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## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

### Create Your Legacy with Planned Giving

Consider the impact your legacy can have on Greater Cincinnati children and families. Planned giving ensures that our work continues to benefit future generations. Contact us to learn more about how you can contribute.



<https://beechacres.org/donate-in-your-will/>



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# EVOLVING ON PURPOSE

As we embark on our next 175 years, Beech Acres is purposefully evolving with a steadfast commitment to strengthening families and securing a stronger future for all. Our 2025 vision is anchored to innovative programs that build on our foundation of prevention while continuing to extend our work to support hard-to-reach underserved communities. We are expanding our social-emotional curriculum for teen moms to include students in Covington, KY. In response to growing needs, we are broadening our bilingual services and in-school initiatives to ensure every child can thrive, regardless of their circumstances. We are also excited to roll out our new preschool Ready, Set, Grow initiative, offering the essential strength-based enrichment critical for developing brains.

This Spring, we are launching Parent Connex's groundbreaking parenting app—the first of its kind—putting personalized, expert guidance at parents' fingertips. Additionally, our Service Access Team is working with Ohio Children's Alliance to provide a twelve-part workshop for member organizations to help them create belonging in their statewide programming.

As Cincinnati's leading foster care agency, we hold true to our core vision of giving every caregiver and child access to the support, education, and resources needed to ensure our youth can reach their endless potential.

We thank all our supporters for their ongoing commitment that makes all this work possible.

Sincerely,

Laura Mitchell



**Beech Acres has been awarded Nonprofit of the Year in the Foster Care Placement category at the 5th Annual Cincy Magazine Nonprofit of the Year Awards—for the second consecutive year! Thank you to our dedicated team, foster parents, and supporters.**



## Grow a Legacy of Love

We are thrilled to extend the opportunity to join our Beech-Family tree planting campaign in 2025! This inspiring canopy of green symbolizes and celebrates the countless family love stories that flourish across our region. Plant a tree in honor of your family and watch it grow for generations to come!

Visit [beechacres.org/175-tree-planting/](https://beechacres.org/175-tree-planting/) for more information.



## HONORING NEW AND ENDURING PARTNERSHIPS

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# Millstone Fund Awards \$1.1 Million to Expand Access and Empower Families



In this edition of *Insiders' Scoop*, we are excited to share a significant milestone in Beech Acres Parenting Center's endeavor to advance equity and inclusion. With the support of \$1.1 million in grants from the Millstone Fund, we are taking bold steps to expand our culturally responsive services, particularly among the Hispanic/Latino community at St. William School in West Price Hill. This work's novelty hinges on **transforming communities by strengthening the families that shape our collective prosperity**. The project's place-based approach concentrates efforts within the schoolhouse, offering a unique platform that intersects children, caregivers, and educators.

Building on years of collaboration and trust with St. William, our youth mental health services are now complemented by strength-based parent coaching workshops and teacher professional development to engage the influential adults in a child's life. The additional element of **caregiver support empowers families with the tools to build resilience, healthy relationships, and stability within the home**. Meanwhile, our evidence-based curriculum, *The Character Effect™*, equips educators with strategies to elevate student assets and foster a school-wide culture of strengths.

A significant percentage of the St. William School community is Spanish-speaking, and more than a third identify as Hispanic/Latino. With an overarching goal to increase equity and engagement among these families, Beech Acres ensures bilingual staff are present to provide same-language support. In addition to investing in translation devices, all program materials are available in English and Spanish to promote an inclusive hub for emotional wellness that strengthens St. William and the broader neighborhood of West Price Hill.

This work, made possible through the generosity of the Millstone Fund, underscores the impact of a concentrated, place-based approach in transforming communities across our region. Their partnership and investment in Beech Acres' mission fuels our ability to deliver innovative, high-quality programs to individuals from all walks of life. **Together, with the support and engagement of these resilient families, we are paving the way for a brighter and more equitable future for Greater Cincinnati families.**



**“** Over the past few months, I have had the privilege of working closely with our community to create meaningful connections and provide essential support to families. Through parent group sessions and cultural activities, we've built networks where parents can share their stories, celebrate their heritage, and support one another in a welcoming space. One parent shared, "Taking time like this is so important for our mental health, and this group is helping me build connections with other families." Another said, "I haven't had so much fun in a long time. I laughed a lot today—thank you for doing this." A mom expressed, "You are always thinking of how to support us; we are so grateful."**”**

*The growing outreach from families seeking resources and support is a testament to the impact of these efforts, and I am deeply moved by the trust they place in us. Together, we are building a stronger, more united community where every family feels seen, supported, and empowered.*

**Sandra Perez Maass**  
Specialist of Direct Service Partnerships



# A Journey of Love and Belonging: The Smith's Story

Kaitlyn and Michael Smith's journey with Charri is a testament to the enduring power of family. Charri first joined their home as an 11-day-old infant in foster care. Though they knew reunification with her biological father was the goal, Kaitlyn and Michael embraced Charri as their own, creating a loving environment where she could thrive. After three years, Charri was reunited with her father, but the connection she had built with the Smiths remained unbreakable.



**“ We are so thankful that she is now a permanent member of our family forever. Beech Acres has been amazing throughout our entire 12-year journey! ”**

Over the years, Michael and Kaitlyn stayed deeply involved in Charri's life, celebrating birthdays, holidays, and milestones together. In 2022, when Charri's father unexpectedly passed away, The Smiths opened their home to her once again. With guidance from Beech Acres, Charri officially became a permanent member of their family on August 1, 2024.

**To our foster parents, adoptive families, and generous donors—thank you for making it possible for children like Charri to find stability, care, and a place to call home.**



## Thanks for Inspiring Families!

We are incredibly grateful to all who supported our Inspire-a-Family campaign! Your donations, whether toys, cash, or essentials, brought joy and warmth to families in need during the holiday season.

A special thank you to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission and the Butts Family Foundation for helping make the campaign an incredible success!



## DONOR SPOTLIGHT: CIRCLE OF LOVE GIVING SOCIETY



We are thrilled to shine a spotlight on the incredible generosity of Beech Acres' Circle of Love Giving Society! These dedicated supporters have pledged a total of \$144,500 over five years, providing vital resources to help children and families in our community build resilience and lifelong success. We extend our deepest gratitude for your belief and commitment to our mission.

**Larry and Lisa Babb**  
**Christen Barbercheck**  
**Christopher Bolling and Stephen Peterson**  
**Susan & John Cummings**  
**Reverend Roger Greene & St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**  
**Britney and Alex Hamberg**

**Randy and Ellen Hammann**  
**James & Robin Huizenga**  
**Jordan and Lauren Huizenga**  
**Nickol Mora**  
**Kim & Sarah Patton**  
**Sue & Glenn Showers**  
**Elizabeth Stautberg**  
**Katherine & Tim Stautberg**  
**Anonymous**

Now, we invite you to make the five-year pledge and join this circle of impact. By pledging one of the three giving levels, you support the stability and growth Beech Acres needs to serve more children and families throughout our region.

**Gift of Hope:** \$1,000 per year for five years  
 Equips one child with the tools and support on their path toward well-being

**Gift of Perseverance:** \$2,500 per year for five years  
 Supports one family on their journey toward self-sufficiency and creating a stable, loving environment for their children

**Gift of a Strong Future:** \$5,000 per year for five years  
 Supports two families on their journey toward self-sufficiency and creating a stable, loving environment for their children

**For more information, contact Bryan Goldman**

**bgoldman@beechacres.org**  
**or 513.233.4729**

