

# The Child & Family Network Centers

2017-2018 IMPACT REPORT

THANK YOU FOR

**BUILDING MINDS AND SHAPING FUTURES**



THE  
CHILD &  
FAMILY  
NETWORK  
CENTERS

# You've helped CFNC build minds and shape futures for 138 children.

For 34 years, The Child & Family Network Centers (CFNC) has provided free early education for Alexandria's most at-risk children. However, CFNC's mission isn't just to provide education services. Our purpose is to provide caring, high quality, pre-kindergarten and family support so that the entire family, not just the child, is prepared for success in school and in life.

This year, we are particularly proud of the results our students achieved. Of our 138 children across 8 classrooms in Alexandria, 96% of children are kindergarten ready based on their year-end assessment. While this statistic is impressive, we're only able to produce results like this because of you.

**It's because of you** that CFNC was able to reinstate our after-school program, giving working parents more flexibility and CFNC students more quality instruction and play time. **It's because of you** that we were able to reintroduce our summer program for children who need more time in the classroom. **It's because of you** that this year, and every year, CFNC students and families achieve unparalleled academic gains and results.

At the end of the day, it truly takes a village. [CFNC's success is your success.](#) For that, we thank you. Inside, take a look at the impact you made this year. It is truly remarkable.

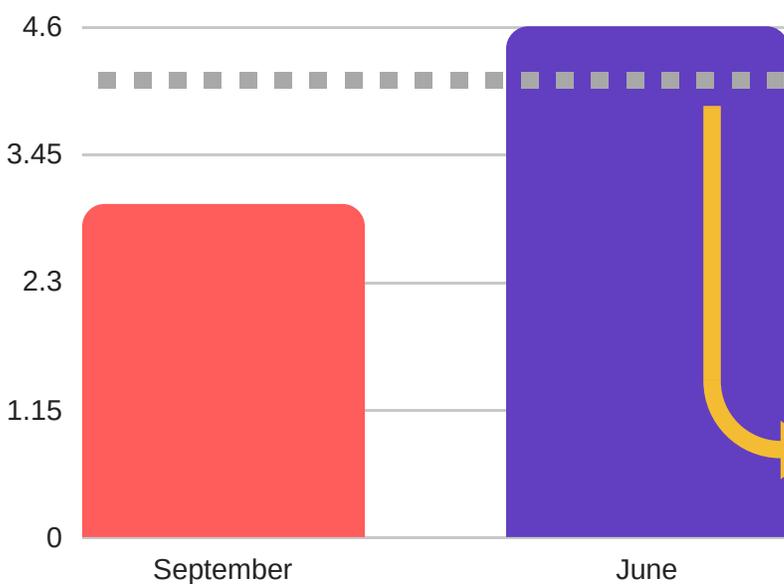
With Gratitude,  
Lisa Ferrari Carter  
Executive Director



# Unparalleled Academic Gains

## T H A N K S T O Y O U . . .

- **138 children** from low income families are entering kindergarten ready to learn
- **111 children** from 19 countries speaking 7 languages improved their language skills by an **average of 1.3 levels**
- 16,793 books were checked out of CFNC's libraries, that's an **average of 121 books per student**



From September 2017 to June 2018, CFNC students improved their language, literacy, and math skills an average of 1.6 levels, as measured by the COR Advantage assessments.

According to COR, 3.75 is considered kindergarten ready.

**Because of you, CFNC students are almost a full level ahead of the kindergarten readiness expectations.**



# You've Changed Caspian's Life

Many of CFNC's students start the school year far below the developmental range for literacy skills. If you met Caspian today, you'd never guess that he was one of those students. In September, Caspian could hardly recognize the alphabet, make letter sounds, or write his name. At the beginning of the year, Caspian's absences were frequent. His mom, a single mother of five children (Caspian being the youngest), had difficulty finding reliable transportation to get Caspian to school every day.

CFNC noticed these absences, and instead of giving warnings to the parent, Caspian's teachers, family support worker, and CFNC's Program Director formed a tight knit team to provide as much support to Caspian and his mother that they possibly could.

Caspian loved school. He wanted to come every day. And we knew that if he could just get to CFNC, his literacy levels would improve dramatically. After developing close relationships with his family and staying in constant communication, Caspian's attendance improved. He even participated in our after-school program to give mom more flexible work hours and Caspian more time to learn, play, and interact with children his own age.

Of course, Caspian's improvements are visible in his end of year assessments. His name writing, letter sounds, and letter recognition have improved drastically – he's at the kindergarten readiness level. In fact, his rhyming abilities are even above the readiness standard!

**Thanks to you, Caspian – and his mom – are ready for kindergarten.** Without the support of CFNC, Caspian may have started kindergarten without the essential skills to thrive in kindergarten and beyond. **You've made that difference, thank you.**



# Supportive, active, and engaged families are essential for success in the classroom.

## RESULTS FOR OUR FAMILIES

- **100% of parents achieved 181 goals** - from finding better housing, to obtaining insurance, to advocating for their child's education
- **109 families** attended 4 educational workshops, including one on kindergarten readiness and enrollment
- 138 families received at least 2 home visits, for **a total of 301 home visits**



## CFNC creates Parent Advisory Council

Part of why our children see such high academic gains is because of CFNC's dedication to our family support program. In the 2017-2018 school year, CFNC created the first Parent Advisory Council (PAC) to open a family feedback channel and engage parents in the day to day of the CFNC program. The advisory council encourages families to get involved in their child's education in a whole new way. The council, which had parent representatives from each of our 8 classrooms, gave parents an opportunity to have direct input on the type of programming CFNC was offering.

Under the leadership of our Program Director, the Council aided in enrollment, gave feedback on logistics such as hours and locations, and helped CFNC ensure that our programs were meeting the needs of families as much as possible. The PAC even played a role in developing our strategic plan for the next three years. We look forward to growing and expanding our Council next year, and continuing to improve our program for the families in our community.



# Healthy Kids Make for Active Learners

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM RESULTS

- **132 students were screened for vision** and 30 received follow up services
- 95 students were screened for hearing issues and **8 received follow up services**
- **132 students were screened for dental issues** and 39 received follow up services
- 14 children were screened for developmental delays and **3 are currently receiving additional support**



# Zayna's Journey through Speech Therapy

It's simple. An unhealthy child isn't at their fullest potential to learn and grow. And we don't just mean a sick child – we mean a child who can't see, who might have hearing issues, a tooth ache, speech or developmental delays, or even has poor eating habits. CFNC's goal is to knock down as many barriers as possible for our students so that they can focus on reaching their full potential and grow up as happy, healthy, and intelligent people. That's why our health and wellness program is so important.

If you've visited our classrooms at any point in the 2017-2018 school year, it would be hard for you not to notice Zayna. Zayna (or "Zuzu" as her family calls her) is a bright, bubbly little girl with an eagerness to learn and intense sense of curiosity.



Her sweet, high voice and precious smile can brighten anyone's day. Zayna's family speaks Arabic at home, and while her English skills were excellent, she struggled with certain speech skills. Her teachers, upon noticing she may need support, worked with her family support worker to evaluate her speech skills. In just a few short weeks, Zayna was receiving speech therapy services in the classroom weekly. This individualized therapy helped Zayna soar through CFNC's program, and allowed her to excel in her "letter sounds" category at the year end assessment.

Without CFNC, Zayna wouldn't have received the speech services she needs to be successful. It's because of you that Zayna is ready to flourish in kindergarten. She will still continue to receive speech therapy services next year.



# CFNC's Success is Your Success

SEE WHAT ELSE YOU MADE POSSIBLE...

- 138 children received a new, warm winter coat
- 138 children received holiday gifts
- 110 families received a turkey and fixings for thanksgiving
- 138 children received 5 books to take home and build their summer library
- 138 children received backpacks filled with school supplies
- 8 classrooms were fully stocked with school supplies, craft supplies, books, and more
- 3 playgrounds received new mulch
- 3 classrooms received fresh coats of paint
- 2 classrooms received brand new flooring
- CFNC reinstated our after school program for more than 50 students
- CFNC reintroduced our summer program for 24 students



# Building Minds and Shaping Futures in 2018-2019

## GIVE A CHILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Announcing our 2018-2019 Brighter Futures Society. You can support CFNC kids today, tomorrow, and long into the future. While CFNC services are free for students and families, we rely on supporters like you to provide scholarships to our students. Interested in financially supporting a scholarship for a CFNC student? Contact Maggie Klefstad at [mklefstad@cfnc-online.org](mailto:mklefstad@cfnc-online.org) or 703-836-0214 ext 238



**LEAVE YOUR LEGACY**  
Your legacy can be the future of Alexandria's children. Please keep us mind for your will and trusts, and know that your commitment to children, education, and our community will live long into the future.

## JOIN US FOR RELAY FOR PRE-K

Join us September 22, 2018 at 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria, VA for CFNC's brand new community event and fundraiser. Relay for Pre-K is designed to bring the community together and raise awareness of the importance of early education. Start a team, fundraise, and join us on September 22nd for a fun filled community event and walk! Visit [relay.cfnc-online.org](http://relay.cfnc-online.org) for more information.





# Donate to our annual school supply drive!

Help us collect school supplies so our teachers and students have everything they need for a successful 2018-2019 school year. Contact Anna Shults at [ashults@cfnc-online.org](mailto:ashults@cfnc-online.org) or 703-836-0214 ext 227 for questions.

- Packs of easel paper
- White glue gallon jugs
- Glue sticks
- Jumbo beginner pencils
- Crayola washable paint gallons (all colors)
- Play-Doh
- Water color paint
- Pom-poms
- Googlie eyes
- Feathers
- Popsicle sticks
- Felt
- Tissue paper
- Pipe cleaners
- Balls for outdoor play
- Card stock
- Manila folders (letter sized)
- Envelopes
- Pens
- Papertowels
- Tissues







Our mission is to provide caring, high quality, free education and related services to at-risk children and families in their own neighborhoods in order to prepare and empower them for success in school and life.

3700 Wheeler Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22304

Contact  
Maggie Klefstad  
mklefstad@cfnc-online.org  
703-836-0214 ext 238

[www.cfnc-online.org](http://www.cfnc-online.org)  
@cfncpreschool