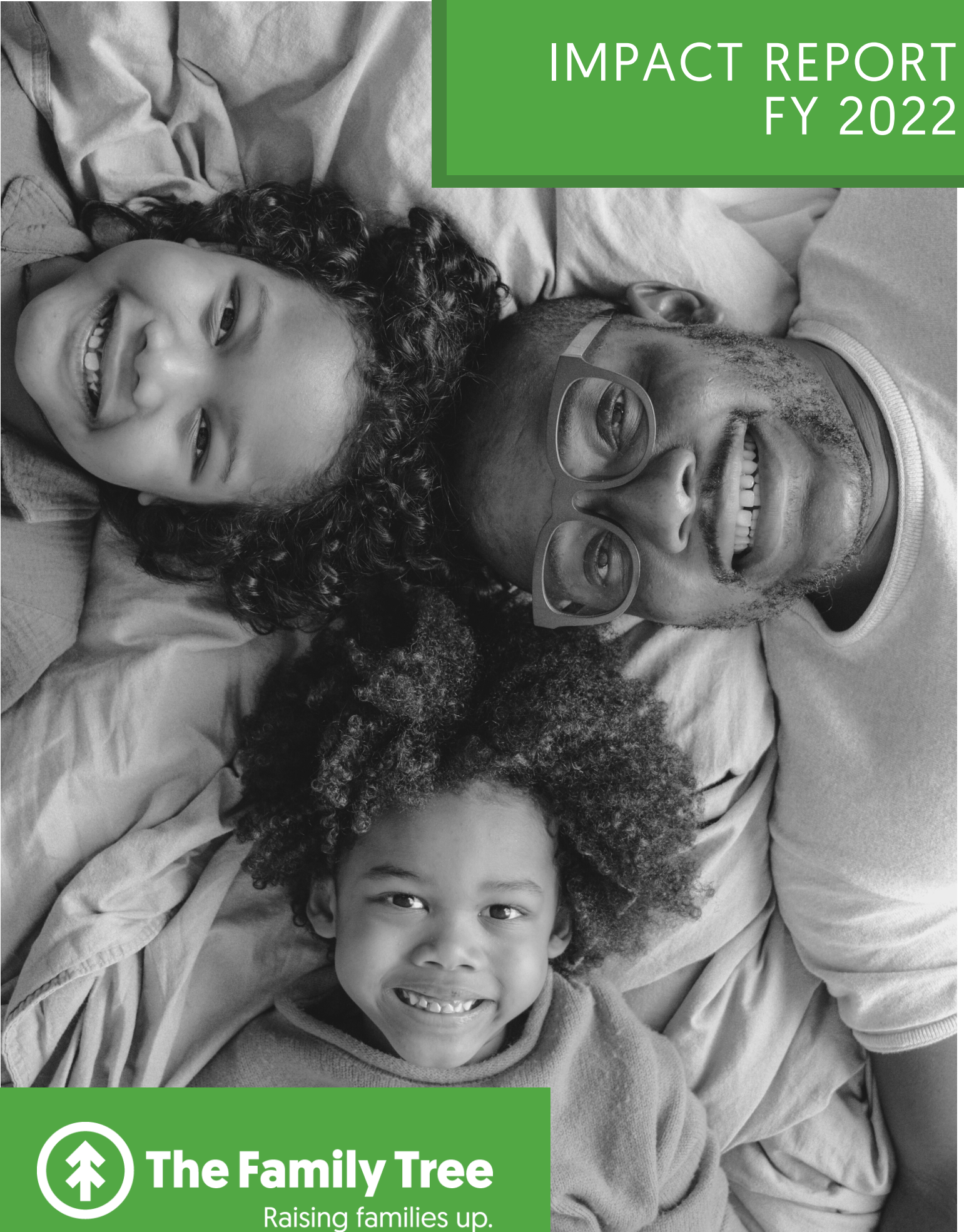


IMPACT REPORT FY 2022



The Family Tree

Raising families up.



Working Together to Keep Children Safe & Resilient

What could be more wonderful than helping children grow up in a safe and nurturing environment? It is not only our mission, but our privilege to make that happen. Our staff, board, donors, community partners and volunteers provide the engine for the work we do, creating the impetus for change. They also know the intense struggles many of our families face.

We are proud of our robust array of programs and services designed to support families and educate child care providers so all children can thrive in safe communities. We provide parenting education; anger management, support groups, behavioral health consultation services, home visiting, training and technical assistance, plus support for Baltimore City child care providers and other professionals throughout the state. We also link families to needed resources and advocate for legislation that promotes child safety and family well-being. This past fiscal year we reached 19,928 individuals.

Children raised in healthy, nurturing family and child care environments are more likely to become strong, resilient, and well-adjusted adults. Working together, we can continue to make this happen, one child and family at a time.



familytreemd.org

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Prenatal through Early Childhood Support

Baltimore City Child Care Resource Center (BCCCRC) serves parents, child care providers, the business community and others who are interested in early care and education. BCCCRC is committed to providing leadership and services to improve the quality, accessibility and affordability of child care in Baltimore City. A few of our accomplishments include having:

- Provided training, technical assistance, and support to over 3,200 early care and education providers in Baltimore City.
- Successfully hosted our first-ever virtual conference with two nationally known keynote presenters and 89 attendees.
- Assisted 15 family child care providers, over 15 months, to earn their Child Development Associate Certificate which will enable them to advance in the Maryland Child Care Credential system.
- Served a total of 149 providers in monthly support group meetings, providing an opportunity to discuss issues, talk about stresses, vent frustrations, and celebrate successes.
- Provided behavioral health consultation services to 26 children in child care exhibiting differences or challenges and 27 early care and education programs or providers having difficulty managing the behavior of a child(ren) in their care.
- Provided nature-based early learning opportunities to 33 programs through the STEAM in a Backpack project utilizing Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

Healthy Families America is an evidence-based home visiting program offered to pre and perinatal mothers in Baltimore City. This long-term program provides support to families via parenting education and skill building support.

- Conducted a total of 1,326 home visits to 126 mothers and their new babies.
- 97% of the babies in the program were born healthy and are developmentally on track.
- Enrolled families received monthly housing support as a strategy to protect babies from the impact of multiple hardships (unstable housing, access to utility services, etc.) which can have lifelong consequences.



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Educating and Supporting Parents

Family Education uses evidence informed curriculum to provide education and support to parents, giving them the tools to raise healthy children free of abuse. Here are some of our achievements:

- Served a total of 1,491 parents and caregivers in our parenting classes, anger management groups, workshops, and webinars.
- 80% of the individuals completed either the four-week parenting education program or the 10-week anger management program.
- Launched our new Resource Linkage Service for parents in our parenting education program. This service reaches out to participants in the program, assesses their needs, and then links them to needed resources. Helping families meet their needs decreases stress which reduces a common risk factor in child maltreatment.

Kids Care Plus offers free, licensed child care to children and families in need of temporary, short-term care (up to four hours a day) Monday through Friday. The program prevents children from being left alone or in the care of someone ill-equipped to care for them while their parent or guardian runs errands, attends to personal business, or simply takes a needed break.

- Provided 3,980 hours of child care to children who averaged 2-7 years of age. While in care, children are taught by licensed childcare providers who are credentialed by Maryland Excels.
- Provided fun learning experiences including visits from a hedgehog, eating green eggs and ham, and family time activities. These experiences were crafted to highlight literacy, science, and math.

Parenting HelpLine is available to parents 24/7 who are in crisis, need resources, or are interested in learning more about our programs and services. Fielded 2,180 calls and chats through our website (www.familytreemd.org), providing much-needed information, resource referral, and/or support including assistance for families wanting to enroll in one of our Family Tree programs.

Adverse Childhood Experiences Training (ACEs)

This training is designed to inform professionals and community members about the long-term impact of childhood trauma and toxic stress on developing brain and body architecture as well as fostering dialogues on how to build resilience in individuals and communities.

- Trained 1,800 professionals and community members in ACE Interface. Attendees represented all 24 jurisdictions in the state and included clinicians, behavior health specialists, teachers, pupil personnel, and other support professionals.
- Presented information on the science of adversity and resilience to hundreds of professionals at state conferences such as the Maryland CORE Violence and Injury Prevention Conference, Maryland CASA Annual Conference on Child Well-being, Maryland Office of the Public Defender Conference, and the Healthy St. Mary's Partnership Annual Conference.



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Building Stronger Communities through Partnerships

- As an appointed member of The Maryland State Commission on Trauma-Informed Care, The Family Tree began working with state agencies, commissioned colleagues, and those from the general public to develop a statewide strategy. The goal of this strategy is to create an organizational culture shift toward a trauma-responsive state government, as well as creating a process and framework for implementing an Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Aware Program in Maryland.
- The movement continues to play a proactive role in promoting local conversations around collective healing, social justice, and community-centered engagement. Presented a workshop on stress management and self-care at the movement's 2022 Healing City Baltimore Summit, a five-day virtual and in-person community-building and healing event focused on "moving Baltimore forward, together". In addition, The Family Tree supported the movement's Lunch and Healing, "Truth and Healing" series. It features presentations on trauma, adversity, and resilience by local practitioners working in a variety of healing spaces and disciplines. The series serves as an ongoing community conversation working to center the voices of traditionally marginalized Baltimoreans; issues concerning racism, youth activism, anti-violence, and mental health are openly discussed.

Making Families and Children a Priority Through Advocacy

The Family Tree's legislative priorities for 2022 were closely aligned with the Essentials for Childhood, a Statewide collaborative that we co-chair with the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect. The following highlight our advocacy priorities:

- Income support for families through paid family leave via Senate Bill 275 Time To Care Act: Paid Family Leave and Medical Care Act, which was passed after an override of the Governor's veto.
- Bills that strengthen and support our child care system in Maryland. Eight bills were passed to bolster Maryland's child care system including support directly to child care centers, scholarships, capital loans, and increased support for mental health consultation. Passing of this suite of legislation signaled Maryland's reckoning that an infusion of support was necessary to strengthen the child care system post pandemic.
- Elimination of the civil statute of limitations for child sexual abuse. The introduction was deferred until next year.



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Building Community Awareness Through Events

Over the years, many dedicated supporters' first introduction to The Family Tree's mission came through attendance at one of our events. As they learned about our work, many made a commitment to help us strengthen families, thus transforming the lives of families and children in Maryland.

- Raised an astounding \$1 million for our programs, all of which strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect, through our Sip and Savor: Revel in Community fundraiser which brought together 350 new and long-term supporters of The Family Tree.
- Held our Brent A. Rosenberg Lace Up to End Child Abuse 5K run/walk around M&T Bank Stadium and Camden Yards in Baltimore. Over 200 supporters gathered virtually or in person. The event raised over \$77,000.
- Recognized the 30th anniversary of our signature fundraising event, the Great Chefs' Dinner, which reunited long-time supporters, welcomed new ones and raised over \$1 million in support.
- Provided program information to over 4,000 individuals at various outreach events in partnership with school resource fairs, churches, community associations, universities, colleges, day care centers, and government agencies. These activities carried the message of The Family Tree services deep into the communities we serve.

Looking Forward

As we look ahead to the next fiscal year (beginning July 1st), we understand that parents are struggling with complex issues – ongoing pandemic recovery, exposure to trauma, poverty, and job insecurity.

It is our responsibility as educators is to keep these challenges in mind as we provide programs and services that keep children safe and that help families raise children who are healthy, happy, and well-adjusted. Thank you for your partnership and support.