

### **OUR MISSION**

Gateway Children's Charity (GCC) raises funds to make high-impact, tangible investments in early childhood programs that support children living in underserved St. Louis communities.

Gateway Children's Charity is a 501(c)3 organization.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Gateway Children's Charity was founded in 2009 by a group of business leaders and parents of young children committed to giving more St. Louis children a strong start in life. They recognized that children's early years are a critical period of development that establishes the foundation their future learning and success is built upon. Too often, however, young children growing up in underserved St. Louis communities lack access to the resources and supportive environments all kids need to thrive. Gateway Children's Charity's founding board established the organization to fill a gap they observed in the local philanthropic landscape, raising and granting funds for organizations serving young children in need. In 2019, as the organization celebrated its tenth anniversary, Gateway Children's Charity honed its giving priorities to focus on enhancing the efficacy of existing programs and growing those already demonstrating positive impact.



## **IMPACT**



Gateway Children's Charity has raised more than \$1.2 million through its signature events and granted those funds to 15 local organizations expanding opportunity for young children facing the challenges of poverty in St. Louis. All of the projects funded directly impact the healthy growth and development of young children. They include building and playground improvements, pre-K and Kindergarten classroom resources, health screenings, technology investments, and city-wide program quality initiatives. In 2021, Gateway Children's Charity granted a total of \$160,000 to three grantees – City Garden Montessori School, North Side Community School, and Refuge and Restoration to expand access to high-quality programs and enhance student learning and development.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gateway Children's Charity pivoted to support early childhood programs and the families they serve navigate the hardships they face. GCC's Emergency Early Childhood Needs Fund, launched in April 2020, raised and granted funds for basic necessities like food, diapers, and formula.



### **GRANTEES**

To amplify the impact of high-quality early childhood programs, GCC awarded funds in 2021 to City Garden Montessori School for the expansion of the their pre-K classrooms, to North Side Community School for the renovation of their early childhood playground, and to Refuge and Restoration for the launch of their pre-K program.

Previous beneficiaries include:

- Beyond Housing 24:1 Initiative
- Center for Hearing and Speech
- City Academy
- Cornerstone Center for Early Learning
- Flance Early Learning Center
- Hilltop Child and Family Development Center
- KIPP St. Louis

- North Side Community School
- SouthSide Early Childhood Center
- S.T.A.R. for the Early Childhood Educator
- St. Cecilia Catholic Church
- St. Nicholas Catholic Church
- Unleashing Potential
- Urban Sprouts Child Development Center

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Board members are committed to improving the lives of young children in underserved communities.

- Mike Todorovich II President
- Tom Sheehan Vice President
- Annie Beattie
- Kyle Chapman
- Taylor Matthews
- Carolyn McCarthy

- Robert Minkler
- Lindsey Niemeier
- Tom Schmidt
- John Short
- Andy Spitzfaden

