



grow.
learn.
play.

IMPACT
REPORT
2022





"In 2022, we reestablished our services and relevance with tremendous success. 2023 offers opportunities for us to deepen our relationship with our immediate community, while broadening our reach in the Quad Cities."

Jerry Jones EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MISSION

Inspire greatness in the Quad Cities through community-building, education and service

VISION

A thriving, beloved community rooted in justice, equity and respect for one another

HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided walk-in Covid testing services before home test kits were widely available
- Facilitated creation of Steering Committee for West End Revitalization in Rock Island
- Hired a Community Health Worker

With Summer Day Campers and funding from Quad City Arts, we created new murals in our youth spaces.



THANKSGIVING MEALS

We thought that 5,000 meals was a bold, audacious goal... and yet, we blew right past it and served more than 7,000 free, delicious meals throughout the Quad Cities over the course of three days. With support from corporate and foundation sponsors, and the efforts of hundreds of volunteers, we continued to order food throughout the event, when we saw that the demand exceeded our original plans.

7,130 TOTAL MEALS SERVED

3,094 DELIVERY **3,805** CURBSIDE **231** WALK-IN

2 DISTRIBUTION SITES: MLK Center in Rock Island, and TMBC at The Lincoln Center in Davenport



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Our After-school Program and Summer Day Camp continue to operate at maximum capacity, with long waiting lists.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Collaboration with Spotlight Theatre
- Mentoring activity with John Deere & STEAM on Wheels
- Weekly visits from STEAM on Wheels, Common Chord and Girl Scouts
- Field trips to Shedd Aquarium in Chicago, Mississippi River Museum in Dubuque and House on the Rock in Wisconsin



Maliah's teacher called her mother to ask,

"What are they doing with her at the MLK Center? IT'S WORKING!"

Maliah's reading had improved noticeably, and she feels sooo proud!

Maliah

FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER

The Family Advocacy Center's three social workers go into homes, schools, and community settings throughout Rock Island County to meet with people in need of support, in order to keep families together safely. They provide counseling, case management, crisis intervention, parent support, and much more.

478

FAMILIES

1,068

CHILDREN

"Natalie gave me my ambition back. She changed my outlook, and put me in a position to win. I'm closer than ever to getting my kids back from the foster system." - male FAC client

PREVENTION EDUCATION

Our three Prevention Specialists provide classroom-based education to prevent substance use and teen pregnancy in the Rock Island/Milan School District.

Lessons emphasize social-emotional learning and other life skills – which are more essential than ever.

1,362

SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADERS

EVENTS & RECOGNITION

MEMORIAL SERVICE & AWARDS HONORING DR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR

The 2021 theme was, "A Conscientious Stance." The event featured keynote speaker Thurgood Brooks, and recognized Bonnie Ballard as the recipient of the "I Have a Dream" Award.



Kristia LeShoure

Facility Supervisor

Winner of the Community Caring Conference 2022 Individual Hero Award



600

QUAD CITIES CHILDREN RECEIVED HOLIDAY GIFTS

PARTNER SERVICES

As a community center, the MLK Center provides space for other organizations' services, meetings and gatherings, such as:

- Prairie State Legal Services
- United Way's VITA free tax return assistance
- GED tutoring by Family Resources
- Election Day polling place
- RIHS Advanced Placement exams
- Every Child parenting classes
- NAACP candidate forums
- River Bend Food Bank food pantries
- 2 Rivers YMCA's Nourish program

BOARD MEMBERS

- Michael Glanz (Chair)
- Aimee Bland (Vice Chair)
- Linda Barnes (Treasurer)
- Kayla Babers
- Heidi Huiskamp-Collins
- Jessey Hullon
- James Jones
- Ted Pappas Jr
- Dennis Pauley
- Moses Robinson Jr
- Dr Monica Smith



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3,000

ATTENDED FAMILY FUN DAY & PARADE



Working at the MLK Center taught me to have high expectations of myself. It gave me confidence that I can be a great teacher!

Riley

