



Parker Lee Foundation  
Grant Report for 2022 Funds

Thank you to the Parker Lee Foundation (PLF) for your continued support of Directions for Youth & Families' (DFYF) youth centers. With the generous funding we received from PLF, we have been able to provide opportunities to our youth that would have otherwise been impossible. In 2022, you made it possible for the kids to see "Hamilton" at the Ohio Theatre, produce a youth-led production of "Annie", purchase uniforms for our dance group, provide healthy snacks, meals, and recipes to the kids and their families, put on family-focused events, go on field trips all around Columbus, and keep up with the supplies needed for Crittenton guinea pigs Mocha and Applejack.



DFYF is so appreciative of the generous and on-going support from the Parker Lee Foundation. Your donation of \$16,000 from the PBR10K'22 Tribute event is greatly appreciated and instrumental to our youth centers and the experiences provided. Additionally, Parker Lee was our first \$10,000 Gold Leaf on our Social Justice Tree for DFYF's Rooted in Change campaign for a new Crittenton Community Center in the Kimberly Parkway area (slated to be opened this summer)! We love the support that PLF has given us and has really allowed us to provide amazing experiences for our kids!

### Use of Funds

Since receiving the \$16,000 in September and \$12,500 in January we have spent around \$6,000 to date. This has been spent on the "extras," or all the fun stuff, and on experiences that funding from Franklin County Job & Family Services and ADAMH does not cover.

### Art! \$370.87



PLF has allowed the art programs at both of our Centers to flourish. From hands on experiences with classic painting, drawing, and crafting alongside our music and dance lessons, our Centers have been able to provide artistic experiences to our youth that aren't always available at their schools.



### **Snack Factory \$505.83**

Every day our kids have healthy snacks ready for them once they arrive to the Center from school. They are provided with a healthy meal halfway through our programming each evening. As part of our Life Skills program each youth is also provided with recipes for the inexpensive and healthy snacks and meals we provide at both of our Centers.

### **Field Trips \$1,843.17**

Oh, have we had some awesome field trips! One of the most exciting was that the after-school kids got to attend a production of “Hamilton”. Our kids have also gotten to visit dance studios, farms, and go on even more incredible adventures. With the location of both of our youth centers being far away from a lot of kid-friendly activities, these field trips provide unique experiences that would not normally be possible for our kids.

The kids truly enjoyed getting to see “Hamilton” at the Ohio Theatre. As you can see from the photo, the kids got dressed up for the occasion and their excitement was palpable. In the van on the way back we understand the atmosphere was “quite entertaining”. The kids couldn't stop raving about how good the play was as they re-enacted their favorite parts and attempted to sing the songs. Because of your funding, our kids got to experience a professional production that they will never forget.



### **Program Supplies: \$2,253.15**

Your funding helped support unique activities and the purchase of program supplies. This includes supplies for our education and prevention programming, recreation activities, youth business projects from the Business Club, the Girl’s Group, the Boy’s Group, and community service projects.

### **Events: \$920.59**

Since September our after-school programs have been busy with events! During the holiday break our Crittenton after-school program put on an excellent production of “Annie”. At the same time, our Ohio Ave Youth Center put on a wonderful Holiday Concert showing off the incredible talents of our kids.

Community Black History Celebration is always popular with the kids and their families. Dance & music performances along with art & entrepreneur projects were on beautiful display at



Crittenton and Ohio Avenue Youth Center's Black History Celebration. 85 after-school kids and over 150 parents and community members enjoyed a great evening of powerful messages.

One of our focuses we've had this year has been connecting with and more involvement of our kids' parents. To that end we held a (non-alcoholic) Sip and Paint Night where we had parents come and learn more about our program while having dinner. They enjoyed guided painting sessions with Ms. Joy, our Art Specialist.



### Looking to the Future!

We are close to finishing construction on our new Crittenton Community Center. To that end, we are saving up some of our funds to make sure that once our new Center opens that it will be full of the supplies we will need to give our kids the best programming possible. This will include art supplies for our new art room, games for our new game room, balls, mats, and other supplies for our new gym, and many, many other materials. We are very excited to open this new community center, not only because it will be centered in an area with few resources, but because it will double the amount of space for kids in our after-school and summer programs.



Thank you again Parker Lee Foundation for your continued support that allows us to provide our kids with exciting opportunities!