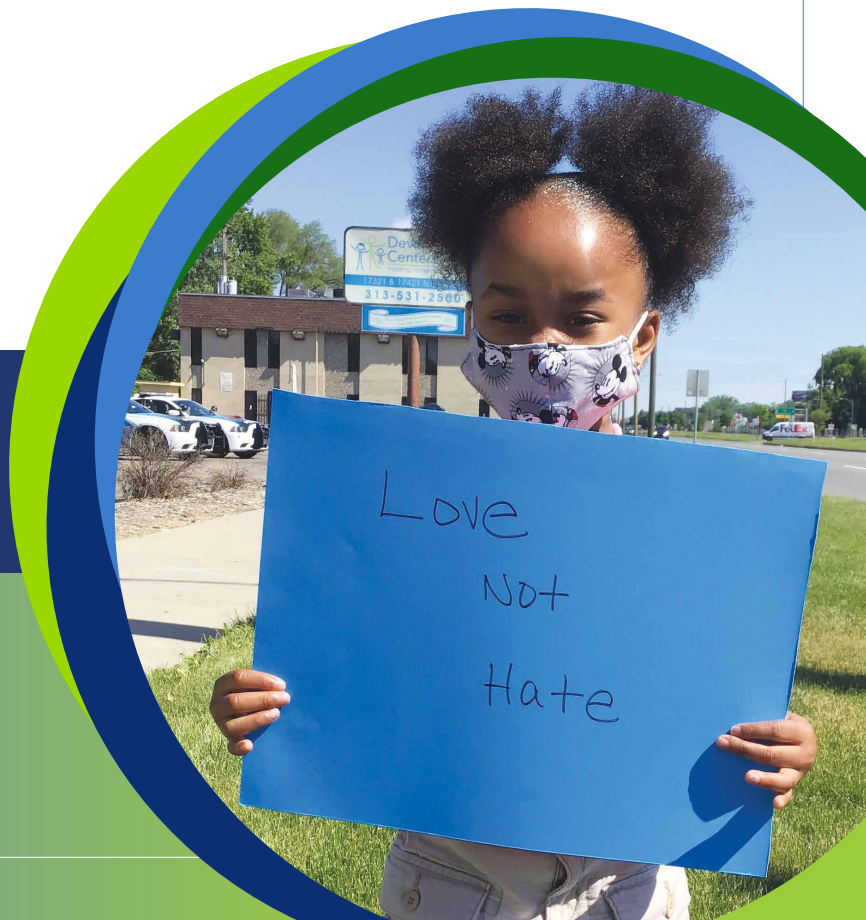




# ANNUAL REPORT 2019 | 2020



# OUR MISSION

Helping children, adults and families live healthier, happier lives.

## OUR VISION

Development Centers will be the preeminent organization committed to excellence and the recognized leader in Human Services. We will provide a continuum of diversified services based upon community need, resulting in outstanding and ever improving outcomes.

## OUR VALUES

- Respect and compassion for all persons served
- Acknowledge the abilities, strengths, and worth of the individual and his/her family
- Seek out and be responsive to the community need
- Dedication to teamwork, professionalism, ethical conduct and the prudent use of resources
- Commitment to opportunities, regardless of personal barriers
- Commitment to best practice

## OUR POSITION ON EQUITY

We believe in the fair and just distribution of resources and opportunities needed to achieve wellbeing.

We engage with compassion to confront and dismantle oppression interpersonally, institutionally, and systemically.

We commit to building a culture of equity and belonging.



## BOARD MEMBERS FY 2019-2020

**Chair: Rodger Prong, MBA**  
Oakland Physicians Network

**Vice Chair Programming:**  
**Cheryl Hawkins, PhD**  
Vice President & Chief Academic Officer  
Schoolcraft College

**Treasurer: Melvin Houston, J.D., M.B.A.**  
Attorney, Accountant & Professor,  
Wayne State University

**Secretary: Kevin Outland**  
Pure Energy Marketing

**Member: Jerry Allen**  
Owner, Allen Maintenance Co.

**Member: Kathy Operhall**  
Retired Educator

**Member: Dr. Subhash C. Gulati**  
Retired Medical Doctor



Dear Friends,

We all understand 2020 was a challenging year, but with your support we strengthened our ability to positively impact the lives of children, adults and families. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the people we serve, who already face significant struggles, now were faced with even greater challenges. As the health and economic crisis began to unfold, we worked closely with our staff and health care professionals to safely provide mental health and support services to the thousands of individuals who depend on us. We partnered with other nonprofits to find solutions to meet the increasing needs of hunger in our community. Our dedicated volunteers raised funds and awareness about the growing needs families and children were experiencing.

2020 made clear that racism is a public health crisis. As an agency we want to be part of the solution and work on meaningful change. It is important that all of us pledge actively to disrupt the dehumanizing effects caused by systemic and individual racism. That is why in 2020 we committed to reinforcing diversity, equity and inclusion as a top priority, so we can play an active role in building a more just and equitable future for the persons we serve.

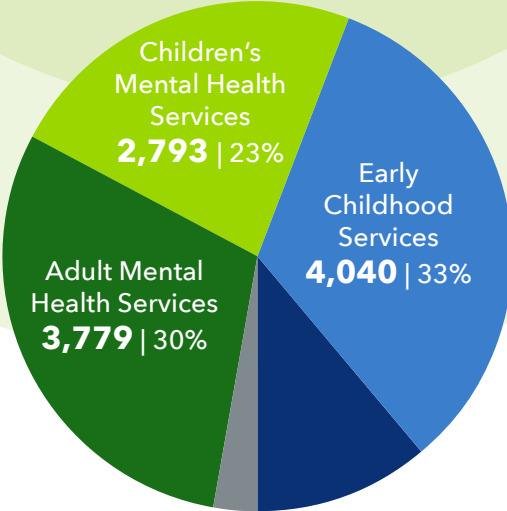
2020 made us stronger and more prepared as a trusted community partner, and we couldn't have done any of that without you! Your support made navigating the many challenges of 2020 possible. Together we impacted the lives of more than 12,000 parents, children and individuals even under the toughest of personal circumstances. None of this would have been possible without your support. From the bottom of my heart thank you!

With deep gratitude,

**Dr. Catherine Liesman**  
Chief Executive Officer

# YOUR SUPPORT MADE A HUGE IMPACT.

TOTAL PERSONS SERVED  
**12,396**



Employment Services  
**1,359** | 11%

Mild to Moderate Mental Health Services  
**425** | 3%

~ **552 INDIVIDUALS** ~

Received Assistance With  
**EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT  
& JOB SEARCH SERVICES**

PROVIDED  
~ **OVER 150** ~

**BACKPACKS FULL OF  
SCHOOL SUPPLIES**  
For Children In Our  
School Based Programs

PROVIDED  
~ **47 TABLETS** ~

**TO LOW-INCOME  
HEAD START STUDENTS**  
For Virtual Learning

PROVIDED  
~ **OVER 46,269** ~

**VIRTUAL MENTAL HEALTH  
THERAPY SESSIONS**

~ **560** ~

Contactless Porch  
Deliveries Of  
**FOOD, DIAPERS,  
MEDICATION & OTHER  
ESSENTIAL ITEMS**  
To Clients

~ **3,847** ~

**HOUSEHOLDS  
PROVIDED  
FRESH PRODUCE  
& GROCERIES**

Through Our Partnership  
With Gleaners Community  
Food Bank and  
Higher Hopes

**MOVED**

~ **11 PERSONS** ~

With Disabilities Out Of  
Homelessness Into  
**SAFE AND STABLE HOUSING**  
During The Pandemic

~ **30 CHILDREN** ~

Participated In Our  
**VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP  
PROGRAM**

OVER  
~ **10,000** ~

**DIAPERS, BOXES OF  
WIPES AND FORMULA**  
Provided To Early Head  
Start Families

~ **245 INDIVIDUALS** ~

**FOUND STABLE EMPLOYMENT**  
Via Our Career Center

## FINANCIALS

### REVENUE

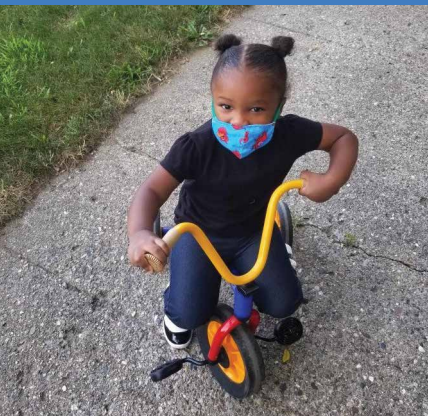
Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network	12,474,550
Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation	1,297,999
Early Head Start and Head Start Grants	5,296,543
Foundations and Other Grants	2,876,017
Fees, Insurances and Other	814,882
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	870,319
Charitable and In Kind Contributions	222,633
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>23,852,943</b>

### EXPENSES

Salaries and Wages	11,337,337
Fringe Benefits	3,259,333
Program Expenses	6,595,274
Administrative Expenses	2,190,520
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>23,382,464</b>
<b>Increase In Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>470,479</b>



## EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY SERVICES



The Early Childhood and Family Services program provides a full range of prevention, early intervention and treatment services for families with young children from pregnancy through age five.

### Early Childhood & Family Services

17321 Telegraph Road  
Detroit, MI 48219

### Northrop (Early Head Start and Head Start)

19176 Northrop St.  
Detroit, MI 482196.

### McKenny Community Center (Early Head Start)

19740 Burt Road  
Detroit, MI 48219

### Seven Mile (Early Head Start and Head Start)

13735 W. Seven Mile Road  
Detroit, MI 482357

### St. Suzanne (Early Head Start and Head Start)

19321 West Chicago St.  
Detroit, MI 48228



Thanks to the funds raised from the For Sake of The Babies campaign, diapers, formula and other essential items were delivered to the porches of families in need.

## MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Development Centers provides a wide range of mental health programs for adults, children and families. Programs include individual and group therapy, parenting support, and more intensive forms of support such as juvenile justice, specialized group programs for individuals with development disabilities, housing for individuals with severe mental illness and much more. These services are provided at our centers, in homes and within select partner schools. Due to COVID-19 many of these services are also available through a virtual platform called Telehealth.

### Access: Child & Adolescent Services

Early Childhood & Family Services  
17321 Telegraph Road, Detroit, MI 48219

### Adult Behavioral Health Services

24424 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48219

### McKenny Community Center

19750 Burt Rd., Detroit, MI 48219

### New Directions

24430 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48219

### North Central Campus & Skills Building Program

17141 Ryan Rd., Detroit, MI 48212

### North Central Health Center

4321 E. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48212

### SCHOOL BASED PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Barber Preparatory Academy

Beech Elementary

Cody High School

Dossin Elementary-Middle School

Dixon Elementary-Middle School

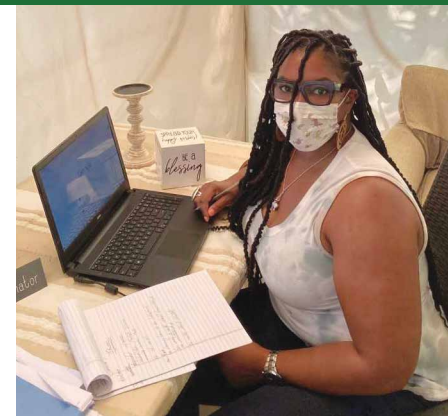
Hicks Elementary

Joy Preparatory Academy

Mumford High School

Renaissance High School

The School at Marygrove





The Detroit at Work Career Center provides adult Detroit residents with opportunities for both employment and training as they advance on their road to self-sufficiency.

**The Career Center**  
24424 W. McNichols Rd.  
Detroit, MI 48219



Development Centers' Manager of Business Services, Lucky Jain, pictured with Governor Whitmer at the Annual Michigan Works Conference in early fall of 2019.

## CARF ACCREDITED

### COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES

#### Assertive Community Treatment

Mental Health (Adults)

#### Case Management/Services Coordination

Mental Health (adults)

Mental Health (children and adolescents)

#### Community Employment Services

Employment Supports

Job Development

#### Community Integration

Psychosocial Rehabilitation (adults)

#### Crisis Prevention

Mental Health (adults)

#### Integrated Behavioral Health/Primary Care

Comprehensive Care (adults)

*Governance Standards Applied*

#### Outpatient Treatment

Integrated: aod/mh (adults)

Integrated: aod/mh (children and adolescents)

Integrated: idd/mental health (adults)

Integrated: idd/mental health (children and adolescents)

Mental health (adults)

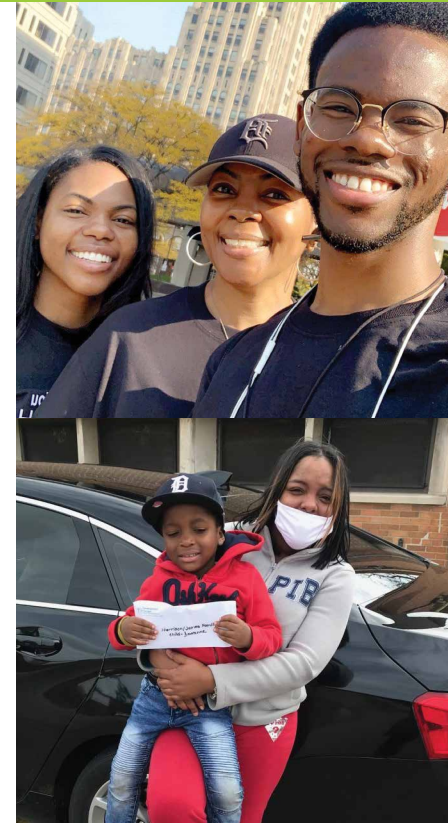
Mental health (early childhood and adolescents)

#### Supported Living

Mental Health (Adults)

#### Services for Children and Youth

Early Intervention Services







Deris takes a selfie at his new place of employment.



Deris studying hard for his test.



## Deris' Story

Deris was released from prison after being incarcerated for 25 years. "It was a struggle. When you come home, everything has changed, the technology has changed, and everything is basically a new class. I knew the transition was going to be very hard." Deris was released in November 2019 and knew he needed to keep busy. He stayed active by playing basketball and football with friends, discovered a new church community, and found employment with a landscaping company. However, in March, when the pandemic hit, he lost his job. This was a scary time for Deris, but it made him realize he wanted to do more with his life. Soon after, his parole officer connected him with the Offender Success Program through Development Center's Career Center. Almost immediately Deris knew he was in the right place.

Deris was told about an opportunity in truck driving. "I've always loved driving, so I thought something like this would be perfect," and with the help of the staff at Development Centers' Career Center made a goal to obtain his commercial driver's license.

The school was located in Romulus. "They helped me in every way possible. They assisted me with transportation so I could concentrate on my studies." Deris began the CDL Training Program in July and graduated in September. "After I graduated, they assisted me with Lyft because I didn't have a vehicle to get to a job." The Career Center staff soon after found an employment opportunity for Deris with a \$3,000 signing bonus and a salary of approximately \$1,000 per week.

Deris is now on a path toward long-term success. He was able to get a car and admits "that turned everything around." He loves his job and gets to drive locally. After receiving a reliable income, he was able to get established and moved out of his transition home into a new home of his own. "The Career Center was everything. I am extremely grateful to the program. The program pushed me, and they opened the door. They helped me in every way possible."

When asked what advice he can give other men coming out of incarceration he said, "You can win. It's never too late to win."



*They assisted me with transportation so I could concentrate on my studies.*



## Lacrechia's Story

Back in 2009 Lacrechia found herself in a mental health crisis. She just had a baby and suddenly she lost her job. "It was difficult adapting. When you are not working every day, getting up in the morning with somewhere to go and something to do - I spiraled. It was really hard, my car broke down, I had to catch six buses. It was so stressful especially in the wintertime. I lost everything, and I just gave up hope." She soon became homeless, and she and her baby girl moved around place to place. She was too scared to ask for help because, "I thought someone would take my child away." She eventually found Development Centers and was placed in an apartment with her daughter. Immediately, she knew she was in a safe place. "They were so welcoming, and non-judgmental. They helped me with my disability, they helped us with food, clothing, and furniture. They helped me find stability."

After a while, Lacrechia began to blossom. She worked closely with her therapist developing goals and making plans to get her life back on track. She found employment as a store manager for KFC, and became involved with New Directions, which is a group program at Development Centers focused on building community and support for individuals living with persistent mental illness and disabilities. "I helped assist with picnics and activities to help group members and clients get to know each other. I coordinated arts and craft nights, game nights, helped to take people home. It was a lot of fun to give back. I felt like I had a purpose and I belonged."

Thanks to the mental health support she received through Development Centers, she was able to focus on her life goals. "I really wanted to buy my own home," she said. So with the help of her therapist and Development Centers' staff, she developed a plan, saved up money and recently purchased a new home through the Detroit Land Bank. Her daughter is now 11 years old, "she didn't know what it was like to live in a house, and now we have a house of our own."

Lacrechia credits her success to the caring staff at Development Centers. "They are there for people when people need them the most. I was a very different person before Development Centers. It's a wonderful community with wonderful staff. They all have beautiful hearts."



Lacrechia with her daughter, age 11.



*They were so welcoming, and non-judgmental.*



Ava enjoys playing on the playground at our Northrop Center.



Ava enjoys creating and doing art activities with her mom and grandmother.



## Sandra and Ava's Story

Back in November 2019 Sandra's granddaughter was diagnosed with autism. At the time, Ava was attending a regular childcare center. However, it soon became clear that Ava needed to go somewhere with more structure and support.

Fortunately, Sandra heard about Development Centers' Early Head Start program and enrolled her granddaughter in the program. "Honestly, this was the best thing we could have done. They were so attentive to not only Ava's needs but the needs of our entire family."

As a grandmother, Sandra plays an active role in Ava's upbringing. Sandra's daughter Lyla, Ava's mom, faced many life challenges, in addition to being a first-time mom. Lyla battled cancer as a teenager, and according to Sandra, "she was still struggling to deal with the trauma of that experience." When the pandemic hit, Lyla, had a stable job in healthcare, but unfortunately, she was too medically fragile to continue working and was advised to quit her job. With the loss of employment, Ava's recent autism diagnosis and her own health struggles, Lyla began to feel lost.

But thanks to Sandra's devotion to her family and with the support of staff at Development Centers, things began to turn around. "The staff were incredible. They kept us involved, they checked in regularly and they provided diapers and supplies. We received healthy hot meals."

Sandra greatly appreciates the type of activities that Development Centers' Early Head Start program provides. "It's so hard to find activities for toddlers with autism, but they helped in every way possible. They are an extra layer of support in a really challenging time."

Although virtual learning has its challenges, Ava is doing really well. She is learning every day and loves to paint and read books with her mom and grandma. "She is such a happy child. I can't thank Development Centers enough for all of the support they gave us. Having your grandchild diagnosed with autism can be very scary, but they have given us so much support as a family, and that means the world to us."



*It's so hard to find activities for toddlers with autism, but they helped in every way possible.*



## Felicia and Joey's Story

A few years ago, Felicia's son Joey faced grown-up challenges at a very young age. Felicia was entangled in a difficult divorce and a close family member passed away in a tragic accident. At the age of 10, Joey was deeply depressed and had a hard time managing his anger and became suicidal. Felicia went to his guidance counselor at his school seeking support, "but I couldn't seem to find any help." She felt lost. Felicia discovered Development Centers, and with the passion and warmth of staff noticed major improvements in Joey's behavior right away.

However, in early spring of 2020 the pandemic added a new layer of difficulty. Felicia became severely ill for a couple of months, and soon after, Joey's grandfather passed away from COVID-19. "This was really difficult for him. The grief was overwhelming." Distraught from the passing of his grandfather, on the day of the funeral, Felicia and Joey realized they had a session scheduled with his therapist. The funeral was a drive through procession, so Joey dialed in to his appointment via Telehealth on his mom's phone. His therapist offered to reschedule, but he wanted to continue.

"It was so important for him to have someone to talk to in that moment. He needed his therapist that day and that was priceless." Felicia recalls one day in particular when Joey came out of his room after a session with his therapist and said with a sigh of relief, "Mom, it feels so good to have someone you can trust to talk to."

In addition to having someone to talk with, another value Felicia finds with her son's therapy is the family engagement activity assignments his therapist provides. Because Joey loves to learn new vocabulary words, one activity he and his mother really enjoy is reading together. They share interesting articles about science and nature, and in the evenings, they read the articles together and discuss what they learn.

Despite the challenges virtual learning brings, Joey is doing remarkably well. He is earning "A" grades in his classes and is staying active by running and being outdoors. Recently, for Black History Month, Joey and Felicia went to visit the birthplace of Martin Luther King Jr. in Atlanta. "Words cannot describe how helpful Development Centers has been for me and my son. Our relationship is so much stronger now."



*Mom, it feels so good to have someone you can trust to talk to.*



Joey and Felicia.



Joey at Belle Isle Park.



THANK YOUR FOR...

“Helping children, adults and families  
live healthier, happier lives.”

Thank!  
you!





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