



PEASLEE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER



2014 ANNUAL
REPORT



OUR MISSION

Peaslee Neighborhood Center is a peaceful place in Over-the-Rhine where residents create and engage in participatory education to foster creative expression, self-determination, and social change.

OUR VISION

Thoughtful citizens committed to a just and equitable society.



Jennifer Summers, Director

Peaslee friends,

We appreciate your support of Peaslee, a community anchor that holds up efforts and people who continue to “make a way out of no way.” We stand on the shoulders of our founding women committed to building a better community for their children by “dreaming big.” As we celebrate our 30th anniversary, we are dreaming bigger than ever, inviting friends—new and old—to support our work in building a vibrant city that has a place for everyone.

“Peaslee’s focus on participatory education speaks to me. I fully believe that people learn best by doing and participating.”

-Olden Warren

“Peaslee offers a chance to get to know your neighbors in a different way and I think there’s a lot of value in that.”

-Chris Heckman

“Once you give of your heart here Peaslee becomes part of you and you are a part of Peaslee...”

- Bonnie Neumeier



2014 Board of Directors

Olden Warren, Chair,
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Chris Heckman, Losantiville Ltd.
Laura Hils, University of Cincinnati
Tommie Lewis, Make It Plain Consulting
Pam Roebel, HGC Construction
Tammy Schwartz, Miami University
Chris Wilkey, Northern Kentucky University

“I first walked into Peaslee with no colors. All of my colors were gone. Somehow, the moment I stepped in, all the colors came back – my soul, my sanity – because I was of use.”

-June Alexander



Piano Program

HIGHLIGHTS

2014 was a year of connection and collaboration for our longest-running program at Peaslee. We welcomed a new instructor to the fold--Atarah Jablonsky joined Sr. Terry Thorman, SC and David and Roxanne Engle in nurturing our students' love of music. All four piano teachers act as mentors and sources for encouragement in whatever life brings. The Keyboard Club, which has been faithful in their support from the program's beginning, continued their strong partnership, and also invited our students to perform for them. Keyboard Club members also joined families of students and members of our extended Peaslee family to cheer on all performers at our Spring and Winter Recitals.

Nothing matches the power of music to create avenues for self-expression that may have never been known before.

- 33 students taking half-hour lessons in Spring and Fall
- Recitals in Spring and Winter at St. Francis Seraph Church, attended by students, family members and community supporters
- Peaslee piano students invited to perform at Keyboard Club gathering in January
- Hired Atarah Jablonsky, a Music Teachers National Association Fellow



"My granddaughter went to the School for Creative & Performing Arts. The piano class was filled, and she was able to come here and take piano and she didn't miss a stroke."

-William Watson



African Drumming



Baba Charles Miller continues his instruction with youth in our community, offering African drumming, mentoring and cultural education at Peaslee. Throughout 2014, he worked with preschoolers, 4th – 6th grade students at Rothenberg, Peaslee summer camp students, and community education groups.

These enrichment opportunities culminated in showcase performances at Rothenberg and in leading a Samba Parade at the Cincinnati Zoo.

Our students and parents were excited to see their performance featured on the Channel 12 news!



Girls Writing Circles

Peaslee has adapted the powerful process used in our Women's Writing Circles, and taken it to schools. Through a partnership with Rothenberg Preparatory Academy, our circles offer young girls the opportunity to express themselves, find and develop their voices, read poetry and write creatively; we then share our work, and verbally affirm each other's writing.

To date, the girls' writing has been displayed at 2 well attended public exhibits with more to come in 2015! We believe in our children, they believe in themselves and we are on our way!



*I believe that I am powerful
I believe in me
I believe in "I can do it"*

-Za'Khyra Whitehead,
Rothenberg student, age 11



Partnership: Early Learning Center



2014 was a year of transition and growth for the Peaslee Early Learning Center. Our dedicated staff built on the success of our 3 star award in 2013. As a result, 79% of our children were assessed as age appropriate cognitively, socially and emotionally. At the end of 2014, in an effort to further strengthen and sustain the program, we formed a new partnership with Children, Inc. to run the operations of the Peaslee Early Learning Center. This transition brought a well-respected organization with best practices and scale in early childhood education to Peaslee to expand the program's positive impact with low-income families in our community. We look forward to the future of this program and its growth with Children, Inc. as the highest quality early childhood education option in the neighborhood.

"Children, Inc. is honored to be invited into this partnership. Peaslee is a community gem, as well as rock-solid support for many families; we look forward to building with this organization."

-Executive Director Rick Hulefeld
(Children, Inc.)



Community Education

HIGHLIGHTS

Peaslee's Community Education Program continues to deepen its impact through partnership, relationship-building and truth-telling across difference. In 2014 this program continued reaching out to a large number of individuals to provide high quality education, engagement and service opportunities for youth and adult groups throughout the Cincinnati area. We also deepened relationships with community educators, university partners and local schools. Our work involves education through dialogue and experiential learning to strengthen community, diminish prejudice, and discover common ground. In 2014 our community education partnership with Miami University and Rothenberg was awarded the National Network of Educational Renewal's Nicholas Michelli Award for Promoting Social Justice.

- Hosted/facilitated community education and service initiatives for more than 1200 youth from 76 different groups.
- Miami Urban Teaching Cohort/ Peaslee Mentors Rothenberg teachers traveled to Highlander Research & Education Center.



"It's about sharing experience as well as information. It takes all of us to advance the next generation and the ideas of community and social justice and how they work together."

-Jai Washington





Partnership: Caregiver Circles Project



CENTER for
COMMUNITY CHANGE

All of us have experienced caregiving from parents or guardians. Many of us have cared for elderly or disabled relatives, or work in jobs that provide care to the most vulnerable members of society. The Caregiver Circle Project invites people with caregiving experience into community change efforts so that the value of this work becomes properly recognized and supported by all. In 2014, Peaslee and our tenant partner the Center for Community Change (CCC), came together on a foundation laid in 2013 by CCC and the Contact Center. With direction from lead organizer Pat Youngblood, circles of about ten people each met for three sessions to share stories, challenges, and solutions to obstacles caregivers face. The Project received national attention for the depth and resonance of the stories caregivers share. This work will expand and deepen in 2015.

- Caregiver Summit brought together caregivers across difference of race, class and gender.
- Engaged 120 people citywide in dialogue and action to raise the value of caregiving in our community.



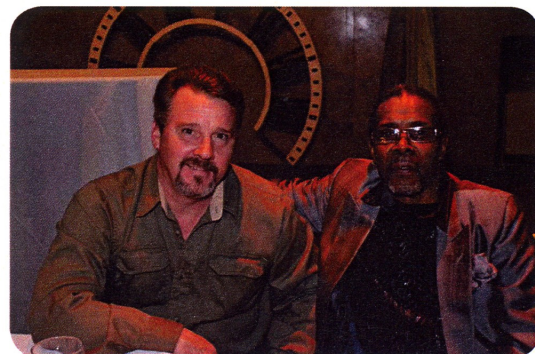
Peaslee Presents

This year, our benefit dinner and silent auction celebrated the many ways Peaslee functions as a place where everybody, across incomes, can grow and thrive. We held our party right here in the neighborhood, at Bell Event Centre. Jai Washington, aka Jai All Day, enlivened the night with her emcee talents. We took time to honor people who walk alongside us and our neighbors with Dream Builder Awards. Baba Charles Miller gave a spirited drum call, Sr. Monica McGloin gave an inspiring invocation, our piano students and teachers displayed their musical talents, and we shared thirty years of Peaslee history with photos and memories. The evening also featured silent and live auction offerings, a board raffle, and a dance mix crafted by our Peaslee staff under the direction of BeBe Lackey.

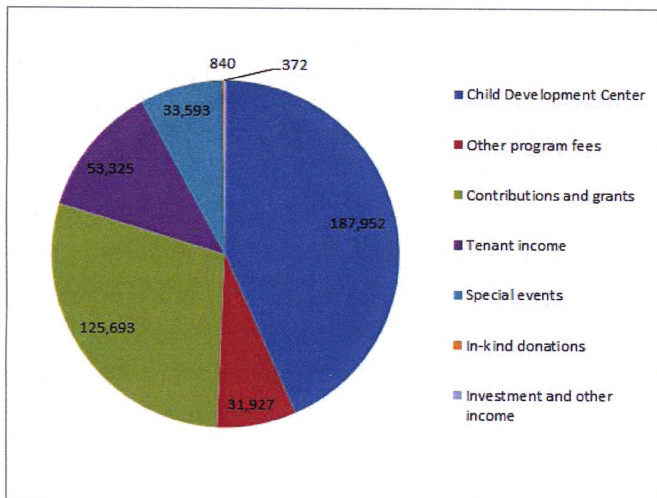
HIGHLIGHTS

- Dream Builder Award Partnership Recipient: Miami University Urban Teaching Cohort, Rothenberg Preparatory Academy, Community Mentors
- Dream Builder Award Individual Recipient: Sister Terry Thorman, SC

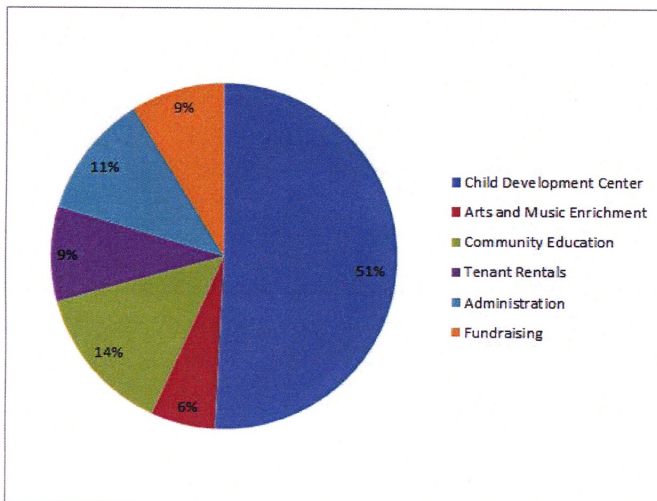
"We are connected by something deeper than our current moment."
-Jenn Summers



INCOME



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES



2014 Income & Expenses

Jan - Dec 14

Income

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Child Development Center | 187,952 |
| Other program fees | 31,927 |
| Contributions and grants | 125,693 |
| Tenant income | 53,325 |
| Special events | 33,593 |
| In-kind donations | 840 |
| Investment and other income | 372 |

Total Income 433,702

Expense

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Direct program | 66,001 |
| Personnel | 258,982 |
| Professional fees | 28,749 |
| Occupancy | 44,044 |
| Maintenance | 10,238 |
| Office | 6,290 |
| Outside services | 1,583 |
| Training and development | 3,294 |
| Special events | 10,793 |
| Other | 982 |
| Depreciation | 24,727 |

Total Expense 455,683

Net income (21,981)

Peaslee Thanks These Organizations For Their Support:

A Garden of Mosaics
Bakersfield
BLOC Coffee Company
BonBonerie
Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Center for Community Change
Central Bank and Trust Company
Children's Theatre
Christian Moerlein Brewing Co.
Church Women United
Cincinnati Central Credit Union
Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra
Cincinnati City Center Development Corp.
Cincinnati Symphony
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber of Commerce - Pep Cincy
City Studios Architecture
Civic Garden Center
Country Fresh Market

Dater Foundation
Devou Golf Course
Dewey's Pizza
Dominican Sisters of Hope
DownLite
Elder High School
Emanuel Bachman Foundation
Episcopal Society of Christ Church Cathedral
Fabulous Furs
First Unitarian Church
First Watch
Franciscan Friars
GE Foundation
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Gray and Pape, Inc.
Guardian Angels Church
HGC Construction
High Five Salon
Iris BookCafe
Kaze

Keyboard Club
Kircher, Suetholz & Grayson LPA
Kneflin-Dillhoff-Hils & Kruse Insurance Agency, Inc.
Kroger Community Rewards
Mayerson Foundation
Miami University
Model Group
Mr. Bubbles Detailing
Mt. Healthy Christian Church
Women's Fellowship
Newport Aquarium
OTR Marianists
Park + Vine
Perfection Group
Playhouse in the Park
Prestige AV & Creative Services
Printers Emergency Service
Rippe & Kingston
SC Ministry Foundation
Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Sisters of St. Francis
St. Joseph Church Wapakoneta
Taft Law
Tanya's Image and Wellness
The Eagle
The Expressive Table
The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
The Robert Gould Foundation, Inc.
The Wich on Sycamore
Theatre Management Group
Venice on Vine
Village Life Outreach
VIP Backrubs
vom Fass
Washington Platform
William P. Anderson Foundation for Arts for Early Childhood

Peaslee Thanks These Individuals

June Alexander
Rolla Lee Bailey
James and Louise Bangel
Cassandra Barham
Mildred Barhorst
Judith Blackburn
John Blake
Ruth Bockenstette
Kenneth and Barabara Boesherz
Connie Brossart
Stacey Bryant-Rose
Mike Burns
Gregory and Antoinette Busch
John and Barbara Coyle
Bob Cromwell
Robert and Shirley Cruickshank
Patty Davis
Sr. Mary Fran Davisson
Lillian and Benjamin Dean
Dayle Deardurff
Julia Deiters
Robert Donovan
Dan and Mary Kay Drexler
Robert Egbert
Teresa and Mike Elsass
Ron English
Josie Espelage
Linda Fabe
Joe Felhaus and Marcheta Gillam
Marguerite Flood
Gerard Froelich and Laura Goodell
Frederick and Maureen Keeley
Kerry and Couper Gardiner
Don and Jane Gardner
Mary Grafe
Ed and Nancy Gutman
Kathleen Hauck
Harry and Kathleen Hendy
Barbara Huber
Kathleen Hunt and Wayne Burton
Ruth Hurley-Franchi
Peggy and Jerome James
Annabelle and Carrie Johnson
Marian Kaiser
Frederick and Maureen Keeley
Paul Kemper
Philip and Nancy Kroeger
Julia Kyser
Paula and Kevin Lonneman
Lois Marker
Jo Ann Martini
Anna McGill
Monica McGloin, OP
Anne Mercier
Joel Miller
Thomas Mosler
Donald and Jeanne Nesbitt
Andy and Meghan Neumeier
Amity Noltemeyer
Daniel and Beth O'Connor

Angela Pancellia
Lois and Brown Pulliam
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Angie Sherman
Mark and Rita Soeder
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Louise Stallworth
Dorsey Stebbins
Martha and Jerone Stephens
Carol and Richard Stevie
Pauline Stoner
Lornita Swain and Eric O'Neil
Larry Ungerer
Michael Ward
William Watson
Sidney and Dorothy Weil
Evelyn Widner
Elizabeth Wiggs
Myra Yates
Pat Youngblood
Matthew and Susan Zdinak

EDUCATING

Benny and Myrna Anderson
Roger Auer
Marla Banks
Lois Benjamin
Annie Bennett
Jonathon Blickenstaff and Angela Denov
Mike and Clair Breetz
Jan Brown Checco
Rheba Clark
Fred Culbertson
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Larry Hamlin
Deanna Heil
Donald Heimbrock
Andy Hutzel and Amy Harpenau
Sharon Johnson
Andrea and John Kornbluh

Jeanne Kortekamp
Charles Lindenmeier
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Bruce Wasem
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Michael Wilson
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Richard Zuereick

ENRICHING

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Koben Hinman
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Margaret Quinn
Chuck and Julie Schubert
Tammy Schwartz
Alice and Ken Skirtz
David and Teresa Suetholz

ENGAGING

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Susan Brownknight
Brian Dershaw
Michael Flood and Bonnie Neumeier
Joy Gallo
Steven Hils
Robert and Mary Maxwell
Zak Morgan
Cassie and Parker Niemann
Barbara and Eugene Otting
Julie Wilke

EMPOWERING

Gertrude Bernet
Peter Block
Jim and Peggy Flood
Chris Heckman
Bill and Suzanne Joiner
Edward and Jessica Kuresman
Ryan Messer and James Musuraca
Olden Warren
Bruce and Laura Fairlie Weil

Peaslee Thanks These Foundations, Organizations and Businesses For Their Support:



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