



GRATITUDE REPORT • 2019



BUILDING BRIDGES

UNITED INNER CITY SERVICES



We can't become what we need to be by remaining what we are.

- Oprah Winfrey

A MESSAGE FROM DEIDRE ANDERSON

Dear UICS Friends,

Our mission began in the basement of St. Mark Union Church decades ago with advocacy for local families. We were called into action again as our city presented voters with an opportunity to provide universal pre-K education, through an April 2019 ballot tax proposal. It brought out the best in our work, where The Kansas City Star cited UICS as "...a prime example of the kind of pre-K centers that education and city officials say they want for all four-year-olds." Unfortunately, the measure failed, but citizens became aware of this important work for our city's future.

Despite this result, we continued to find ways to reach more students. New and creative artists engaged in month-long residencies in our classrooms. Innovative pre-K partnerships were developed with four charter school partners (Crossroads Academy, Citizens of the World, KIPP, and University Academy), creating our largest rising "graduating class" ever. This integrated approach to education creates continuity for families and informative access for educators.

Last, but not least, we expanded for the first time in our half-century history. At 39th & Troost, you can find UICS-Metro Center. In a partnership with the KCATA, we brought our capacity to 225 students, reducing a heavy wait list. So, as we've grown, we've stayed grounded in our roots, with our second location providing transportation access and quality early education to advance families.

We're excited to share the stories of our year. Thank you for your continued support of our students, teachers, staff, and families.

Sincerely,

Deidre Anderson
United Inner City Services (UICS) CEO



REACH OUT

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UICSKC.ORG

OUR MISSION

Building bridges.
Inspiring minds.
Impacting futures.

OUR VISION

UICS envisions an
empowered community
where children and families flourish.

OUR COMMUNITY

Your support means everything
to us! Share a gift or learn how to
be involved at UICSKC.org.



Education is all a matter
of building bridges.

- Ralph Ellison

Answering the call of opportunity: UICS-Metro Center expansion

When opportunity knocks, it's best to answer the door.

Just as when our organization was founded more than 50 years ago along Kansas City's 12th Street corridor and our flagship UICS-St. Mark Center blazed a trail of educational opportunity in 2004, opportunity called again.

This time, the spirit of collaboration led to a partnership with the Greater Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) to open a second location at 39th and Troost.

"This opportunity to serve more families and young students is one that can change the narrative for a generation of lives," says UICS CEO Deidre Anderson.

"In a city where only 34% of four-year-olds are enrolled in a quality pre-K program, UICS will meet needs that transcend economics and social structure."

The center, which opened in September 2019, has capacity to serve 124 students ranging in ages from six weeks to five years.

In addition to easing transportation hurdles with a major KCATA bus stop right outside our doors, UICS-Metro continues a legacy of exceptional learning to neighborhood families and beyond!



85%

of student families attended 12 or more UICS school or community events, an integral part of family engagement at UICS.



12

arts-infused experiences, on average, were integrated in the student curriculum each week through classroom and studio instruction, field trips, or on-site performances and activities.



93%

of UICS students demonstrated kindergarten readiness in the Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) domains which include:

- Attitudes to Learning
- Social/Emotional Development
- Language & Literacy
- English Language Development.
- Cognition
- Physical Development/Health.



62,181

healthy breakfasts and lunches were enjoyed by students, including meals provided at community events to promote family engagement.



91%

of students met or exceeded benchmarks in cognitive skills such as asking questions, developing an increased attention span, problem solving, or understanding simple reasoning.

2019 Highlights & Happenings



92%

of UICS students achieved benchmarks in language and literacy while also demonstrating readiness in vocabulary, auditory comprehension, and narrative language skills.



\$2.3M

in contributions was invested by generous foundations, companies, organizations and individuals who believe in all we do.



3,249

hours of service by community volunteers made a world of difference at UICS - an increase of more than 400% over 2018.



100%

of teachers met UICS credentialing standards. Our 86% teacher retention rate is well above the national average.

100%

of UICS students reached key milestones in motor, perception and physical development in preparation for kindergarten.



To build bridges of love, extend hands of kindness.

Building bridges of kindness: our caring community



Grow up great

PNC's national philanthropic initiative for early childhood education has provided students with additional arts experiences, including being featured in a Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts hand print gallery!



Recipe for fun

Students are cooking up all kinds of imaginary fun through exploration and tactile play in a mud kitchen at UICS-St. Mark Center. The feature was designed and constructed by community partner Superior Bowen.



Art of kindness

In a special partnership with GlobalTies KC, UICS welcomed people from ten countries over a series of visits. The group discovered how an arts-based curriculum is impacting children and communities of color. The lessons have been taken back to Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Europe.



Chiefs=Fun + Fitness

It was a day of fun and fitness when The Kansas City Chiefs brought the NFL Play60 mini agility course to UICS-St. Mark Center.

MVP of caring



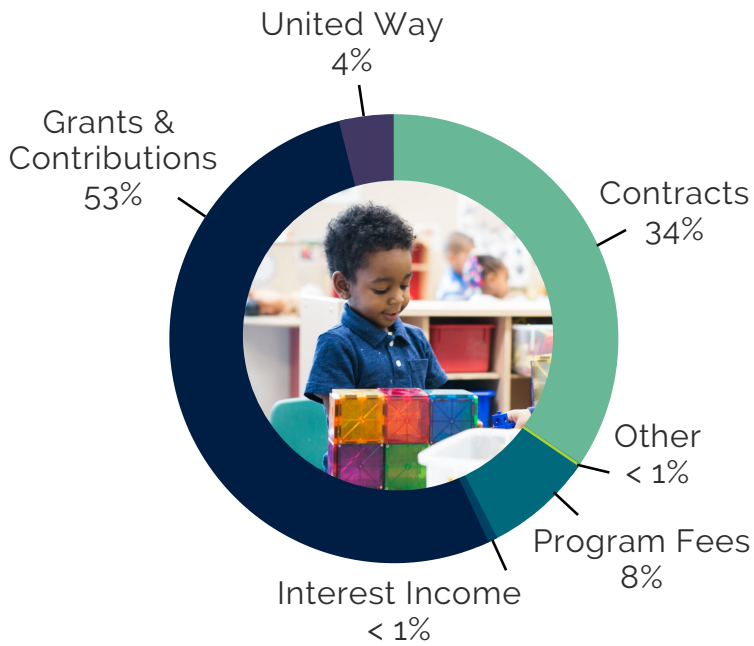
UICS was the beneficiary of a generous grant from the 15 and the Mahomies Foundation. Kansas City Chiefs QB and Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes and fiancée Brittany Matthews presented the gift to UICS CEO Deidre Anderson and UICS alum Antoine.

Coming together. Giving back.



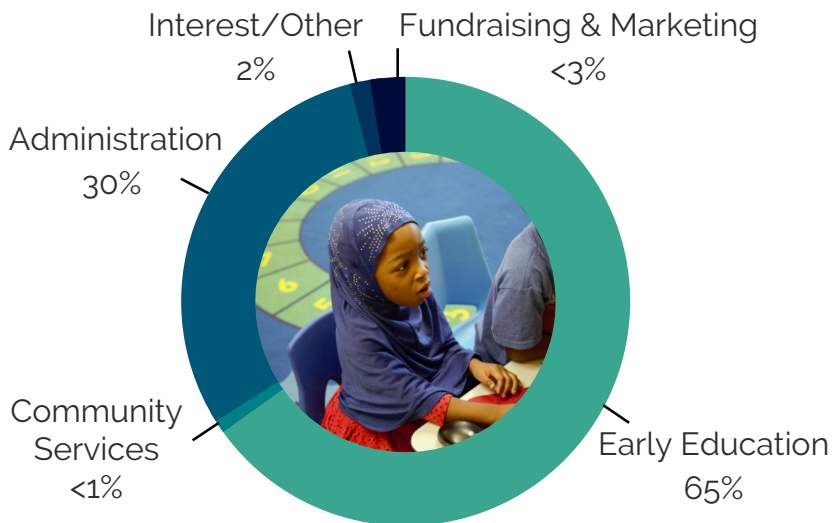
The Little Learners Luncheon, presented by PNC Grow Up Great, in October brought together both longtime supporters and new friends. Photos from left: The Hon. Jalilah Otto, Jon Baum, John Sherman, Jon Otto, and former Mayor Sly James; UICS CEO Deidre Anderson (holding the 2019 Wassterstrom Award) is joined by UICS friends and advocates; Regina Kort, Kim Klein, and Bill Kort.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2019



REVENUE & CONTRIBUTIONS

Contracts	\$1,492,755
Grants/Contributions	\$2,301,109
Program Fees	\$335,369
United Way	\$171,435
Interest Income	\$29,738
Other	\$11,690
Total	\$4,342,096



PROGRAM EXPENSE/ COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Fundraising/Marketing	\$101,172
Administration	\$1,189,505
Community Services	\$37,035
Early Education	\$2,587,113
Interest/Other	\$58,625
Total	\$3,973,450

The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by
the compassionate actions of its members.

-Coretta Scott King



PAYING IT
FORWARD

Community generosity at its best!

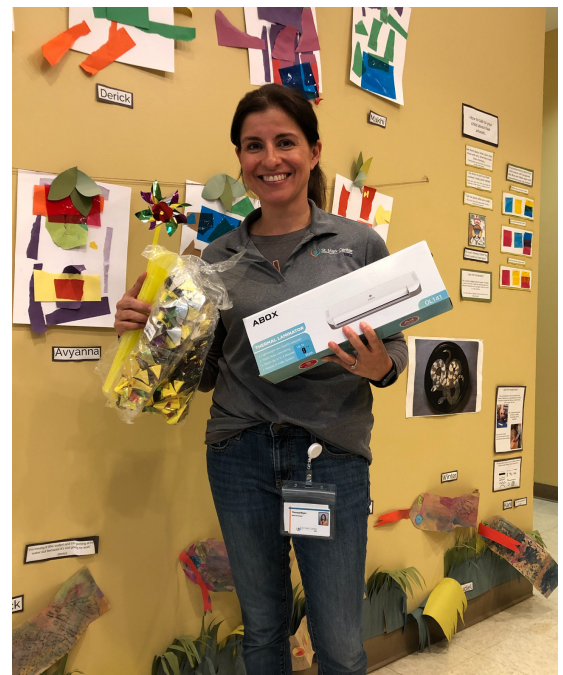


Lifting up families

Our partners remain invested in our focus on family development. The United Way of Greater Kansas City, GEICO, and Shawnee Mission Ford teamed up to present UICS parent and teacher Jamaica Moore with a 2015 Toyota Camry through its Refurbished Rides initiative. The vehicle was loaded with toys and care items for her family, along with a bonus package of car maintenance credits.

Top choice: UICS teachers!

UICS teachers and students benefited from DonorsChoose, a crowdfunding platform, to receive support directly for classroom projects. In 2019, individuals and matching partners contributed \$6,872 in funding! Teachers know the individual learning needs of their students best. This platform allows them to customize their needs with people who love specific topics and locations.



Praise the bridge that carried you over.

- George Colman

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