



# Fletcher Flashes

## 2018 A Year of Growth

2018 was another stellar year of growth for Fletcher Place Community Center. As I reflect on my second year at Fletcher Place, I am proudest of 1) increasing revenue and controlling expenses ending the year in the black; 2) implementing a successful year end campaign; 3) increasing enrollment in preschool while solidifying the Great Families 2020 as an integral part of the program and 4) the relationships I have been able to establish with the Board, staff, volunteers, and partners.

This year I was amazed by the preschool parents who, after years of struggle and trauma, decided to invest in themselves by going back to school even when they were scared. They did it for their children and their future. Their strength and bravery was an inspiration to me and a reminder of why I do this work.

I was also amazed by the generosity of supporters. Checks came in the mail in honor of parents who had passed, stock gifts that had been sold in the organization's name and a plethora of donations from hundreds of supporters. Those gifts were a blessing to the thousands we serve.

When I came to the organization in 2017, I was amazed by the volunteers and donors who are the backbone of Fletcher Place. Nothing that has happened over the last two years would be possible without you. Thank you. The growth of the organization will continue because of your support.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve Fletcher Place Community Center. I feel blessed to serve the mission of Fletcher Place with all of you.

Gratefully,

Executive Director

### 2018 Outcomes

- **18,170** breakfast and dinner **hot meals** were served.
- **1,221 families** received over **30,366 meals** through the Food Pantry.
- **1,507 shoppers** made **9,485 visits** to the Thrift Store.
- **3,286 hygiene kits** provided to our homeless neighbors.
- **148 families** and their children received Christmas gifts.
- **2,831 volunteers** provided **10,693 hours** of volunteer service.
- **1 ton of fresh produce** harvested and distributed from the Community Garden.

### REACH Early Learning

For the 2018-19 school year, there are currently **23 students enrolled in preschool.**

- 36% are on vouchers and the other 64% are paying a reduced rate of between \$20-\$100 a week. 36% are paying \$20/week.
- **16 families** have been referred to Southeast to participate in the **Great Families 2020 Program** working with education, employment and financial coaches.
- **6 parents became employed** while their student was in preschool with us.
- 1 parent received their High School Equivalent (HSE) certificate and is now in EMT training.
- 2 additional parents currently in HSE classes

# Culinary Collage Celebrates 10 Years!

The 10th Annual Culinary Collage is taking place on **Sunday, May 19, 2019** at the Schwitzer Student Center located on the campus of the University of Indianapolis from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. The event is FPCC's annual fundraiser providing much needed support in our efforts to "take a bite out of poverty" in our community. We are proud to announce that **Kroger** will be the Title Sponsor for this year's event and is participating as one of our featured food vendors! Spend the afternoon enjoying unique food samples from our featured local eateries, live and silent auctions, grab bag raffles, animals from Silly Safaris, face painting and more.



Admission is easy: bring a \$10 Kroger gift card to help stock FPCC's food pantry or pay \$10 at the door. (Children under 12 are FREE, but must be accompanied by an adult and are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to help stock the food pantry.)

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for event updates and announcements as the event draws near! **Can't attend, but want to help? You can help sponsor the event or donate an auction item!** For more information, contact Robin Heldman at 317.694.5096 or e-mail her at robin@directconnectprinting.net



Netta Williams-Erby

## Meet Our Valuable Staff

Netta Williams-Erby has been with Fletcher Place as the Preschool Director since March 2017. Netta holds a bachelor's in Elementary Education from Indiana University. She brings 7 years of experience in preschool programming. Thanks to her efforts, FPCC is expanding preschool seats, maintaining Paths to Quality 3 status, and increasing education outcomes for our students and families. She has been integral in the turnaround of our preschool program and transition to REACH Early Learning.

## Did You Know You Can Help FPCC Break the Cycle of Poverty with Your Stock Gains?

If you are considering gifting to FPCC this year, we want to help. FPCC is set up as a 501c-3 tax deductible organization. This makes us eligible to receive both stocks and donations from donor advised funds, in addition to cash, check or charge of course. If you have a highly appreciated stock, rather than selling the stock, realizing the gain, and then gifting the proceeds, FPCC is set up to receive the stock directly. This should minimize your tax impact and maximize your charitable donation. For those donors that use a donor advised fund, we can provide your advisor with our EIN number so the donations can come directly from your Charitable Trust. For donors that have required minimum distributions, we can help you make qualified charitable distributions directly from your IRA. This helps meet your distribution requirement and reduces your tax exposure.



# REACH Early Learning is Now Enrolling for the 2019-2020 School Year



REACH Early Learning at Fletcher Place Community Center (FPCC) is a safe, traditional Paths-to-Quality Level 3 preschool focused on encouraging children to recognize their value and REACH for their full potential. Recognizing the southeast neighborhood of Indianapolis houses the largest number of children under 5 years of age and the role education can play in breaking the cycle of poverty, REACH Early Learning is committed to building a preschool as diverse as the community surrounding FPCC.

REACH Early Learning enrolls full pay, "On My Way" voucher, and need-based scholarships for three, four and five-year old students. We are now enrolling for the 2019-2020 school year. Call for a tour today!

For more information about preschool or to enroll your student for Fall 2019, please contact Netta Williams-Erby at **317.636.3466 ext. 3** or e-mail [netta@fletcherplacecc.org](mailto:netta@fletcherplacecc.org).

## Enrollment

Beginning March 1st,  
Monday-Friday from  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

## Special Enrollment Day

Saturday, June 1st  
10:00 am - Noon

with Special Guest,  
**SILLY SAFARIS**

EDUCATING AND SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH **RENEWAL, EMPOWERMENT, ACHIEVEMENT, COMPASSION AND HOPE.**



## Community Garden Project Enters Its 5th Year!



Our community garden project is celebrating its fifth year of providing affordable, accessible, healthy food options to our neighbors in need.

Prep and planting dates are scheduled for: **April 13th & 27th** and **May 11th & 25th** from 9:00 am to Noon. **Garden stand is scheduled to open June 1st.**

**Get Involved! Help prepare, plant, harvest, or staff the veggie stand!**

Interested in volunteering? Go to our website [www.fletcherplacecc.org](http://www.fletcherplacecc.org) and click on "volunteer matters" to sign up.



Fletcher Place Community Center has been serving our most vulnerable neighbors since 1872. Our roots are in the United Methodist Church. Today we continue to reach out "to the least" in ways that *help break the cycle of poverty.*

**Location:** 1637 Prospect St., Indianapolis, IN 46203  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 825, Indianapolis, IN 46206  
 317-636-3466 • [www.FletcherPlaceCC.org](http://www.FletcherPlaceCC.org)



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

### Donate Funds

- A \$50 donation feeds 20 people a hot meal.
- A \$100 donation provides 50 food pantry baskets to families in need.
- A \$150 donation provides hygiene kits and snack packs through our free Thrift Store.
- A \$250 donation supports our Community Garden Project.
- A \$800 donation covers a month of tuition for a student in our Preschool Program.



### Donate Goods

#### Snack Packs:

- Instant Oatmeal
- Ramen Noodles
- Cracker Packs
- Granola Bars
- Fruit Cups
- Fruit Snacks
- Pudding Cups
- Pop Top Soup & Tuna

#### Hygiene Kits (all in travel size):

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Soap
- Lotion
- Chapstick
- Band-Aids
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant

#### Food Pantry:

- Canned Goods (veggies, fruit, soups, meat, spaghetti rings/ravioli)
- Chili
- Rice
- Beans
- Cereal
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towel
- Shampoo
- Bar Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Laundry Soap
- Dish Soap
- Diapers
- Pads / Tampons
- Brown Grocery Bags

#### Thrift Store:

- Gently Used Clothing (all seasons, ages & sizes)
- School Uniforms
- Men's Jeans
- Socks
- Underwear
- Shoes / Boots
- Gently Used Towels/Wash Clothes
- Blankets
- Household Items Including Water Bottles

### Volunteer

Visit [www.FletcherPlaceCC.org](http://www.FletcherPlaceCC.org) and register for Volunteer Matters, then check out our amazing calendar of volunteer opportunities throughout the year! **Hot Meal Dates are still available for 2019!**