



MERCY  
LEARNING  
CENTER

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

*What does it take to*

**CHANGE A LIFE?**

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## Meet Marisela

Marisela Nunez is one of the hundreds of women who attended Mercy Learning Center last year, determined to improve her life through education.

A few months after her birth in California, Marisela's parents moved their family to Mexico. They lived in a small farming town, and here her father taught her at a young age how to work and love the land.

When she was 18, Marisela moved back to California to work on a produce farm, with her parents hoping that she would have a better opportunity for education in the United States. It was hot, hard work, but Marisela felt at home among the fruit trees and her fellow workers who spoke Spanish.

When she moved to Connecticut two years later, things changed. She became isolated and afraid, not knowing how to speak English and living in a community where no one spoke Spanish.

"I didn't know any words. I didn't even know how to count in English. I couldn't advocate for myself or my newborn. I felt lost."

This is when Marisela came to Mercy Learning Center. **Today, her future is very bright...**

# What does it take

## TO CHANGE A LIFE?

*Dear Friends,*

What does it take to change a life? When faced with the challenges of today's world, what takes our students from surviving to thriving?

In the pages ahead, you will read the story of Marisela, a determined woman and mother who has embraced everything that Mercy Learning Center offers. **"Mercy Learning Center gave me my confidence back."**

Marisela is one of more than 16,500 women who Mercy Learning Center has empowered through education and support. For 36 years, we have cared for thousands of their children and made it possible for them to prioritize their studies.

By learning how to read and speak English, MLC students improve their academic skills, obtain their high school equivalency diplomas, become United States citizens, advocate for themselves and their families, obtain jobs with higher wages, pursue secondary education degrees, and independently navigate their community's resources. As one student recently shared, **"I am forever grateful I came across this program and staff. It changed my whole view of life, and this program made me want more for myself and for my family."**

Mercy Learning Center is about so much more than what happens in the classroom. We meet the basic needs of our students with free childcare and preschool, case worker support, emergency financial assistance, a food and diaper pantry, and more. By going above and beyond to keep our students coming to class, they can focus on their learning. As one student eloquently said, **"Every struggle, loss and pain was more opportunity for me to rise again."**

As you read through the pages of our annual report, you will see that with your consistent and generous support we are changing lives—together. And when our students realize what they are truly capable of achieving, anything and everything is possible for them.

What does it take to change a life? **You.**

**Thank you for being a part of our dream team.**



*Lindsay Wyman*

**Lindsay Wyman**  
PRESIDENT & CEO



*Tammy Barry*

**Tammy Barry**  
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# Our Classrooms,

## AND BEYOND...

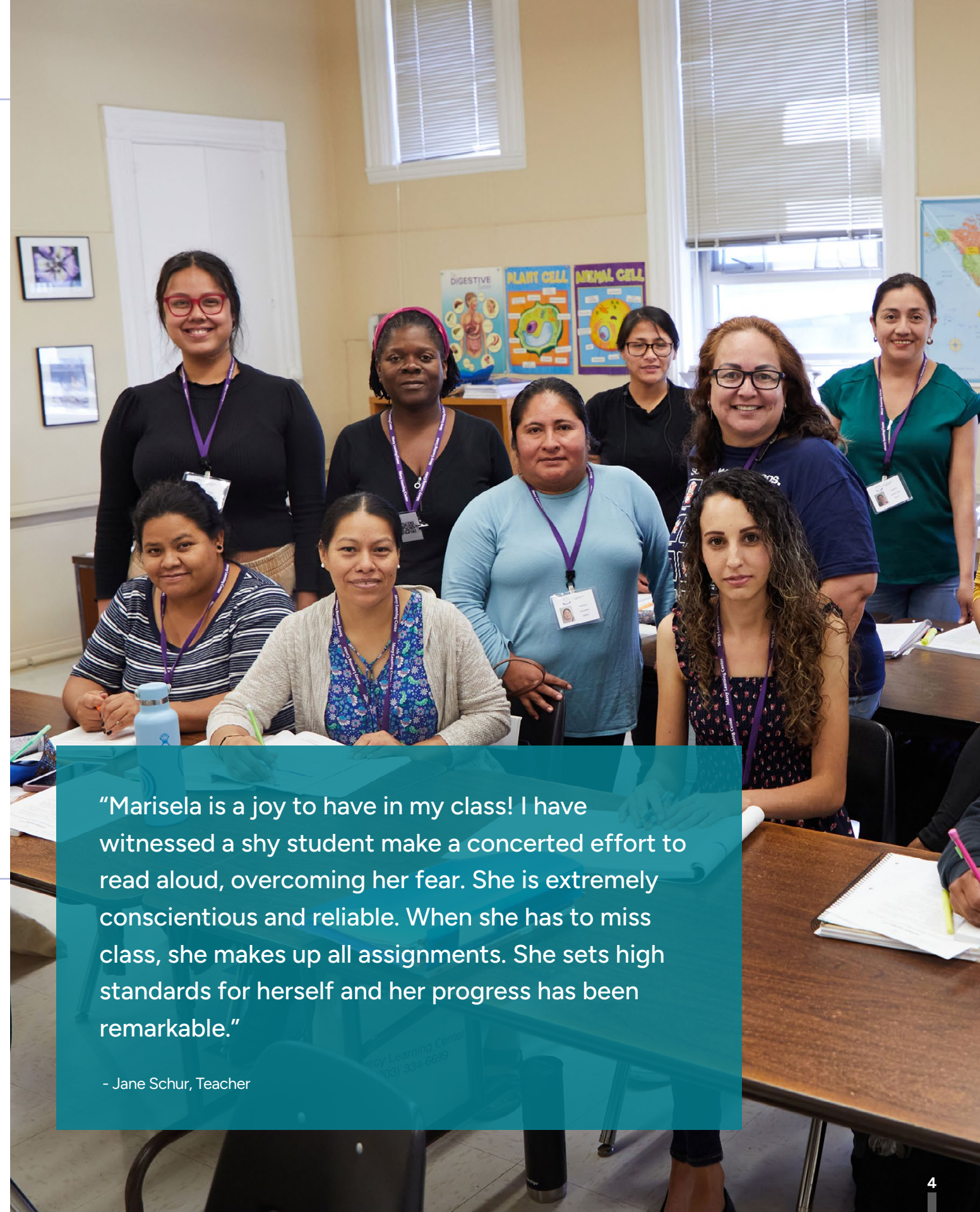
When Marisela arrived at Mercy Learning Center in 2019, we did what we do for each of our students. We assessed Marisela's unique needs and goals, and created an academic program tailored for her.

Marisela started out in our English as a Second Language program. After five years and more than 2,700 hours of classroom instruction, she has advanced to the top level of our Adult Basic Education instruction. The class is taught in English and is designed to develop

the literacy skills necessary to be a successful worker, citizen, and family member.

What makes Mercy Learning Center different from other adult education programs is that we go way beyond what happens in the classroom. Marisela started her educational journey at MLC with Emily, her beautiful three-month old baby, in tow.

**That's where our Early Childhood Education Program enters Marisela's story...**



"Marisela is a joy to have in my class! I have witnessed a shy student make a concerted effort to read aloud, overcoming her fear. She is extremely conscientious and reliable. When she has to miss class, she makes up all assignments. She sets high standards for herself and her progress has been remarkable."

- Jane Schur, Teacher

# Educate a woman...

## EDUCATE A FAMILY

When Marisela arrived at Mercy Learning Center, her classroom was on the third floor of our building. Emily, her baby, received childcare just one floor below, at no cost to Marisela's family. Over the next five years, Emily played, learned, and made friends—while her mom attended class. In May 2023, Emily was a member of the largest preschool graduating class in MLC's history, and now attends kindergarten.

Let's not forget about Leonardo, Emily's little brother. One year old and bursting with baby energy, today he receives childcare at MLC while Marisela continues to pursue her studies.

This is where our case worker team joins Marisela's story. By providing extra supports that ensure Marisela can focus on her education,

*we empower her entire family.*



**“Our students who are mothers cannot progress if their kids are not in a good learning environment. Luckily for them, their kids have a first-class learning environment at Mercy Learning Center so that they can focus on their own education.”**

- Wendy Anderson-Brachfeld, Teacher





## *We do whatever it takes*

Baby formula is expensive! So, when Leonardo was born our social services staff stepped in to ensure that he would receive the nourishment he needed so that Marisela did not have to worry.

Through the years, we have also provided food and diapers to Marisela's family, as well as assistance with registering Emily for kindergarten and securing free ballet classes for Emily during the summer.

By providing occasional support to help Marisela's family meet their basic needs, she could stay focused on her education.



Left to Right: Jane Schur, ABE Teacher; Dana Kuyper, ABE Teacher; Jeanette Lizondro, Director of Operations; Maria Moreno, Director, Early Childhood Education Program; Marisela Nunez; Coralys De Jesus, Lead Case Worker

*And that brings us to where Marisela is today...*

# Marisela today

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## **Mercy Learning Center gave me my confidence back.**

When I arrived to Connecticut, I was afraid to go to the store and afraid to answer the phone. I needed to learn English in order to advocate for myself and my children. Without English, I did not even understand what the doctor was saying when my children were ill.

I don't worry any more. I found myself again.

Emily is thriving in kindergarten, thanks to the Early Childhood Education program. And Leonardo receives excellent care while I continue my studies.

One day I would like to receive my high school equivalency diploma. And I want to explore a career in agriculture. I am inspired to nurture the love of the land that my father instilled in me.

The process will be hard...

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*But I know that this is where I want to be.*



**"Mercy Learning Center gave me my confidence back."**

# Our Programs



## Literacy & Life Skills Program

We provide our students the opportunity to learn English, acquire basic academic skills, become active members of their community, earn a high school equivalency diploma, and obtain their first job and/or employment with higher wages. It is open to women of all backgrounds and all services are free.

The Literacy & Life Skills core curriculum includes English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, Adult Basic Education classes (ABE), computer classes and enrichment workshops. Our dedicated staff is a combination of certified teachers and trained tutors.

We offer full-time and part-time sessions, and students often move back and forth between the two depending on their needs—and the needs of their families—at any point in time. The amount of time a student spends at MLC also varies greatly. While one student might be with us for six months, another might be with us for six years, or even longer!



## Support Services

Women with unmet basic needs cannot focus on educational success. To address this, our students have access to a comprehensive suite of support services—all at no cost to them. This differentiates Mercy Learning Center from other Fairfield County organizations—and most other Connecticut organizations—that provide literacy education.

A food and diaper pantry, case workers, licensed childcare/preschool, career and college counseling, citizenship assistance, referrals for legal and medical services, and much more are available on site. Students are encouraged to share challenges with staff so that barriers can be addressed. Consistent attendance and graduation are more likely due to the fact that our students can find needed supports in the same building where they attend class. With basic needs met, our adult students can prioritize their education.



## High School Equivalency Programs

We offer two options to secure a high school equivalency diploma.

General Educational Development (GED®) Test Prep Classes:

Our certified teachers help students prepare for and take the GED® test. This program covers all four test subjects: Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies.

National External Diploma Program (NEDP®) gives adults the opportunity to demonstrate high school-level skills through completing a portfolio of life skills and academic tasks, anywhere they have access to the Internet. It evaluates reading, writing, math and workforce-readiness skills with real-world relevance.



## Early Childhood Education Program

MLC embraces a holistic approach to removing hurdles to our adult students' success, and providing free, high-quality childcare and preschool is a cornerstone of our proven wraparound support system. Our student mothers are best able to focus on their own education when they know their children are being cared for, learning and playing in the nurturing environment of our Early Childhood Education Program.

Children who attend the ECEP receive support starting at 3 months of age through four years, in our compassionate and stimulating learning environments that are critical for kindergarten readiness in English-dominant classrooms. Mercy Learning Center's continuum of free infant care, toddler care, and preschool programming of the highest quality distinguishes it from other childcare organizations in Greater Bridgeport.

Children attend the Early Childhood Education Program in beautiful, clean, and colorful spaces, within the very same building where their mothers attend their own classes.



# Our Impact

Mercy Learning Center served **684** women and children during the **2022-2023** school year.

Our students came from **45** different countries and speak **17** languages!

Our youngest student was 17 years old and our oldest was 85. More than **70%** of our students fall between ages of 17 and 44.

**60%** of our students are mothers who have children 18 years old and younger.

**73%** of our students live in poverty, and nearly all of the remaining 27% live in ALICE (Asset-Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households, as defined by the United Way. While they might earn just above the poverty level, they cannot afford the basics of housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and technology.

Many of them work **one, two,** or sometimes even **three** jobs in addition to coming to class.



Regardless of their life circumstances, Mercy Learning Center students are committed to their education, and we are with them

*every step of the way.*

## Some powerful examples of

### LIFE-CHANGING WINS

**78** women found **stable jobs.**

**12** women earned **high school equivalency diplomas.**

**64** women were enrolled in **post-secondary education** programs.

**Karla** is from South Africa and is

**31** years old.

She set up her first Gmail account and can now **confidently look and apply** for jobs online.

**Eva** is from Guatemala and is

**20** years old.

This year she was able to **apply for and obtain her driver's license.**

**14** Women earned their **master's, bachelor's, or associate's degree,** or a career certification.

**Mary** is from Peru and is

**40** years old.

Her child has special needs. Mary's **improved English empowered her** to effectively participate in a parent/teacher conference.



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 Robert J. O'Neil  
 Catherine K. Ostrowski  
 Kellie Panus  
 Frances Pascale  
 Kristi Patterson

Anthony and Lynn Patti  
 Peter and Carol Pavone  
 Theresa Pellegrino  
 Paulette Pepin  
 Carole and Ronald Percival  
 Ashley Perkin  
 Barbara Perlick  
 Joseph R. and Lillian Pesce  
 Donald F. and Norma J. Peterson  
 James P. Pezzullo  
 Bonnie and Steven Pfann  
 Patricia A. and Joseph G. Pifko  
 Elaine Pivrotto  
 Anna B. Pizzoferrato  
 Susan Potter  
 William and Alice Osedach Powers  
 Patricia Primavera  
 Susan and Bill Prizio  
 Robyn D. Proto  
 Gail Mac Quarie  
 Audrey B. Rabinowitz  
 Stephen H. and Barbara G. Raffel  
 Eunice Rees  
 Ricki Reiner  
 Jan Ritzel  
 Thomas J. Roach and Maura R. O'Connor  
 Edward A. Sullivan III and Mary Roach Sullivan  
 Sabino Rodriguez  
 Michael and Sue Roer  
 Julie and Howard Rosenbaum  
 Susan and Lynn Rotando  
 Denis Ruane  
 Dalia Rudich  
 Fleur Rueckert  
 Kathleen Russell  
 Katie Rust  
 Barry and Regina Ryan  
 Donna Saia Davis  
 Sandra and Robert Santy  
 Kristen Sarty  
 Dr. Hasan Sarwar and Carol Sarwar  
 Ann Sather  
 Elizabeth and Frederick Schaefer  
 Robin Schemansky  
 Barbara Jean and Paul J. Schmidt  
 Muriel A. Scholz  
 Patricia Schroeder  
 Barbara Schroeter  
 Irene and Paul Schwabacher  
 Joan L. Scott

Susan Seath  
 Christopher and Carol Seiple  
 Linda Sershen  
 Skip and Peggy Shaeffer  
 Janet and Thomas Shanley  
 Marlene Sheehan  
 Caroline Sherman  
 Kim Sherwood  
 Genevieve R. Shore  
 Jean Shortliffe  
 Martha R. Siderowf  
 Walter and Barbara Siemon  
 Cristina Sinanian  
 Rita E. Skog  
 John Smith  
 Maureen Smith  
 Samantha Smith  
 Susan Smith  
 Catherine Sogorka  
 Suzanne Solensky  
 Rosemarie and Lidia Sotomayor  
 Patricia Spaght  
 Jacqueline Spano  
 Ellen Spear  
 Karen and Michael Speller  
 Donna B. Spigarolo  
 Ken Staffey  
 Kenneth and Christine Stamm  
 R. Douglas and Ellen H. Stevens  
 Jean and Alec Stevens  
 Trudy Stevens  
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 Nathalie S. Taranto  
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 Regina Trimble  
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 Christina Van Gemert  
 Virginia Van Pelt  
 Jerusha Vogel

Carole Wainer  
 Kenneth Walewski  
 Beverly Walsh  
 Sandy and Kevin Walsh  
 William and Nancy Walsh  
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 Barclay and Joan Ward  
 Sheila Ward  
 Charles and Mary Welch  
 Nancy Wilder  
 George and Arla Wiles  
 Bess Williams  
 Sue Wittekind  
 Dan Woog  
 Ellen M. Wulf and Eben M. Riordan  
 Melanie Wyler  
 Sylvia B. and Robert S. Yasner  
 Stephen Zeldes



## Cash Contributions Foundations

AdvanceCT Foundation, Inc.  
Affinity Federal Credit Union Foundation  
Andrews Family Foundation  
Apple Pickers Foundation  
Bedford Family Social Responsibility Fund  
Bucks Creek Foundation  
Elisabeth C. DeLuca Foundation, Inc.  
Elizabeth Carse Foundation  
Elizabeth M. Pfriem Foundation  
Ernest C. Trefz & Joan Trefz Foundation  
Everett Bulkley Trust  
Fairfield County's Community Foundation  
Flavia P. Finucane Charitable Trust  
Franklin Philanthropic Foundation  
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Idella Stuart Hempstead Trust  
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Nancy Jones Beard Foundation  
New Alliance Foundation  
New Canaan Community Foundation  
Newman's Own Foundation, Inc.  
Quidditch Foundation, Inc.  
Robert M. Schiffman Foundation  
Ruscito and Head Family Foundation  
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Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation  
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The Andrew and Barbara Bangser Charitable Foundation Inc.  
The Banyan Tree Fund - Leo & Ida Davidoff  
The Caldwell Stair Charitable Trust  
The Cyrus W. & Amy F. Jones & Bessie D. Phelps Foundation  
The Delaney Memorial Foundation  
The Elizabeth Bond Davis Foundation  
The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation  
The Gendell Family Foundation  
The George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation  
The Goodnow Fund  
The Huntington Foundation  
The Inner-City Foundation for Charity & Education  
The John and Ethel Kashulon Foundation  
The Joyce & Bernie Zimmerman Foundation  
The Kreitler Foundation, Inc.  
The McPhee Foundation  
The Robert F. and Maureen T. O'Keefe Family Foundation

The Wilson Sheehan Foundation  
Thomas and Jeanne Elmezzi Private Foundation  
TisBest Philanthropy  
Wilmot Wheeler Foundation, Inc.

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Amazon Smile Foundation  
Biogen  
Bridget Lyons Consulting, LLC  
Burr Property Management  
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation  
Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
EBPC of Hartford Inc.  
K.I.T.T. Inc  
Kmetz, Tobias & Associates, LLC  
M&T Charitable Foundation  
McKinsey  
Publicis  
R.C. Bigelow, Inc.  
Santa Fuel, Inc.  
Stop and Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program  
Synchrony  
TD Charitable Foundation  
The Allstate Foundation  
TisBest Philanthropy  
Walmart  
Webster Bank

## Cash Contributions Corporate Matching Gifts

Chevron Humankind  
Eversource  
Gartner  
Guardian  
IBM Employee Charitable Contribution Campaign  
Marsh & McLennan Companies  
Mass Mutual  
PepsiCo Foundation  
Pitney Bowes  
Synchrony  
United Illuminating Company & Southern Connecticut Gas Company  
Walt Disney Company Foundation

## Cash Contributions Government

Connecticut Department of Education  
Office of Early Childhood

## Cash Contributions Local Organizations, Churches, Schools

American Association of University Women Bridgeport  
Bridgeport Ladies Charitable Society  
BL Williams Associates  
Fairfield Rotary Foundation  
First Church Congregational  
FOUND  
Greenfield Hill Congregational Church  
H Smith Richardson Women's Golf Association  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Near & Far Aid Association, Inc.  
Nichols United Methodist Church  
PEO Chapter AG  
Rotary Club of New Canaan  
Sacred Heart Parish, Mustard Seed Fund  
Southport Congregational Church  
St. Joseph High School  
The Academy of our Lady of Mercy, Luralton Hall  
The Congregational Church of Green's Farms  
The Unitarian Church in Westport  
Trumbull Community Women  
Trumbull Rotary Foundation, Inc.  
USA Basketball  
Westport Rotary Club Foundation  
Westport Sunrise Rotary Club  
Women's Fellowship of First Congregational Church of Greenwich

## Cash Contributions Estates

Estate of Benjamin B. Lewis  
Estate of Ruth I. Krauss  
The Helen Breznicky Testamentary Charitable Trust

## In-Kind Donations Individuals

Anonymous  
Shereen Abdel-Meguid  
Mark and Susanne Addressi  
Jillian Adelsberg  
Simin Allison  
Allison and Anthony Allott  
Wendy Anderson Brachfeld and Kenneth Brachfeld  
Ulla Atweh  
Hilde Azarian  
Claudine Barbosa  
Sharon and Dwight Barns

Steven and Tammy Barry  
Deborah L. Beall and Donald Ehman  
Jenny Bentley  
Patrick and Gina Beranek  
Gina and Shane Berry  
Bruce Bloomfield  
Arthur Bonvini  
Donna Bowers  
Susan Burstein  
Sean and Kim Carney  
Mary and Kevin Carroll  
Bill and Erika Carter  
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Mary Colacurcio  
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The Dalton Family  
Catherine Davis  
Izaura De Oliveria  
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Esther Essiflie Mejias  
Elisa and Jack Esteves  
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Perry and Nanette Gandelman  
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Kevin Geoghegan  
Amy Gershberg  
Sharoon Gonzalez  
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Matthew and AnnMarie Massie  
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Bessy Medina  
Anne and Frank Mele  
Luis Melendez  
Bill and Stephanie Meury  
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GDC Properties  
Celine Moriya  
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Samantha Murray  
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Marcia Puma  
Joselynn Quinones  
Sherry Rago  
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Meg Reilly  
Alexa Restifo  
Amy Ribber  
Amy L Rivera  
Joan A. Roach  
Paula and Ronald Schooler  
Karen and Bob Scott  
Bhuvana Selvadurai  
John and Stella Seo

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Josh and Sara Shapiro  
Ann Sherwood and James Foreman  
Ellen Spear  
Karen and Michael Speller  
Amy St. Onge  
Gaeton and Geraldine Stella  
Barbara A. Stephen  
Patricia and Richard Stone  
Barbara and Jon Sweeney  
Lea and David Sylvestro  
Peter Teed and Maura Keenan  
Darcey Travlos  
Mary Helen Veronesi  
Candace Wagner  
Susan Wakefield Esq.  
Arielle Wein  
Jamie Weinstein  
Theresa Welch  
Patricia L. White  
Kathleen and Andy White  
Emily Wood  
Elizabeth Zarrilli

## In-Kind Donations Corporations & Businesses

Bridgewater Associates  
Brody Printing Company, Inc.  
Burlington Stores No. 1036  
Burlington Stores No. 22  
Celonis  
Hansen's Flower Shop  
Panera, LLC  
Philips North America  
R.C. Bigelow, Inc.  
Synchrony  
Transparensa Fuels, LLC



## In-Kind Donations Local Organizations, Churches, Schools

APT Foundation  
 Central High School  
 Christ & Holy Trinity Church  
 Christ & Holy Trinity Preschool  
 Church of the Assumption  
 Congregation Beth El  
 Fairfield College Preparatory School  
 Fairfield Country Day School  
 First Church Congregational  
 Greenfield Hill Congregational Church  
 Greens Farms Garden Club  
 H Smith Richardson Women's Golf Association  
 Harmony on the Sound Chorus  
 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
 Homes for the Brave  
 Loaves and Fishes  
 Monroe Women's Club, Inc.  
 National Charity League of Westport  
 Northeast Community Cycles  
 Notre Dame High School  
 Rehabilitation Associates  
 Southport Congregational Church  
 St. Francis Cabrini Columbiettes  
 St. Joseph High School  
 St. Joseph Parish  
 St. Lawrence Church  
 St. Pius X Church  
 St. Theresa Parish  
 Staples High School  
 The Academy of our Lady of Mercy, Luralton Hall  
 The Community at Hollander House  
 The Congregational Church of Green's Farms  
 The Unitarian Church in Westport  
 The Unquowa School

Trinity Episcopal Church  
 Trumbull Community Women

### In Honor Of

Bette Ann Bailey  
 Steven & Tammy Barry  
 Tammy Barry  
 The Barry Family  
 Debbie Beall  
 Barbara R. Evans  
 Sister Eileen Boffa  
 The Brachfeld Family  
 Zachary Cecere  
 Hayes and Clare Clark  
 Roseanna Coleman  
 Emerald Company  
 Fairfield Motherhood Coop  
 Jessica Donahue  
 Peg Donohue  
 Susan Eckert  
 The Famulare, Georgia, Leary, Nallen, Smith & Sylvain Families  
 Theanne and Matt Feldman  
 Christal Ferrandino  
 Jane E. Ferreira  
 Alice Fitzpatrick  
 Diane Ganzak  
 The Adam Greenlee Foundation  
 Judith Guthman  
 Michael Ian  
 Francine Jacques  
 The Kreter Family  
 Janet Maloof, Mary Gibbons, and Mary Kaye Moynihan  
 Jim Roach's 90th birthday  
 Kilgallon Family Fund  
 Albert and Alida Kleban  
 Marianne Laska  
 Caitlin Ludlow  
 MLC GED Recipients  
 MLC Staff, Students, and Tutors  
 Mr. & Mrs. Arias' Wedding Guests

Suzy Nachman  
 John Nallen  
 Pat and John Nallen  
 Pat Nallen  
 Mami Ngombabu  
 Sharon Poole  
 Judy Rahmani  
 Sumintra Ramlogan  
 Maureen and Scott Sawyer  
 Maureen Sawyer  
 Josh and Sara Shapiro  
 Eric Speer  
 Ellen Stevens  
 Paul Sweeney  
 Lea Sylvestro  
 Winston Tellis  
 Alexia Vlosky  
 Michele Williams  
 Michele Williams and Mark Loughridge

### In Memory Of

Barbara Abraham  
 Wynne Abrams  
 Lorraine Barnard  
 John Beecher Bennett  
 Keith R. Berry  
 Mary Berry  
 Nancy Bonvini  
 Mozella Burns  
 Samuel Burstein, PhD  
 Libby Cailen  
 Ilene and Irving G. Calish, Sr.  
 Rita Campbell and Linda Larkin  
 Edward Canning  
 Ronald Caruso  
 Paola Cerruti  
 Ronald A. Clayton  
 Beth B. Davis  
 Janet and Ralph DeFonce  
 Jacqueline Donovan

Mary Ann Farley  
 Marguerite and John Ferreira  
 Fanya Gandelman  
 Jack Halloran  
 Lucille and Edward Hannafey  
 Rosemary Hanrahan  
 Richard Hilli  
 Judy Lynn Johnson  
 Julia Kennedy  
 Mark King  
 Patricia Kosarko  
 Dr. Gerald Kuroghlian  
 Mary Lang  
 Dorothy and Pat Lapera  
 Brian Laska  
 Catherine Leach  
 Jared Levine  
 Ruth Mahony  
 Julia Mally  
 Philip Marsilius  
 Elsie Martinez  
 Timothy McCaffrey  
 Rhea and Peter Meehan  
 Edna M. Miller  
 Ruth B. Mulhall  
 Sgt. Major Todd M. Parisi, USMC  
 Kay and Ken Parker  
 Dr. James P. Roach  
 Doris Rolander  
 Madonna Sacco  
 Patricia B. Scullion  
 Thelma Serenbetz  
 Luz Noelia Sotomayor and Francisco Sotomayor  
 Jean Stepanowski  
 John Francis Thumel  
 James P. White Jr.  
 Joann Whitman  
 Winnifred Wittlin

# Board Committees

## EXECUTIVE

Tammy Barry, **Chair**  
 Eric Speer, **Vice-Chair**  
 Gina Beranek, **Secretary**  
 Roseanna Coleman, **Treasurer**

## STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mary Butala  
 Theanne Feldman  
 Marcia Lim  
 Eric Speer

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Eric Speer, **Chair**  
 Tammy Barry  
 Gina Beranek  
 Theanne Feldman  
 Jennifer Hicks  
 Michael Ian  
 Stella Seo  
 Brian Wenzel

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Roseanna Coleman, **Chair**  
 Ken Brachfeld  
 Carol Burton  
 Hayes Clark  
 John Connolly  
 Peter Labonski  
 AnnMarie Massie  
 Beth Peto  
 Brian Wenzel

## GOVERNANCE & NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tammy Barry, **Chair**  
 Allison Allott  
 Barbara Kleban  
 Caitlin Ludlow  
 Antoinette Moro  
 Stella Seo





## Staff List

Wendy Anderson-Brachfeld	Aury Garcia	Sonia Mejia
Amy Aguilar	Francisca Garzon	Suzy Mercado
Linda Ashby	Emil Gonzalez	Kathryn Mitchell
Susanna Bustamante	Monica Guerrero	Lamyaa Mohammedsalih
Cesia Cardenas	Stephanie Hill	Rebecca Newman
Candelaria Capistran	Lydia Irizarry	Amy Rivera
Daniela Cedeno	Yeril Jimenez	Jessica Rosado
Katherine Collins	Elizabeth Kelly	Alla Schlata
Hannah Cox	Monica Kerkes	Jane Schur
Alejandra Cuevas	Lauren Kruzshak	Cheryl Shavers
Mariela Davila	Dana Kuyper	Monique South-Smith
Coralys De Jesus	Emily Lehrman	Anika Walker
Peg Donohue	Amy Maloof	Lori Wenke
Elizabeth Flatto	Denice Marrero	Regina Wrenn
Lynn Gabriel	Ana Martinez	

## Volunteers

Allison Allott	Paul Harris	Lori Reszutek
Tammy Barry	Tom Healy	Alexandra Richards
Deborah Beall	Jean Heffernan	Barbara Roeder
Gina Beranek	Suzanne Herlihy	Mirta Sawicki
Cynthia Bernard	Jennifer Hicks	Frederick Schaefer
Lindsay Blackburn	Barbara Hudetz	Linda Schwartz
Regina Bobroske	Michael Ian	Feria Sewell
Donna Bowers	Lauren Kruzshak	Mayra Silva
Michael Boyle	Jean Larson	Jeri Silverman
Prill Boyle	Marianne Laska	Eric Speer
Lina Cardozo	Amy Levantin	Mary Spiegel
Carmen Castedo	Marcia Lim	Susan Sproviero
Donna Cervero	Gail M. Marton	Steve Stavrides
Linda Chandler	Annmarie Massie	Ellen Stevens
Hayes B. Clark	Lorena Melgar Olivares	Herbert Sue
Mary Beth Clayton	Tom Miller	Ted Sullivan
Roseanna Coleman	Michael Moore	Paul Sweeney
Catherine Cron	Fran Nicholas	Kim Taylor
Catherine Davis	Alicia O'Malley Fraguada	Kathy Thackaberry
Johnna DeSantis	Andrea Ondak	Lynne Todisco
Janina Dobkowski	James Ondak	Nancy Van Beusekom
Cheryl Dowd	Paulette Onorato	John Warburg
Antoinette Farrugia Moro	Louise Perkins	Richard White Jr.
Amy Feinman	Elizabeth Pitts	Christyn Whitney
Janice Fields	Sharon Poole	Michele Williams
Tracy Fiore	Elizabeth Power	Elizabeth Zarrilli
Heidi Flicker	Andrew Rankowitz	Ronni Zinn
Deborah Graser	Kathryn Reidy	
Eva Grundy	Ricki Reiner	

# Board of Directors

- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Tammy Barry, <b>Chair</b>          | Eric Speer, <b>Vice Chair</b>  |
| Roseanna Coleman, <b>Treasurer</b> | Gina Beranek, <b>Secretary</b> |
| Mary Butala                        | Marcia Lim                     |
| Theanne Chivily Feldman            | Caitlin Ludlow                 |
| Jennifer Hicks                     | Antoinette Farrugia Moro       |
| Michael Ian                        | Stella Seo                     |
| Barbara Kleban                     | Brian J. Wenzel, Sr.           |

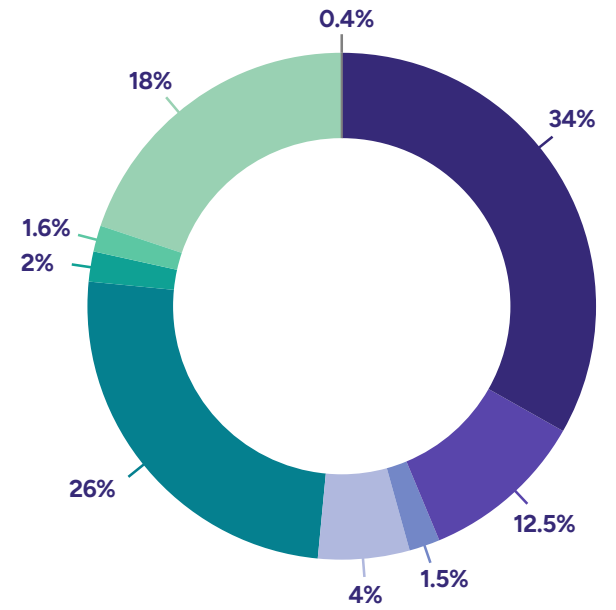
# Leadership Team

- Lindsay Wyman, **President & CEO**
- Jeanette Lizondro, **Director of Operations**
- Ann McCarthy, **Director of Development**
- Maria Moreno, **Director, Early Childhood Education Program**
- Kiko Teed, **Director of Curriculum**

# Financial Summary

## SUPPORT & REVENUE

● Individual Donations	\$1,604,520
● Private Donations	\$577,320
● In-Kind Donations	\$70,659
● Government Grants	\$188,004
● Endowment	\$1,193,767
● Corporate	\$95,824
● Local Organizations	\$75,600
● Investment Gain	\$845,930
● Realized & Unrealized Gain on Beneficial Interest	\$2,181
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>	<b>\$4,653,805</b>

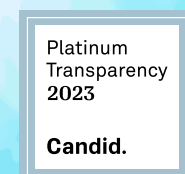


## EXPENSES

● Program	\$2,554,800
● Management & General	\$226,461
● Fundraising	\$171,519
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,952,780</b>



Mercy Learning Center has received a 4-Star rating for sound fiscal management, commitment to accountability, and transparency from Charity Navigator for the ninth consecutive year. MLC also holds the Platinum Level rating from Candid.



Audited financial statements and IRS 900 Report are available at: [www.mercylearningcenter.org](http://www.mercylearningcenter.org)



637 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604  
(203) 334-6699 | [info@mercylearningcenter.org](mailto:info@mercylearningcenter.org)  
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