nici Bush
Maxi Carden
Nancy and Eugene Choi
Jill Clark
Robert Davena
Bill and Janet DuBose
Zachary Emmons
Bernie Ferdinando
Tyler Foulkes
John Foust
Robert and Michelle Gebhart
Daniel and Jessica Grabill
Mark Hekemian
Ruby Hissam
Carol and Robert Hopper
Luisa Hurtado
Joseph and Sara Iacobucci
Thomas Johnson
Victor and Patricia Kimm
Bo Yue and Kefe Li
Leyli Lin
Richard and Eleanor Linde
Harry and Betsy McAlpine
Sophie Osborne
Jackson Pierce
Brin Richardson
Frank Rindone
Ronald Schmidt
Joanne Sciola
Kristin Shapiro
Betsy Sharon
Susan Gordon and William Shein
Shiva Soleimani
Ruth and John Thomas
Marcelyn Thompson
Gloria Turner
Kristen Verderame
Crystal Jean and Steve Waleryszak

Oh, To Be Young Reception
Chain Bridge Bank & Employees
McLean Woman’s Club
Amoo’s Restaurant
Jason’s Deli
Kazan Restaurant
Total Wines

Thanks to the individuals and businesses that donated items for the Silent Auction
Donald & Susan Poretz
Mary Saunders
Sue Simon
Kathleen Woodward
Children’s Center Families of
• Discovery Room
• Young Explorers Room
• Adventure Room
• Young Creators Room
• Rainbow Room
Children’s Center Board of Directors
Children’s Center Office Staff
Local Businesses
Alex and Ani | Charity By Design
The Artisans
Cabot Creamery
Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurants
Escape Room Fairfax
Goldfish Swim School – Falls Church
The Greek Taverna
Kendra Scott – Reston Merrifield
Kess Hair & Skincare – The Cooray Family
The Little Gym – Falls Church
Locker Room Sports Bar & Grill

Charles Wesley United Methodist Church Women
Christopher and Kelly Sexton
Janice and Richard Tullos
TEGNA
Women of Temple Rodef Shalom

Breakfast & Snack Providers
Judi and Mike Alexander
Elda Auxiliaire
Trinity United Methodist Church
Garfield Memorial Christian Church
Jesus Christ Church of Latter Day Saints, McLean Second Ward Relief Society
Lewinsville Presbyterian Church Women
McLean Baptist Church
St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church
St. John’s Episcopal Church
St. Thomas Episcopal Church Women

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The Greek Taverna
Kendra Scott – Reston Merrifield
Kess Hair & Skincare – The Cooray Family
The Little Gym – Falls Church
Locker Room Sports Bar & Grill
Tribute Gifts

In Honor of Lisa Hurwitz, Board Member
The Bunny and Beaver Classes of Rock Spring Cooperative Preschool
To my dearest niece Ellie Choi!
She loves her teachers for the past three years!
Amy Choi
Yay for the amazing teachers at FCMLCC. Thanks from Ella Choi’s Family
Nancy and Eugene Choi
In Honor of Sadie’s Birthday
Carrie and Matt Dougherty
In Honor of All the Dedicated Teachers at the Children’s Center
Renee Boyle and Paul Emmons
In Honor of Abby Knutsen’s Service
Terry and Todd Gilman
In Honor of Rebecca Leung
Gayle and David Greene
In Honor of Your Outstanding President Susan Poretz
Herbert and Ellen Herscowitz
In Honor of Ed Bomsey
Carol and Robert Hopper
In Honor of Susan Poretz
Richard and Eleanor Linde
In Memory of Nathaniel Ho and in Honor of our Colleague Justin Ho and their loving family
LS Litigation Team
For My Grandchildren Ryan & Maya
Pamela MacVicar
In Memory of Nancy and Thomas McCloskey, grandparents of Maya and Ryan MacVicar
Cathy and Eddie McCloskey
In Honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Children’s Center
A. Phoebe and Raymond Meyer

In Memory of William Stell
A. Phoebe and Raymond Meyer
In Memory of Thelma Yeonas
Cono and Frances Namorato
Congratulations to the new Executive Director Crystal Jean and Assistant Director Lucy Pelletier
Elizabeth Page
In Honor of the Amazing Teachers at the Children’s Center
Elizabeth Page
In Honor of Birthdays and Anniversaries in 2018
St. John’s Episcopal Church Members
In Honor of Susan Poretz
Marvin Suzanne Tenenbaum
In Honor of Ella and Sage Thompson
Bob and Dede Thompson
In Honor of Susan Poretz for her Loving Support of the Center
Pearl and Ronald Waxman
Convenient Ways to Contribute to the future of young children:

**DIRECT GIVING**
Donate online at [www.FCMLCC.org](http://www.FCMLCC.org)

Mail a check: Payable to Falls Church-McLean Children’s Center, 7230 Idylwood Road, Falls Church, VA 22043-2714.

Make any gift a tribute, in honor of, or in memory of a friend, loved one or favorite teacher.

Give appreciated Stocks or Bonds.
Transfer ownership directly to the Children’s Center. (Call the Center to advise of the gift.) If you are 70 ½ or older, make the gift from a required payout from your IRA for a tax-advantaged gift.

**PLANNED GIVING**
Designate a specific amount or a percent of your assets left over after you designate gifts to your loved ones.

**SHOP ONLINE THROUGH US:**
Start at Cause Network for shopping or travel planning for 2%-15% to be directed to the Children’s Center.

[FCMLCC.CauseNetwork.org](http://FCMLCC.CauseNetwork.org)

Start at Cause Network shopping portal to shop or plan vacation travel.

[smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)
Designate the Children’s Center as your charity.

**GIVE YOUR SERVICES OR SKILLS**
Can you take photos, donate printing services, or perform occasional facility maintenance? Call the Center 703/534-4907 or email: [info@fcmlcc.org](mailto:info@fcmlcc.org)

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**Board of Directors for FY-19**

**Susan Poretz**, President
Early Childhood Consultant (Ret.)
(Founding Faith Group Representative)

**Bill Kogler**, Vice President
WinAble Management Solutions, LLC
(Fairfax County Human Services Council)

**Rebecca Leung**, Treasurer
Co-Founder and President
Hyphen Group
(Community Representative)

**Jennifer Wallace**, Secretary
Early Childhood Educator

**Lisa Hurwitz**
Early Childhood Educator

**Abby Knutsen**
Fairfax County Public Schools
Special Education Teacher

**Eddy Peters**
Assistant Vice President
TD Bank

**Sonya Powell**
Powell Radomsky
(Past Parent)

**Chrsty Thompson**
Fairfax County Public Schools
Reading Specialist

**Crystal F. Jean**
Executive Director
Falls Church-McLean Children’s Center
A Children’s Center alumnus and a parent of two recent students described the impact of the Children’s Center education program on their lives at the reception in April.

In a recorded message, Alex Fuentzaless recalled learning English at the Children’s Center. He started kindergarten well prepared, he recalled, and went on to earn a full scholarship to George Mason University where he is a junior in the computer science program today.

Malali Noormal, at left, who recently emigrated from Afghanistan with her husband and three children, credited the Children’s Center with helping her two preschoolers learn English and adjust to a new culture. They are happy and doing well in school, she reported. Inspired by their experience and the support she received from teachers, she told the audience, that she is studying to become a preschool teacher to help other immigrants.

Margery Leveen Sher, past Executive Director and author of the Center’s history book, announced the creation of a Scholarship Fund, established with a seed grant from the John Edward Fowler Memorial Foundation, to help low- and low/moderate-income families with tuition, particularly those who fear applying for a government tuition subsidy, to continue to keep the Children’s Center accessible to children who are at-risk.