

Branching Out:
A Year of Impact,
Innovation, and
Collaboration

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2023





Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year and the possibilities ahead, we are thrilled to present The Family Tree's FY23 Annual Report. Guided by our unwavering commitment to nurturing stronger families, empowering parents, and building resilient communities, we embark on this new year with vigor and a profound sense of purpose.

We were proud to announce a transformative partnership with LifeBridge Health, a leading healthcare provider committed to community health and wellness. Together, we will amplify our impact by dovetailing healthcare services with systems and strategies of family support; thus, building a more holistic approach to family health and well-being. We want to thank everyone at LifeBridge Health, as well as our own staff and supporters, for making this shared vision a new reality for Maryland families and children.

Amidst this exciting transition, we are also honored to introduce you to our new Executive Director, Stacey Brown, who brings a wealth of experience in the field and with The Family Tree. Stacey shares our deep-rooted passion for fostering positive family dynamics and is dedicated to steering The Family Tree toward even greater heights of impact and effectiveness.

Stacey was previously the Director of Programs and Services at The Family Tree. She has eight years of management and leadership experience in-house and over 20 years of progressive experience in the field. Stacey brings to the position a vast wealth of knowledge, fresh ideas, and an engaging presence.



Patricia K. Croni



Tom Peltie

These two organizational changes are a reminder that, at the heart of our endeavors, there has always been a steadfast focus on the next generation and the future they will inherit. We believe that by investing in the well-being of families today, we are sowing the seeds for a brighter tomorrow.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated supporters, partners, and the community for standing beside us on this extraordinary path and continued journey. Together, we can build a legacy of safe, strong families and caring communities where children can thrive,

Thank you for being an essential and vital part of The Family Tree and our work with families, children, and professional child care providers.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Croner

Patricia K. Cronin, LCSW-C Executive Director Emerita

Tom Peltier

President, Leadership Board

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FY 2023 Key Accomplishments

- Reached over 29,000 parents, children, professional and child care professionals.
- Our short-term, home visiting program, Family Connects Maryland served 230 new mothers and babies.
- Provided training to 2,161 early care and education (child care) professionals.
- Behavioral health consultation services were provided to 62 children in child care who were exhibiting behavioral differences or challenges and support was provided to 37 child care programs/providers who were having challenges managing a child(ren) in their care. As a result of this program, 98% of children receiving services retained their placement and their parents were able to maintain their employment without disruption.
- With the help of our partners, we trained more than 1,500 people across the State about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and their negative effects on children.

A LOOK AT OUR PROGRAMS



1,217
parents were
served in parenting
classes.



children and families received home visitation services.



parents and caregivers participated in support groups.



1,778 calls fielded by our Parenting HelpLine.



2,052
children and parents
participated in family engagement activities.



5,934
people received
information or
training through
our community
education and
outreach activities/
events.



8,852
requests for information, support, and/or technical assistance by child care professionals were fulfilled by our Baltimore City Child Care Resource Center staff.



315 families were assisted in locating child care.



LIFEBRIDGE HEALTH AFFILIATION

On January 1, 2023, The Family Tree became an affiliate of LifeBriedge health, working in coordination with the health system's Center for Hope. With this partnership, we will be able to expand our family-strengthening programs and transform our efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect in Maryland. We are excited about this new opportunity and what the future holds for us.

PASSING OF CHILD VICTIMS ACT

The Family Tree worked together with advocates throughout the state including survivors of abuse, community partners, and elected officials, to aid in the passing of the Child Victims Act of 2023 (HB01/SB0686). This law, which went into effect on October 1, 2023, will eliminate the statute of limitations for claims of childhood sexual abuse thereby allowing any person



who was sexually abused as a minor in Maryland to file a claim at any time during their lifetime, regardless of when the abuse occurred. Despite intense opposition to the legislation, The Family Tree and its partners continued to push for this legislation for over twenty years, knowing what it would mean to survivors and the potential impact it would have on perpetrators.

The timely signing of this bill served as a victory for survivors in the wake of the Attorney General's report on child sexual abuse within the Baltimore Archdiocese. In response to the release of this report, The Family Tree and Center for Hope collaborated to create a website with resources for both victims as well as the professionals who help them.

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Program Updates

GIRLS CIRCLE

Girls Circle is a mentoring and empowerment program for high school girls. Meeting biweekly, the group of 26 girls covers topics such as self-esteem, managing conflict, self-care, and how to support each other through challenging times. As our staff leader, Melissa Burch says, "I believe this program is very important for our youth, especially girls, because it provides them with a safe and welcoming space where they can share their thoughts and life experiences. It also allows them a judgement free zone to focus on the connection both positive and negative of their peers, teachers and other like adults while building their self-esteem, selfawareness and overcoming any challenges. As one participant stated, this program has really helped build her self-confidence, helped her build meaningful friendships with other girls in the group and to not be afraid to ask for help." We have loved building this program and look forward to continuing to grow and expand into new schools.



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THE TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Family Tree's Training Institute provides technical assistance, skills-based learning and evidence informed training opportunities to 2,224 caregivers, professionals, and staff and volunteers at non-profits, community-based organizations, and state/local agencies. The institute builds knowledge and skills on such topics as identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect, the negative effects of adverse childhood experiences and understanding and providing trauma informed care.



Last March, we hosted an ACE Interface Honorees' Luncheon with our partners to honor those who have assisted in making an impact throughout the state in providing support and trainings on adverse childhood experiences or ACEs.

THE TEAM PRESENTED AND PARTICIPATED IN THE:

Maryland Congressional Briefing on the Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act of 2023 Healing City Summit, Maryland Women's Legislative Caucus, and the Maryland Judiciary Forum.



Kids Care Plus is our free, drop-in child care program for children ages 2-12 in our Sherman Family Center. This program was created to provide a safe place for the young children of parents who need to go to a job interview, doctor's appointment, run a simple errand or just take a well-deserved break. In Fiscal Year 2023, we provided over 5,000 hours of free child care.

This program has continued to grow and evolve over the years and has established a wonderful community of families. This year, Kids Care Plus focused on family engagement opportunities. They invited parents to volunteer in the classroom, enjoy lunch in the classroom with their children, celebrate various holidays, and attend educational workshops on topics like healthy eating. These family engagement activities provide parents the opportunity to get to know the teachers, other children and most importantly, other parents, thus building a network of support outside of The Family Tree.

Kids Care Plus teachers also provided interesting and educational opportunities for children. These included outdoor play, water play, and getting to know some of our community helpers. The children had special visitors from Baltimore City Police and Fire Departments as well as a Registered Nurse from our Family Connects Maryland Program. The children loved the face-to-face connections with these special visitors.



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Events

1ST FAMILY BLOCK PARTY:

A Groundbreaking Community Event

This year marked a truly special moment for The Family Tree, specifically at the 2100 block of North Charles Street in Baltimore, where our Sherman Family Center is located and where we hosted our first-ever block party. It provided a much-needed opportunity for family and friends to gather for community healing.

This block party was in the wake of an unfortunate incident of neighborhood violence. The Family Tree's Block Party was an effort to create a space for the community to come together as one, providing resources and support to one another, and taking time for some family bonding and fun. Over 600 people came together to celebrate resilience and healing.

Moreover, seeing so many smiling faces out on the streets, it was impossible not to see a reflection of exactly the kind of goals The Family Tree strives to achieve every day. We gathered our community partners together to provide resources to families and connected them to other providers in the Baltimore area. In addition, all attendees received fun give-a-ways, lunch, and some other treats throughout the day!

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Thank you to all the attendees, volunteers, and community partners that made this day possible!



On Saturday, March 11, 2023, The Baltimore City Child Care Resource Center hosted its annual Emotional Wellness Conference with 190 attendees. This is a conference for child care professionals to focus on taking care of themselves



first so they can be fully present for the children in their care and support others in the child care community. We were lucky enough to have a special visit and encouraging words from Mayor Brandon Scott. Each attendee received 6 hours of Continuum of Knowledge for attending sessions throughout the day on various topics hosted by experts in their fields. Topics included: how COVID impacted the industry, mindful moments in child care, identifying and managing anxiety, understanding stress and recovery in the lives of children and the importance of play for fine motor skills.



The Goal of BCCCRC:

To provide leadership, training, and support services that improve the quality, availability, and affordability of child care in Baltimore City and communities across the state. This includes helping families locate child care and providing related support services.



Healthy Families is a long-term home visiting program for expectant at-risk parents in Baltimore City. It provides an array of services including free pre-natal and peri-natal medical care support, parenting education, financial education, and resource linkage and support. In Fiscal Year 2023, we completed 644 home visits serving 61 families.

Families graduating from the program at the end of three years are recognized and celebrated with a graduation event. This year marked a particularly impressive group of 7 parents and toddlers, as they included babies born during the pandemic.

GOFCC - Licensed Childcare Provider

Growing Opportunities for Family Child Care (GOFCC) provides concentrated and targeted training, coaching, and resource support for individuals interested

in opening a licensed family child care business. The goal of the program is to bring affordable and quality child care programs to communities in need. In the spring of this year, we gathered to celebrate the 9 graduates of this program in Baltimore City. They became licensed family child care providers, creating 61 new slots of safe, quality child care in the city. This has been a huge plus for Baltimore families and children.





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Signature Events

31st Annual Great Chefs' Dinner

Over 360 Family Tree friends and supporters enjoyed a beautiful evening and culinary experience as our guest chef, JJ Johnson, served paella on the patio at the Grand Lodge in Hunt Valley followed by a delightful dinner of chef-inspired specialties. The energy in the room was incredible as the attendees came together to raise \$931,000 to support our child abuse prevention work! Chef JJ expressed our sentiments so eloquently:

"Nothing brings me more joy than cooking for a good cause, especially when it involves caring for our future - the children. As I seasoned up the Paella, I was reminded of the power of food to bring people together."

—CHEF JJ



3rd Annual Brent A. Rosenberg Lace Up to Prevent Child Abuse

Ravens cheerleaders and mascot Poe greeted over 200 of our supporters as they gathered on Legends Plaza at M&T Bank Stadium to run or walk in support of our work with families, children, and child care providers. After the race, all participants had the exclusive opportunity to tour the newly renovated Ravens locker room, creating a special memory for Ravens fans. It was a family-friendly fun event that not only promoted health and wellbeing, but it also helped to raise over \$75,000 in support of our programs.



Evening to Give Thanks

We were thrilled to host our 4th Annual Evening to Give Thanks at Linwoods in Owings Mills. Over a buffet dinner, we thanked and recognized our supporters. This year, we honored three special 2022 award recipients.

- The Orokawa Foundation was presented with the Sherman Mission Maker Award for the lasting impact their support has had on our programs over the last 10 years.
- **Stacey Kessler,** a Family Tree volunteer, was presented with the Patricia M. Kirk Volunteer of The Year award for her volunteerism in multiple Family Tree programs over the years.
- **Senator Cory McCray** was presented with the Meyerhoff Public Service Award for his steadfast efforts to bring greater levels of resources and equity to Baltimore.

We are forever grateful for the contributions of these individuals and those of our other donors and volunteers.





Financials

Statement of Financial Position Year Ended June 30, 2023

Assets

- Cash 20%
- Investments 52%
- Grant Receivables 12%
- Contributions Receivables 2%
- Property & Equipment 14%



& Accruals 4% Net Assets:

- Donor Undesignated 81%
- Donor Designated-Endowment 12%
- Donor Designated 3%

Assets

Total Assets:	\$ 8,824,839
Property & Equipment	\$ 1,273,398
Contributions Receivables	\$ 208,313
Grant Receivables & Other Assets	\$ 1,001,188
Investments	\$ 4,546,847
Cash	\$ 1,795,093

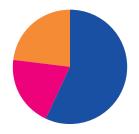
Liabilities & Net Assets

Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$8	8,824,839
Donor Designated	\$	256,312
Donor Designated-Endowment	\$	1,055,307
Donor Undesignated	\$	7,119,933
Net Assets:		
Accounts Payable & Accruals	\$	393,287

Statement of Activities

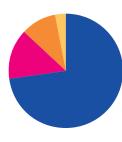
Revenue

- Government Grants 57%
- Contributions 20%
- Events, Fees & Other 23%



Expenses

- Program Services 73%
- Mgt. & General 14%
- Fund Raising 10%
- Direct Benefit to Donors 3%



Revenue

Total Revenue	\$ 6,028,469
Events, Fees & Other	\$ 1,374,481
Contributions	\$ 1,231,364
Government Grants	\$ 3,422,624

Expenses

Change in Net Assets	\$	366,175
Total Expenses	\$5	,662,294
Direct Benefit to Donors	\$	185,543
Fund Raising	\$	538,912
Mgt. & General	\$	792,721
Program Services	\$	4,145,118

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24-hour Parenting HelpLine: 1.800.243.7337

familytreemd.org













Maryland

