



OhioGuidestone

SOLUTIONS FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES  
& COMMUNITIES

SEEDS

of Hope

Agency Newsletter  
July 2016

## Setting Our Youngest Students Up for Success

By Chad Malcolm, D.Ed.

Statistically, the impact of Head Start can be felt nationwide. A longitudinal study of Head Start influences, conducted from 2000-2015, revealed that all areas of child development, including social-emotional, academic, health, and even parenting skills demonstrate measurable gains. By increasing social skills, impulse control, and decreasing problematic behavior, Head Start is setting students up for success before they enter traditional school-age programs.

In my seven years as a Head Start teacher, I can attest to these gains. I had a three-year-old in my classroom each fall that had never been to any sort of educational experience, let alone away from mom or grandma. By the end of the second year, when transitioning to Kindergarten, these children had developed into functional students, demonstrating that they could understand and follow directions and consequences. Academically,

they could recite/write all 26 upper/lowercase letters and sounds, count to over 20, and knew mathematics basics such as sorting, patterning, graphing, and simple addition with counters. I have found these students to be eager and engaged in learning, and willing to take risks in trying new things. The most impactful change I have seen, however, is the comfort level of parents inside the school. One of my directors stated during a meeting, "If we want parents to engage with their child's learning, we need to help them feel safe and comfortable in schools, because for many, school was not a good thing in their lives growing up."

Research shows that Head Start can improve the lives of lower socio-economic and at-risk students. Head Start students are more likely to graduate high school, more likely to attend at least one year of college, and

Continued on page 2



OhioGuidestone serves over 23,000 children and families every year, but we can't do it without your help. Support OhioGuidestone today by calling 440.234.2006, 800.639.4974 or visiting [www.OhioGuidestone.org](http://www.OhioGuidestone.org).

## President's Message



Richard R. Frank  
President and CEO

The early years of a child's life are a critical time for learning and development. In our last issue of Seeds of Hope, we talked about the importance of providing assistance and interventions during the early years through our continuum of mental health and support service programs. But for the children we serve, those are only the first steps on the path out of poverty. Next, we must provide them with the early education they need to be prepared for kindergarten and to embrace lifelong learning. In this issue, you will learn how OhioGuidestone helps children prepare for school in high-quality child care centers, regardless of their families' abilities to pay for these much needed services. By helping those most in need prepare for their education, we are not only strengthening their futures, but also helping improve the futures of whole communities. Your support of our early childhood education programs enables children in poverty to be ready and able to find success in school and to work toward a self-sufficient future.

*Setting Our Youngest Students Up for Success, Continued from page 1*

are more likely to be employed. Over time, these successes are paid two-fold to society through increased tax revenue from work, and lower health care costs in the system. I have seen first-hand the impact Head Start can have on a child

and family. Not only does Head Start give students a "head start," but it strengthens our communities by involving and empowering parents to be active participants, invested and motivated in schools and their own community.

### About the Author



Dr. Chad G. Malcolm has been with the Baldwin Wallace University School of Education since August 2014 as an assistant professor in early childhood education. He received his doctorate degree focusing on teacher leadership from Walden University. He is also a Level II certified teacher of early childhood education, middle school mathematics and middle school science in the state of Pennsylvania. Dr. Malcolm has 11 years of classroom experience serving urban and low socioeconomic communities in Orlando, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Research interests include mathematics in early childhood, behavior management and modification and urban education experiences for teacher candidates.

## Impacting Early Education: Providing Quality Learning to Children & Families

We've all heard the phrase: "Education can provide the path toward a brighter future." The statistics for the state of Ohio show it to be true. According to the most recent Ohio Poverty Report, the risk of poverty lessens as the level of education increases. Nearly 30% of adults who did not graduate from high school are living in poverty, compared to only 4% of adults with at least a bachelor's degree. Additionally, when an individual lacks education, it not only affects them, it also has an effect on their whole family.

Children growing up in poverty often struggle with what is known as the achievement gap. The achievement gap is a nationally recognized disparity in academic gains between different groups based upon a variety of identified risk factors, such as family income, parent education level and ethnicity. This gap exists, in part, because parents without a solid educational foundation often struggle to assist their children with their schoolwork. Because of this, children in poverty are most in need of high quality early education options to prepare them

**After one year with Head Start, children improved their math readiness by nearly 30% and their literacy rates by nearly 40%.**

for school. While many parents in poverty recognize this need, they are often unable to afford the rising cost of quality care. Recognizing the need for education preparation for all children, OhioGuidestone's Family Life Child Care program offers Head Start, a little to no-cost preschool option for families who qualify, so that all children can be school ready, regardless of their family's ability to pay.

The Family Life program utilizes the nationally recognized Creative Curriculum, which allows teachers to

focus on the "whole" child and individualize learning according to a child's needs. Children in Family Life's Head Start program have shown an increase in their overall kindergarten readiness rates, including improved scores in mathematics and literacy. After one year with Head Start, children improved their math readiness by nearly 30% and their literacy rates by nearly 40%. To ensure continued excellence, all five of our centers are highly rated through Step Up to Quality, the quality rating and improvement system run by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

In addition to promoting academic, social and emotional development, these early education programs provide a 360° support network to help families with social, health and supportive services. During the course of our last fiscal year, 85% of children received a dental exam and 83% received a medical exam to help ensure their continued healthy development. Parents are also encouraged to take an active part in their child's early education, participate in

Continued on page 5



## Breaking the Cycle

Tamra opened the refrigerator, even though it was empty. She knew her four-year-old son, Dylan, was hungry, but she also knew that she needed to put gas in the car. It was a vicious cycle. If she couldn't get to work, she wouldn't get paid. If she didn't get paid, she couldn't pay for child care. If she couldn't pay for child care, she couldn't work. But too often there wasn't enough money left over for food. She glanced back at her young son and forced a small smile.

"You'll really like our new place," Tamra said, trying to find a distraction. She hoped that downsizing to a smaller place would help. But, she was worried the move would be hard on Dylan, and worried about finding a new preschool. Because of multiple ear surgeries when he was young, Dylan had some trouble speaking and learning. He needed help to get ready for kindergarten, but his current daycare wasn't really working to help him learn. Tamra had heard about an excellent center nearby, but she was worried about the cost. She had no extra money to spare, even for the education she knew he needed.

From the moment Tamra met Susan



Tamra and her son, Dylan

Child Care in Maple Heights, she knew she had to find a way for Dylan to attend. Susan was friendly and welcoming, and as she told Tamra about the curriculum they used, it was clear this center was different. "So tell me," Susan said. "What kind of help do you need for Dylan?" Encouraged by the ease of the conversation, Tamra let all her struggles spill out. Susan listened as she talked about the move, the food and the bills. She nodded when Tamra told her she wanted to find a way for Dylan to attend the Family Life Center. "Let's fill out some paperwork, and we'll help you find a way," she said.

A few days later, Tamra arrived for another meeting with knots in her stomach. Susan smiled brightly at her and said "Dylan is a perfect candidate for our Head Start program. We can have him

start in a classroom this week." Tamra knew this was a perfect fit for Dylan. But she still wondered "How much will it cost?" Her anxiety melted away as Susan explained that enrollment in Head Start was free for those who qualified. "We know it's been hard, and it'll take some time to adjust to your new home," said Susan. "So I've also got some boxes of food here for you and a gift card for the

grocery store." Tamra was speechless. She let out a breath she felt like she had been holding for a long time. Finally, it felt like there was a reason to have hope.

A week later, Tamra found herself smiling as she picked up Dylan from the Family Life Center. She had smiled more in the last week than she had in the last year. It felt like everything had changed. While Dylan would need to work every day to overcome his difficulties, the Family Life Center had helped her put a plan in place. Susan stopped her in the hallway. "How has the first week been?" she asked. "You changed my life," Tamra said. "This weekend, I was able to play a game with Dylan and not worry about what we would eat the next day." Susan smiled. "That's why the Family Life Child Care is here," she said. "To make a difference, one family at a time."

## Supporting Early Education: Herb Hoppe

Herb Hoppe learned about OhioGuidestone in the early 1980s. “My wife and I would provide toys for the Christmas program for children who were in residential treatment,” says Herb. Recognizing the great work of the agency, the Hoppes became more involved with supporting the organization in various ways. “We always felt strongly about supporting OhioGuidestone because the organization is dedicated to improving the lives of adults and children, so they are better and more productive persons in our communities.”

Herb’s passion for OhioGuidestone’s work became stronger as he watched the agency develop early education programs that work to help break the cycle of poverty. “I spent 18 years on the board of a school whose students encounter many of the same economic stresses as Stepstone Academy,” says Herb. “Through this time, I watched the impact this schooling had on these children. It was almost unbelievable and it set them up to succeed in all their schooling thereafter, through college.”

So, when OhioGuidestone began the Family Life Child Care and Stepstone Academy programs in Cleveland’s Central neighborhood, Herb knew he had to get involved. He toured Stepstone Academy and was impressed with the foundation of

the school and the curriculum and the support provided by OhioGuidestone. Since then, he has spent time reading to the children at the school, hoping to help enrich their lives. “If you can reach the minds of young children, ones who are 3 to 5 years old, you can provide reliable



Long-time supporter, Herb Hoppe

“If you can reach the minds of young children, ones who are 3 to 5 years old, you can provide reliable results to build on during the rest of their lives.”

results to build on during the rest of their lives,” says Herb. “The place to start is at the preschool level.” At OhioGuidestone, we are grateful to Herb’s ongoing support of our youngest clients. Supporters like Herb make a difference for children, not only today, but through the rest of their lives.

---

Impacting Early Education, Continued from page 3

trainings such as financial literacy and child development, in addition to attending parent/teacher conferences and committee meetings.

Our centers are providing quality education to the families who need it most, regardless of their ability to pay. By preparing children in poverty for school, while also supporting their families, we are setting up the next generation up for

success, not only in school, but throughout their whole lives. By supporting early education, you can help us strengthen our future communities, one child at a time. To learn more about Family Life’s Head Start program, call Stephanie Thomas, *Assistant Director, Family Life Child Care Centers*, at 440.260.6010. To make a charitable gift, call Cindy Naegele, *Vice President of Advancement and Communications*, at 440.260.8341 or visit [www.OhioGuidestone.org](http://www.OhioGuidestone.org).

# OhioGuidestone: Treating, Supporting, Growing

OhioGuidestone is a community solutions organization. We offer a unique blend of behavioral health treatment services, skill building programs and prevention opportunities for children and families. At OhioGuidestone, many of our clients struggle with a lack of education and life skills, and don't know how to access personal or community resources to help them improve their situations. We not only help resolve problems that already exist, but teach skills to help individuals become self-sufficient, and prevent future obstacles to success. Each of our locations works on a continuum of these three important services to help the communities they serve.

## Promise Run 2016 Raised Emergency Funds for Our Clients!

On Saturday, May 21, 2016, a record-breaking 300 runners and walkers participated in OhioGuidestone's 4th Annual Promise Run. Proceeds from the event support the Emergency Fund, which provides necessities in an emergency to the children and families we serve. Our partners, Fierce Fitness CLE and Fostering Hope were on site to offer Zumba and Yoga for participants. WKYC Meteorologist Greg Dee joined us as our emcee. Prizes were awarded for top overall male and female runners, top runners in each age category, and the top fundraising team.



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Medical Mutual,  
*Empowerment Sponsor*

Sherwin Williams  
Clark Reliance  
Fifth Third Private Bank  
Fierce Fitness CLE  
Fostering Hope  
Discount Drugmart  
Crispy Green  
Sweat X  
Hurraw! Balm  
Lake Erie Monsters  
Angelina's Pizza

## Franklin County: Growing Our Knowledge to Treat Early Childhood Trauma

This spring, six clinicians from OhioGuidestone's Early Childhood Mental Health program in Franklin County began an 18-month Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) training thanks to a grant from the Ohio Department of Health. CPP is an evidence-based model to provide treatment to infants and young children who have been exposed to traumatic experiences.

## Lorain County: Collaborating to Support Kindergarten Readiness

In Oberlin and Elyria, OhioGuidestone has joined forces with the United Way Collective Impact Model Collaborative to help address early learning needs. Ready Set Go in Elyria works to identify barriers to kindergarten readiness and strategies to address them. Oberlin Kids supports children's development through early learning and health resources, family fun events and playgroups.

## Summit County: Growing Prevention Services in Akron

OhioGuidestone will expand our Youth Led Prevention Groups in Summit County thanks to funding from the Summit County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health (ADM) Board and partnership with Akron Public School. Youth Led Prevention Groups, which focus on drug prevention through youth leadership, will expand to nine schools this fall.

## Tuscarawas County: Celebrating our Youth's Growth

On May 10, our PFCS Youth Led Prevention, Youth 2 Youth, held an end-of-year banquet. The celebration highlighted the accomplishments of all five schools currently taking part in our prevention program, including community service projects, conferences and mentoring programs.



Youth Led Prevention Groups

## Expanding the Treatment of Behavioral and Mental Health Concerns

This year, OhioGuidestone therapists in Lorain County introduced an initiative to help first graders in Lorain County schools. PAX, an evidence-based classroom intervention program, uses games to promote self-regulation during normal school activities and helps children increase positive behaviors in the classroom. Currently, PAX is used in 12 schools throughout Lorain County.

## Cuyahoga County: Growing Healthy Play

To help children in our Residential Treatment program transition back into their home lives, OhioGuidestone has received a grant from The Thatcher Family Fund to purchase personal care items and a suitcase for children who are ready to leave campus. For these kids, a suitcase represents the ability to move forward into the next chapter of their lives as well as providing them a safe way to transport their possessions.

## Providing Additional Support for Our Residential Treatment Campus

On May 10, OhioGuidestone hosted the 2nd Annual Family Night of Gratitude for students, teachers, parents and community members at Collinwood High School. During the event, Amy Carlson, OhioGuidestone's School Services Site Coordinator at Collinwood, presented the progress that has been made through the year. Guest speaker, Ms. Pamela Hubbard from Gold Ciphers, gave an inspirational presentation on self-responsibility.

### LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services | Ohio Dept. of Mental Health | Ohio Dept. of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities



Approved Health & Welfare Organization  
of the East Ohio Conference  
of the United Methodist Church

### OHIOGUIDESTONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

David S. Zentkovich  
*Chairperson*

Richard R. Frank  
*President and CEO*

#### TRUSTEES

Marquez L. Brown

Grace B. Chalker

John S. Chapman

Rev. Rollin A. Conway, D.Min

Kimberly M. Corrigan

Curtis Danburg

John T. Fitts

William P. Freund

Andrew Garner, M.D., Ph.D.

Mary K. Greulich

L. Jonathon Groza

Susan C. Hastings, Esq.

Peter J. Ippolito

Charles E. Jarrett

Rev. Don Lefelar, Esq.

J. Christopher Manners

Ernest M. Manuel

Leroy McCreary

Thomas M. Moore

Therese O'Donnell

Thomas J. Onusko

John D. Parker

Eric Pelander

Angelo Pimpas

Rev. Benita Rollins

Joel F. Salas

James T. Sayler

Pete Smith

Rev. Mark L. Steiger

Edward C. White, MD

Fred C. White

Brad Wynveen

Debby J. Zanglin

#### EX OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Bishop John L. Hopkins  
*Ohio East Area United  
Methodist Church*

Rev. Dr. Steven Bailey  
*District Superintendent,  
North Coast of The  
United Methodist Church*

Marilyn L. Reihs  
*Director Emeritus*



**OhioGuidestone**

SOLUTIONS FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES  
& COMMUNITIES

### Our Vision

Future generations are educated, self reliant and contributing members of strong communities.

### Our Mission

To provide pathways for growth, achievement and lifelong success.

### OhioGuidestone

434 Eastland Road  
Berea, Ohio 44017-2058  
800.639.4974  
www.OhioGuidestone.org

*Seeds of Hope* is a publication of OhioGuidestone

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CLEVELAND, OHIO  
PERMIT NO. 2180

**DATED MATERIAL**

## SAVE THE DATE: Join Us for These Upcoming Events

### School Supply Drive

July 1 – August 3, 2016

Collect donations of brand new back packs and school supplies to help the children we serve return to school with everything they need. Call 440.260.8212 to learn more.



### Harbor House Golf Outing

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Oak Shadows Golf Club

Our 17<sup>th</sup> annual Harbor House Golf Outing includes a great day of golf; a delicious dinner and an exciting auction that benefits the children and families we serve. Call 330.343.8171 to learn more.

### OhioGuidestone Golf & Club Classic

Monday, September 12, 2016

Columbia Hills Country Club

Join lead sponsor, Blue Technologies, for a day of golf and an exciting live auction to benefit the children and families served by OhioGuidestone. Sponsorship and tickets for the evening festivities are available. Contact Kelley Likes at 440.260.8231 for more information.

2016 GOLF &  
CLUB CLASSIC



### Ross Greene Workshop

Thursday, September 15, 2016

OhioGuidestone is pleased to welcome Ross W. Greene, Ph.D., Founding Director of Lives in the Balance and originator of the Collaborative & Proactive Solutions model of care. Breakfast, lunch and parking will be provided during this intimate workshop for educators and administrators. More information will be available soon at [www.OhioGuidestone.org](http://www.OhioGuidestone.org).