



COMMUNITY

2021-2022

ANNUAL REPORT

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Administrative Team

- Berta Velilla**, President/Chief Executive Officer
- Don Hoendorf**, Chief Financial Officer
- Steve Kandel**, Chief Operating Officer
- Scott Siegfried**, Chief Innovation Officer
- Coretta Tengesdahl**, Chief People Officer

Our Purpose: Everyone deserves an opportunity to thrive.

Our Mission: We deliver exceptional early childhood education and develop compassionate partnerships with families to support them in realizing their hopes and dreams.

Board of Directors

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President, Feldmiller Consulting

Deborah Hunt, *Vice-Chair*, Partner,
Sebaly Shillito + Dyer

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Krista Matthews, Board Liaison

Thank you to Cyrena Adkins, Nicole Hall, Veronica Peacock, Joyce Rybolt, Jennifer Sherman and Stacey Kohler who came together to create this report. Their commitment to children and families and their work with our generous community partners make real our promise of being Difference Makers.

While the fallout from COVID-19 continued in 2021-22, we have not let that challenge slow us down! We have so much to celebrate and share — most notably that we fully opened our classrooms largely without the closures and disruptions that dominated the first year of the pandemic. Our amazing staff and families were so glad to be nearly back to a new normal!

The theme of this year's annual report is CommUNITY. The partnerships we highlight in the following pages are just a sampling of the collaborations we embrace to ensure that children and families experiencing poverty have opportunities to thrive. Take a moment to see just some of the ways our CommUNITY leverages resources!

In addition to the people and partnerships we're spotlighting, we also are excited to share:

- We created a new classroom at Dayton's Our Lady of the Rosary School, allowing it to offer families a preschool experience for the first time. This Old North Dayton neighborhood anchor serves a diverse population with many dual-language learners.
- We are contracting with Trotwood-Madison City Schools, serving children and families at the district's popular Early Learning Center.
- We are preparing to open four classrooms at Goodwill Easterseals Miami Valley's new West Campus Community Center in Trotwood where we'll serve infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
- Finally, we are so thrilled to announce that we're almost across the finish line on our years-in-the-making Lincoln Hill project, a new state-of-the-art child care center for East Dayton that will serve 250 children and their families. Stay tuned for more about this initiative that epitomizes our commitment to partnerships.

We are so fortunate to have a staff of nearly 500-strong who are totally committed to lifting children and families out of poverty. We are successful because of their incredible passion and the support we get from every corner of **our CommUNITY**. Thank you!

Gratefully,



Berta Velilla
President, Chief Executive Officer



This year we honor our outgoing Board Chair Frank Surico and our former Vice-Chair Deborah Hunt. Both have been passionate advocates for our work.

A retired business leader, Frank began his volunteerism at MVCDC as a Policy Council Community Representative in 2015. He joined the Board in 2016 and was elected Board Chair less than a year later in June 2017. He continued in that role until he was elected Treasurer for 2022-2023. We are grateful for his unceasing devotion to children and families.

Deb, a probate lawyer who retired from Sebaly Shillito + Dyer, began her service with MVCDC in 2011 and has served as Vice-Chair of the Board since 2017. Deeply knowledgeable about both the community and the law, Deb has generously shared her talents, and she continues to volunteer for MVCDC.

We reach families across our **COMMUNITY**

We lifted up
2,871
YOUNG
CHILDREN
2,501
FAMILIES

We provided

127,779 BREAKFASTS	155,063 LUNCHES
141,908 SNACKS	

32%
of staff
have been
employed with
us for **10 years**
or more

100% _____
of MVCDC-operated centers
are rated '**HIGH QUALITY**' under
Ohio's **Step Up to Quality** initiative

97%

of families
'strongly agree'
or 'agree' their
Family Support
Specialist/child's
teacher helps
them set goals

44%

of MVCDC
children
enroll for
multiple
years

93% of families **'strongly agree'** or **'agree'**
MVCDC is helping them realize their hopes and dreams

98% of MVCDC families say
they would recommend MVCDC

94% of MVCDC families
work outside the home

71% of MVCDC families
are attending school

96%

of families **'strongly agree'** or **'agree'**
MVCDC helps them access
community resources

We give **FAMILIES** early learning **CHOICES**

As southwest Ohio's largest Head Start organization, MVCDC has been serving families and children experiencing poverty for nearly 60 years. We provide high quality early learning and child care to ensure children start kindergarten on track, and we help families become financially stable.

MVCDC assists families earning under 100% of the Federal Poverty Level, children in foster and kinship care, children experiencing homelessness and children with disabilities. This year, the Office of Head Start expanded eligibility to all children receiving SNAP – or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – benefits.

Generally, a mother of two must have an annual income of \$23,030 or less to be eligible for MVCDC services.

Our services for children are comprehensive. We support them in reaching developmental milestones, getting appropriate health care and early intervention services, learning social-emotional skills, eating well and more.

Every Head Start family has a Family Support Specialist, Home Visitor or Coach who helps parents and caregivers set goals to improve their and their children's lives.

Some parents may be focused on going back to school or finding a better job. Others may need better housing or more reliable transportation.



Families may choose to enroll their child at an MVCDC-operated site or a community-based partner site, including school-based programs; center-based programs; or family child care.



PART-DAY
3½ hours/day M-Th
AM and PM sessions,
part year



SCHOOL-DAY
Up to 6 hours/day,
school year



HOME-BASED
90-minute/week
session in family's
home, monthly
organized group
socialization



FULL-DAY
Up to 10 hours/day,
part year



FULL-DAY
Up to 10 hours/day,
full year

WE'RE REACHING A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN!

The good news this year is that MVCDC is reaching a higher percentage of families who are eligible for services. That's because parents and caregivers are more comfortable sending their children to early learning now that we've adapted to living with COVID-19. In addition, families receiving SNAP benefits automatically qualify, thanks to a federal rule change. Enrollment has become easier than ever for many families experiencing poverty.

Head Start

Head Start provides early learning for children from age 3 to 5. Our evidence-based curriculum focuses on getting young learners ready for kindergarten. Children also receive developmental screenings and are connected to health-care providers, including for dental and vision needs. Families get resources and coaching to teach their children at home.

MONTGOMERY

1,203 funded seats

34% of age/income eligible children served

CLARK

525 funded seats

68% of age/income eligible children served

MADISON

123 funded seats

90% of age/income eligible children served

TOTAL

1,851 funded seats

Early Head Start

Early Head Start serves children from 6 weeks to age 3 and income-eligible pregnant women. Children receive developmental screenings and early intervention services if needed. Mothers-to-be get help with prenatal care, and families learn parenting skills and how to promote their child's early brain development.

Though high quality child care is expensive and difficult to find for young children of all ages, care for infants and toddlers is even harder to access and more costly than for preschoolers. Many families can't work or attend school because they don't have child care for their infants and toddlers.

MONTGOMERY

425 funded seats

10% of age/income eligible children served

CLARK

154 funded seats

16% of age/income eligible children served

GREENE

8 funded seats

1% of age/income eligible children served

TOTAL

658 funded seats

MADISON

38 funded seats

22% of age/income eligible children served

BUTLER

33 funded seats

5% of age/income eligible children served



Brandy Moore MVCDC Lead Teacher

Toya Trollinger MVCDC Assistant Teacher

MVCDC assists families who are eligible for Medicaid to get this need-based health insurance for their children and themselves. We also encourage families to choose a medical “home” for their child to ensure quality continuity of care. In addition, children are connected to dentists and optometrists.

Not surprisingly, many families are playing catch-up for routine and well-child care in the wake of COVID-19.

2,478 children have health insurance

2,114 children received immunizations

1,788 children have a medical ‘home’

1,976 children received a physical

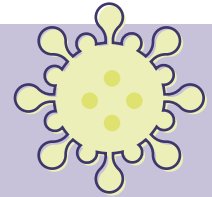
759 children have a dental ‘home’

1,036 received a dental exam

92%
of families said the medical/dental services they received were ‘high quality’

97%
of families said they completed the Ages & Stages Questionnaires, an important child development screening tool

COVID-19'S FALLOUT CONTINUES

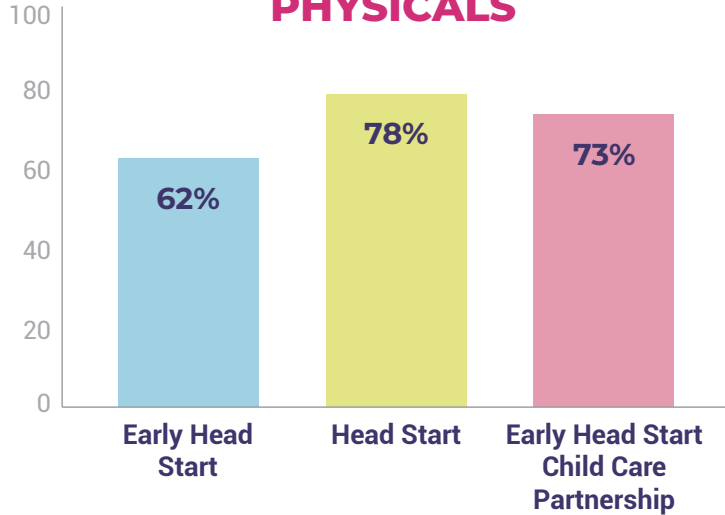


In normal times, local Head Start agencies must have an average enrollment of 97% of their funded seats. Because many families experiencing poverty don't have stable housing — a challenge that forces them to move in and out of early learning programs — meeting this mandate can be onerous. COVID-19's fallout further compounded the difficulty.

MVCDC, like Head Start agencies nationally, struggled to meet the 97% enrollment benchmark. MVCDC's enrollment in Head Start averaged 75% of funded seats; 92% for Early Head Start; and 92% at our Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership programs.



CHILDREN RECEIVING PHYSICALS



CHILDREN RECEIVING DENTAL EXAMS**



** Because of their young age, children in Early Head Start do not receive dental exams.



Early Head Start***	% of enrollees	# of children
% with up-to-date immunizations	66%	630
% with health insurance	86%	821
% with a medical "home"	67%	634
% with a dental "home"	51%	170

Head Start***	% of enrollees	# of children
% with up-to-date immunizations	77%	1,484
% with health insurance	86%	1,154
% with a medical "home"	60%	983
% with a dental "home"	35%	667

***We transitioned to new Head Start data management software this year, resulting in some data gaps. Not all work was recorded, limiting year-over-year comparisons.

We teach children to **LOVE LEARNING**

All of MVCDC's 26 self-operated centers are rated "high quality" under Ohio's *Step Up to Quality* initiative, meaning they significantly exceed minimum licensing rules and have earned 3-Star to 5-Star distinctions.

58% of MVCDC teachers have a bachelor's degree

85% of MVCDC teachers have earned a minimum of a Child Development Associate credential

75% of teachers at our Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships have earned a Child Development Associate credential or are in the process of doing so



NAEYC ACCREDITATION

6 MVCDC programs earned highly demanding **accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children**. This coveted distinction is a high honor and takes immense effort on the part of teachers and staff.

MVCDC East Dayton
Early Learning Center

MVCDC London

MVCDC Moraine Meadows

MVCDC Miami View

MVCDC Springfield
Children's Center

MVCDC Twin Towers

COMMUNITY

makes all of us stronger — and better

Our families deserve access to opportunities and resources that others take for granted.

When we and our partners join forces, WE'RE UNSTOPPABLE!



We and our partners want **THE BEST** for kids

“Every teacher, every assistant teacher, is there because they want to be a part of what we’re doing,”



Amy Dobson
Director of Elementary Education,
Miamisburg City Schools

Scan the
QR code to watch
Amy’s interview



MVDCD’s partnership with **Miamisburg City Schools** began in 2017 when the district began leasing space to MVDCD to offer Head Start site-based services at Medlar View Elementary. Since then, the program has just kept expanding.

This year administrators from MVDCD and the school district came to the table and worked out how they could serve even more children.

Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the **Ohio Department of Education** and a \$250,000 commitment from **Dayton-Montgomery County Preschool Promise**, Miamisburg now has four preschool classrooms at Medlar View Elementary for the 2022-23 school year, in addition to the 15 sessions already in place at Miamisburg’s Maddux-Lang Primary School.

Two of the classes at Medlar View are jointly staffed with teachers from MVDCD and the school district, and all families receive assistance from an MVDCD Family Support Specialist. Children in all four classes are attending for a full school-day.

MVDCD and Miamisburg teachers are sharing curricula and ideas to support children, and they’re participating in both organizations’ professional development.

Importantly, MVDCD classrooms at Medlar View are open to children who wouldn’t normally qualify for Head Start — an exciting benefit of this new cost-sharing arrangement. Twenty-five percent of children in each classroom are able to access preschool that may otherwise be out of reach.

“I would describe our partnership as a beautiful evolution,” says Amy Dobson, Director of Elementary Education for Miamisburg City Schools. This new collaboration, she says, means more children will start kindergarten ready to learn.

Classrooms at both schools were almost immediately full — validation of families’ interest in high quality early learning.

“Every teacher, every assistant teacher, is there because they want to be a part of what we’re doing,” says Amy.

Ashley Cranford, an assistant MVDCD teacher who’s working alongside a Lead Teacher employed by Miamisburg, says the partnership is great for children.

“If a child needs occupational or speech therapy, working directly with Miamisburg, we can get that process started before they hit kindergarten. We’re not leaving any children behind.”



Ashley Cranford MVCDC Assistant Teacher

Ashley, who has worked for MVDCD for 11 years, loves that MVDCD staff have been invited to everything from Halloween events to dances at her school. “We feel like family here.”



For over 20 years, Maggie Bollar has been bringing books, rhymes, songs, and good times to Laura Patterson's classroom.

"She's so animated the kids can't help but sit still," says Laura, a Lead Teacher at Clark ECEC. "She's bubbly, she's energetic, she's kind, and she knows the children and what they need."

But Maggie isn't a fixture just in Laura's classroom. A children's librarian at the **New Carlisle Public Library** since 1999, Maggie makes visits, often on a monthly basis, to multiple MVCDC sites across Clark County.

"I read a lot of ridiculous books – the most outrageous books," she says. "They are the ones the kids will ask for over and over again."

While she knows MVCDC teachers appreciate her passion for helping children learn to love books, she is grateful to them, too.



Maggie Bollar
Children's Librarian, New Carlisle Public Library

"I've learned so much from the Head Start teachers," she says. How to help children transition from one activity to another and how to encourage calmness are just some of the strategies she's watched and models.

Even during the pandemic, Maggie was still a presence, reading to students outdoors and to them and their families via Zoom.

MVCDC teachers are "artists in the classrooms," Maggie says. "They have wonderful skills."

Maggie was instrumental in helping bring **Dolly Parton Imagination Library Ohio** to Clark County and relied on MVCDC staff to help families sign up and allow their child to receive a free book every month. MVCDC families are invited to join the initiative when they enroll.

A new partnership Maggie wants to begin is inviting teachers to record themselves reading books, so children can call the library and listen to their teacher even when they're not in school.

Laura, who has been with MVCDC for 29 years, is grateful for partnerships like the one she has with Maggie and relishes being in the classroom. "I love when you've been working on a skill with a child, especially a social-emotional skill, and then suddenly they get it."

"I am going to retire from here," she says. "I say that if I had to do this work for free, I would. I think it's just so important."

"I'm going to retire from here. I say that if I had to do this work for free, I would. I think it's just so important."



Laura Patterson
MVCDC Lead Teacher

At MVCDC, children learn by **EXPERIENCING**

If you're a preschooler at a Clark County MVCDC program, you probably know "Artie."

A perky mouse puppet, "Artie" explains to young visitors to the **Springfield Museum of Art** that "you look, but don't touch" the paintings.

Amy Korpieski, the museum's Art Educator, and "Artie" have been sharing their love of art with 500 MVCDC young learners every year since 2015. It's a "fantastic" partnership, says Elvira Smith, Education Supervisor, at the Springfield Children's Center.

Thanks to Amy's ideas and the support of the **Virginia W. Kettering Family Foundation**, imaginative, educational art activities are the norm at MVCDC programs. Elvira, for instance, says she uses chalk in ways that never would have occurred to her.

Formerly a children's librarian, Amy says that the **Springfield Museum of Art** is thrilled to welcome even young children and to help encourage their curiosity and wonder.

After the children meet "Artie," Amy takes them into the galleries where they discuss what's happening in a painting and learn about colors like teal and aqua marine. Then they move to an art studio where she has stations for the children to try their hand at making something beautiful.

"I always plan for studio art to be collaborative," Amy says. "Conflict resolution is smoother when everybody wants to create together." Museum visits last for an hour, and some children come for a series of three classes.



Amy Korpieski Art Educator, Springfield Museum of Art

When COVID-19 hit, Amy says she and MVCDC didn't just "throw up our hands." They planned outdoor activities, learned about art that Amy brought to the children, worked on creative movement and continued making art, often with a literature component.

Elvira, who attended Head Start as a child, says a favorite activity was when the children learned about bees, pollination and wild flowers. Amy brought plastic pipettes to demonstrate how bees collect nectar, pollinating flowers in the process. Then they used the science tool and watercolor paint to create whimsical works resembling stained glass.

"The children listen to Amy," says Elvira, a 26-year veteran at MVCDC. "She's an attention-getter. And she's a vocabulary-builder, teaching the children terms like 'abstract.' I can't believe my luck that we get to do this together."

Now a supervisor, Elvira says she's experiencing "withdrawal from my babies," so "I still go in the classroom to get my love."



Elvira Smith
MVCDC Education Supervisor

We look for new ways to **SUPPORT FAMILIES**

Thanks to a partnership with the **Community Health Centers of Greater Dayton**, MVCDC's Kings Highway and Marilyn E. Thomas centers are providing children free dental services on site.

Dr. Angelica McHugh, who comes once a month to each center, does dental exams on "as many children as they can bring me." She may see up to 10 children in a day.



Dr. Angelica McHugh
Community Health
Centers of Greater Dayton



With their family's permission, the children get their teeth cleaned and receive a fluoride treatment. If Dr. McHugh, who is from Texas and loves speaking Spanish to dual-language learners, spots a cavity, the children are referred to area dentists.

Amber Saltis, an MVCDC Health Specialist, says children are drawn to Dr. McHugh. They appreciate that she lets them hold an Elmo doll or a squeeze ball during their visit, and they're excited to get a prize — stickers, sunglasses, Slinkies, or a rubber duck with teeth. And, of course, they leave with a new toothbrush, toothpaste, and dental floss.

Ensuring the kids have a good experience ideally results in their telling their classroom friends they should visit Dr. McHugh, too.

Amber, who has been the driving force in getting children signed up for screenings and cleanings, says she took her job at MVCDC because the interviewer told her that MVCDC is committed to teaching children and making sure they "don't go home hungry." "That spoke to my heart."

She is passionate about helping families find a dental "home" for their child because early dental care can improve children's speech and eating habits — and encourage them to smile.

"Amber is so motivated to get the kids screened, and she always makes time to brainstorm about how we can get more kids in," Dr. McHugh says.

Amber, who was hired as a Licensed Practical Nurse and recently became a registered nurse, says she appreciates the flexibility and help she received from MVCDC while she was earning her degree.

"I love working with Dr. McHugh," Amber says. "You can tell she cares. She's funny, and sometimes she even sings to the kids. One child told her she wanted to be a dentist."

Ensuring the kids have a good experience ideally results in their telling their classroom friends they should visit Dr. McHugh, too.



Amber Saltis
MVCDC Health Specialist



Kristina Wright, a Family Support Specialist in Madison County, is always on the lookout for places where she can meet families who would benefit from MVCDC's services.



Tamara Reed
Executive Director,
DNA Community Center

That's why she appreciates the **DNA Community Center** in Plain City and Tamara Reed, its executive director.

A faith-based non-profit, the **DNA Center** takes its name from "daily needs assistance." The organization has a food pantry, a personal needs pantry, a kids' closet, and it offers a free hot breakfast on Saturdays to typically 100 people. It also runs a summer camp for 125 students, offers mentoring for almost 50 school-aged children, and organizes whole-family English as Second Language classes.

Supported by churches, businesses, and grants, Tamara says the agency is successful because of its volunteer "army" that can involve 2,000 people over the course of a year.

Kristina has been to the center's Saturday breakfasts with an eye toward identifying new families who need high quality early learning and child care for their children.

"We're a great place for agencies like MVCDC to make an in-person connection to families who need Head Start the most," says Tamara.

Kristina and Tamara say Madison County has seen an influx of Hispanic and Ukrainian families experiencing poverty because the county has several affordable mobile home parks. Families are drawn to work at nearby construction and restaurant jobs. MVCDC is also serving families who are reeling from the opioid epidemic.

Kristina has worked at three different sites during her four years with MVCDC, and she's excited to be serving families now where she grew up.



Kristina Wright
MVCDC Family Support Specialist



She's committed to fostering the partnerships MVCDC has in Madison County with the **Madison-Plains and Jonathan Alder local school districts**, where MVCDC collectively operates five classrooms.

Kristina says she appreciates Tamara because when she went to a pancake breakfast, Tamara knew everyone from the families to the volunteers.

"If I have a good relationship with partners like Tamara and the **DNA Center**, I can serve my families better," she says.

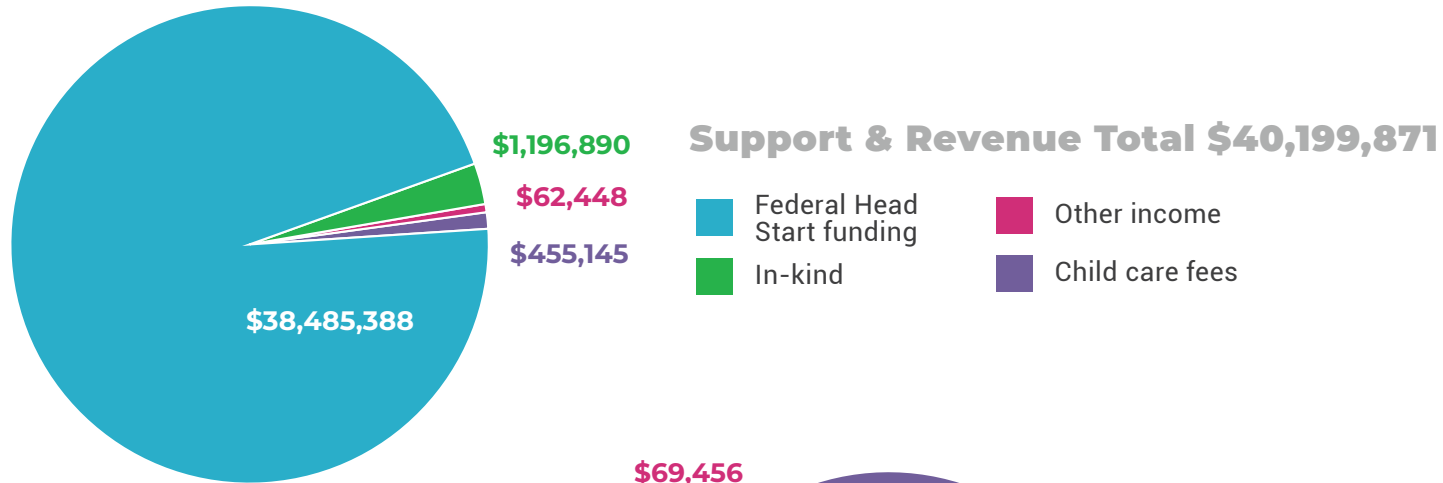
HOW WE SUPPORT FAMILIES

We launched a new family partnership initiative this year with the help of SHINE Early Learning. Research suggests supporting families in four areas has the greatest impact on improving their circumstances linked to children's success.

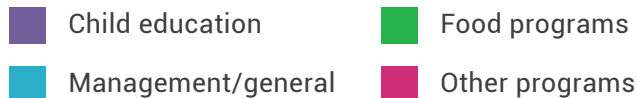
- Family life practices
- Self-sufficiency
- Support for children
- Health and well-being of families

INVESTING in children, families PAYS OFF

2021 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES



Expenses Total \$39,712,101



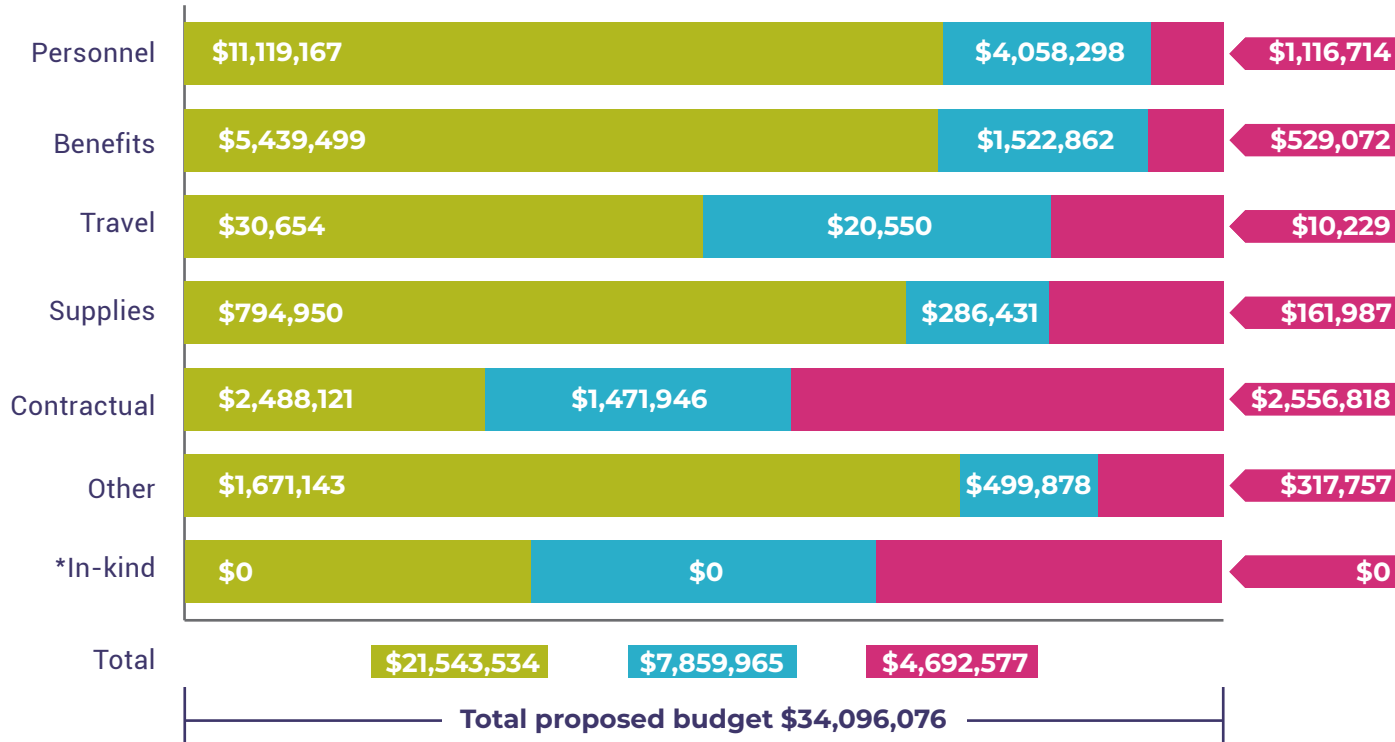
**Unrestricted net assets as of 12/31/21
\$7,252,457**

To assist us in rebounding from the pandemic, we received \$4.9 million from the state-funded Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association.

\$3.15 million in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) received in 2021 remains available until 3/31/2023.

MVCDC's independent audit resulted in an unmodified opinion with no findings.

PROPOSED BUDGET 2022



*In-kind requirement waived due to COVID-19



■ Head Start
 ■ Early Head Start
 ■ Early Head Start Child Care Partnership

All MVCDC centers and partners participate in Ohio's *Step Up to Quality* initiative.
Programs go above and beyond minimum licensing standards and earn 1-Star to 5-Stars ratings.

MVCDC MONTGOMERY COUNTY

★★★★★

Aullwood
Blairwood
Brookville
Dayton View
Dixie
East Dayton ELC
Kings Highway
Marilyn E Thomas Center (MET)
Miamisburg
Miami View
Moraine Meadows
Rosa Parks
Stuart Patterson
Twin Towers
Valley View
★★★
Findlay EHS

Child Care Partnership Programs (HS & EHS)

★★★★★
Creative World/Huber Heights
Creative World/Kettering
Creative World/Union
Dayton Christian
Mini University
On Purpose Academy
Stepping Stones
United Rehabilitation Services
★★★★
Wenzler Learning Center
★★★
Smart Start Academy West
YMCA Grace

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Family Child Care Providers

★★★★★
Cynthia Douglas
Angela Reeves
Jameka Parker
Kisha Tyree
Lisa Fletcher
Nekeesha Foreman
Patricia Bechstein
Debra Clark
MeKee Hanson Pierce
★★★★
Andrea Wilkerson
★★★
Peggy Miller
Donna Patterson
★★
Taylor Simpson

MVCDC MADISON COUNTY

★★★★★

London
Madison Plains

School-based Partners

★★★★★
Monroe
Plain City

GREENE COUNTY

Child Care Partnership Programs (HS & EHS)

★★★★★
Creative World/Fairborn

MVCDC CLARK COUNTY

★★★★★

Clark
Fulton
Medway
Springfield Children's Center
St. Joseph
Town and Country
★★★
Clark ECEC

Child Care Partnership Programs (HS & EHS)

★★★★★
Creative World/Springfield
★★★
Smart Start East
★
Precious Gifts

BUTLER COUNTY

Family Child Care Providers

★★★★★
Christi Reddix
Teyaunna Calhoun
★★★★
Rebecca Taylor
★★★
Amanda Gushurst
★
Latasha Jones
Taylor Jones
Iseha Holland
Melanie Holland
Rocinda Cain

Jodi Myers