

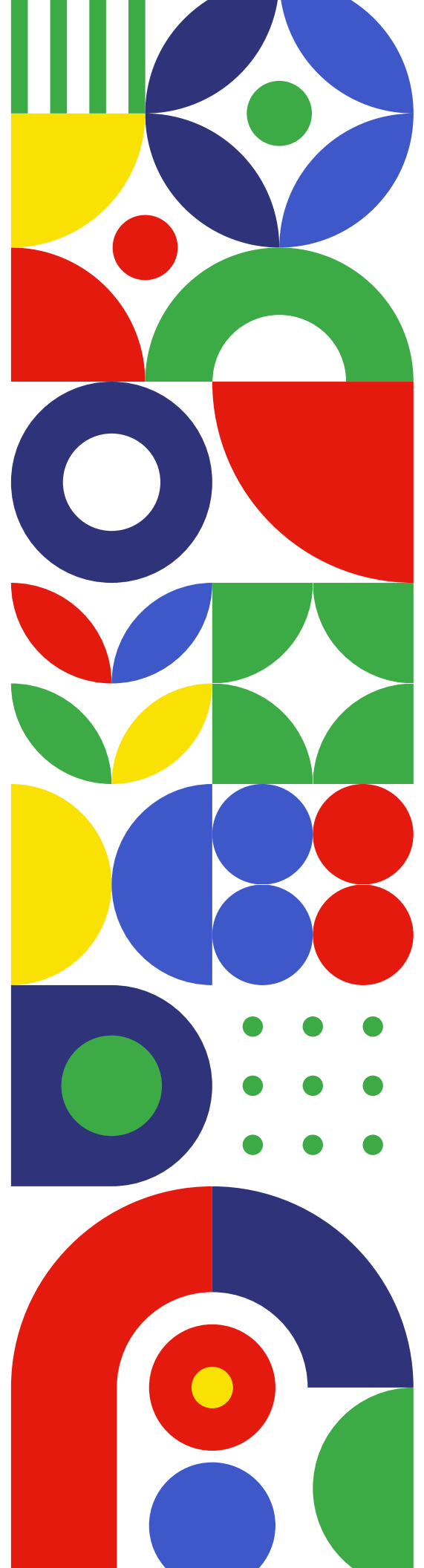
# Growing Our Garden Together



**TLC Learning Center**  
Annual Report 2023



TLC Learning Center





# Growing our Garden Together

Welcome to the 2023 TLC Learning Center Annual Report! I am excited to share TLC Learning Center's successes of 2023 and how fortunate I feel to be part of such a great organization that is so loved and supported by our community. While the events of the last few years have been challenging, we've been able to weather the financial and operating storm with the support of many community individuals, foundations, and government funding programs.

Our fundraising events, full classrooms, and therapy caseloads were major accomplishments in 2023, especially during the lingering workforce shortage, as we sought to continue our mission-- to exemplify caring, comprehensive, inclusive early learning, therapeutic services, and family and caregiver support. As it has since 1956, our goal remains to assist each child in reaching their highest potential.

With life getting back to normal following the pandemic, it was fantastic to return to in-person events in 2023 and see so many familiar faces at our 8th Annual Kentucky Derby party hosted at The Fox Hill Club and 42nd annual Christmas Tree Festival at the Longmont Museum. Both were huge successes and remind me of how privileged we are to have had such loyal supporters over the years.

TLC's services are highly sought after and we have waitlists in every classroom, especially for children with special needs. While we have had a difficult time recruiting new staff, we are thrilled that over 67% of our staff have been at TLC for at least five years with some staff having been part of Team TLC for 20+ and even 30+ years! In an effort to remain competitive in the recruitment and retention of quality staff, a priority of TLC's Strategic Plan, a generous gift by the Stewart Family Foundation allowed us to give every staff member at TLC a \$500 bonus for every year of service at TLC. This wonderful gift was unveiled at the annual Christmas Tree Festival event and climaxed with a \$20,000 token of appreciation given to our very own Mary Beth Boyer in honor of her 40 years of teaching at TLC Learning Center. This was truly a highlight of 2023!

Another monumental moment in 2023 was that the Stewart Family Foundation helped us with a \$1,000,000 gift to purchase the one-acre parcel of land adjacent to the property we purchased in 2022. Together, this 3.8-acre parcel of land will be the future home of TLC Learning Center/TLC Early Learning Collaborative? and we are excited to kick-off a capital campaign and hope to have shovels in the ground in 2024.

Financially, TLC continued to exceed goals for 2023. While our education and therapeutic services departments are nearly back to pre-pandemic numbers, we are seeing an increase in the numbers of children seeking TLC's therapeutic early learning services and those numbers continue to grow. For the seventh year in a row, we finished the year with a healthy and positive bottom line! This is in large part due to our two special events, and to our dedicated supporters who contributed to TLC.

If I had to sum up 2023 in a word it would be "anticipation." We are anticipating what exciting things are to come in 2024. The staff at TLC continue to hold true to our mission, even at times in 2023 as we dreams and hopes for expansion can also come with a sense of being overwhelmed, staff shortages continued through the year, and the unknown future of when we might get back to pre-pandemic practices and routines continued. In spite of this, the anticipation of what this community is about to do for the future of TLC is very exciting. We continue to look for opportunities to expand our services and programs to better serve more children in our community while also continuing to diversify our funding sources. We want to maintain this level of success for the next 67 years and with your support, we know this is possible. Thank you for your ongoing support of the work we do at TLC. Our door is always open for a tour of the facilities, and we are eager to share the message of TLC to civic groups, youth organizations, and other community partners.

Thanks for all you do for the youngest residents in our community!

All the best,

Matt Eldred  
TLC Executive Director





# 2023-2025 Strategic Road Map

Envisioning a community of inclusion and belonging for all children and families.

## A+ TLC...

- Everyone succeeds together.
- We are extraordinary.
- We have a growth mindset.
- We see one another.
- We strive for sustainability.



***Mission:*** TLC Learning Center exemplifies caring, comprehensive, inclusive early learning, therapeutic services, and family and caregiver support.



Inclusive Learning  
Environment



Family & Caregiver  
Support



Leadership &  
Advocacy

### **TLC Commitment to Equity:**

We honor and celebrate the diverse makeup of our community through an intentionally inclusive program that provides equitable learning opportunities and encourages the exploration, understanding, and appreciation of individual difference, perspectives, and cultures. TLC strives to provide a safe and inclusive learning environment for all members of our community so that every member feels welcomed, values, honored, and respected, regardless of ability, race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, national and ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital status, socioeconomic status, or age. We believe that embracing and celebrating our differences and commonalities is an integral part of the cognitive and social-emotional growth of each member of our community and is as important now as it was when our Center was founded in 1956.





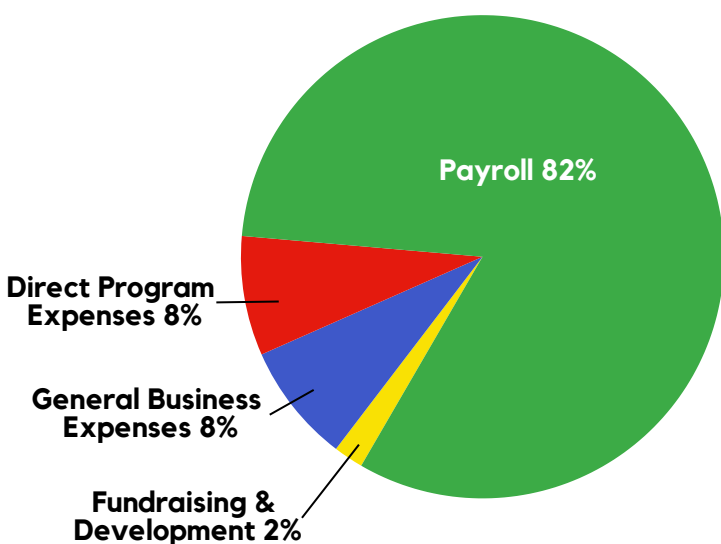
# 2023 By the Numbers

Thanks to donors like you, TLC awarded over

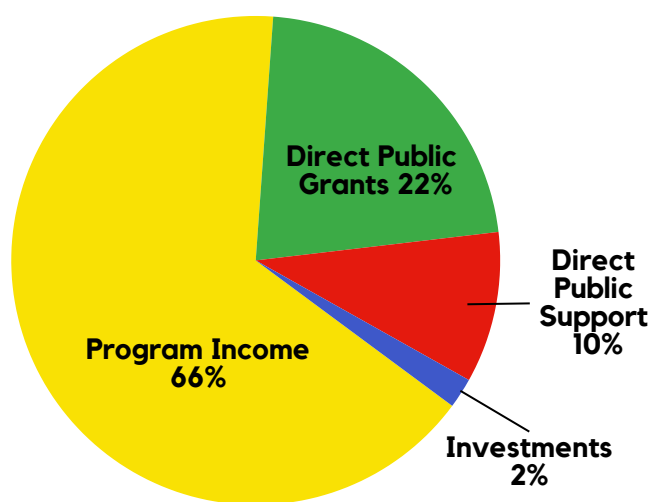
## \$135,000

in scholarships in 2023, enabling hundreds of children in Northern Colorado to access the therapeutic early learning services they to be successful in school and beyond.

### Expenses by Category



### Revenue by Source





# Therapeutic Services Highlights

## 2023 Therapeutic Services Revenue

Private insurance/  
Private pay **49%**

Medicaid **42%**

**6%** Imagine

*\*\*Some children  
receive funding  
from multiple  
sources.*

**3%** TLC Scholarship

**58%** of therapy clients  
received some  
type of financial  
assistance for services  
(including Medicaid, Imagine,  
scholarship, etc.)

Over  
**7,000**  
therapy visits...

...serving  
**243**  
children in  
2023!



"We have received services through TLC Learning Center for the past eight years. Our son, Leo has received OT, Speech, and PT all through TLC. Ms. Shari has been our rock from the very beginning and has tremendously helped our son get to where he is today. We have received in-home services throughout our three homes here in Colorado, as well as services at the Center. Some of Leo's most favorite activities at the Center were tummy time and independent sitting with help of Ms. Shari, looking into the mirror at himself. We have had the help of many therapists throughout our time who have helped us receive all of the equipment and necessary things Leo has needed. Leo made the biggest connection with Ms. Sheri from the very beginning, and their friendship, more like family has continued. Leo has always worked so hard, and absolutely loves to dance to music with her!

We have had such a great experience with TLC for Leo, that we decided to enroll our daughter in preschool. Her two years in Mrs. Mary Beth's preschool class were two of the best years of her life. TLC's welcoming inclusive atmosphere have made it a wonderful place for our family for the last eight years. We will always love our TLC Learning Center family."

Antonette, a TLC caregiver since 2016





# Educational Services Highlights

106

children attended infant, toddler, and preschool programs in 2023

85%

of preschoolers at or above cognitive grown range

73%

of educational services families received financial support for tuition (inc. CCAP and UPK)



"Since the first day we dropped our daughter off at TLC, my wife and I have been impressed by the professionalism of the staff and the care provided to our daughter in the infant room. She is so happy and confident with her teachers and classroom aides, who all show a great deal of patience and attentiveness with her. Seven months later, we continue to marvel at the community fostered by TLC, bringing together families of all backgrounds and encouraging an inclusive environment for our children. We couldn't be more pleased with our experience so far, and are eternally grateful for the individualized care our daughter receives. Thank you!"

--Aaron, a current TLC caregiver





# Thank you to our generous donors and volunteers for your continued support of the TLC Community.



**What's so special about inclusive and therapeutic early learning?** TLC Learning Center's unique model enables us to meet every child where they are and support them and their families in accessing the critical, life-changing early learning services they need to be successful in school and beyond. Access to high-quality early intervention services dramatically improves outcomes for children from all walks of life, regardless of their ability or income, and have been shown to benefit children's cognitive, physical, and social-emotional well-being.

In addition to providing occupational, physical, and speech therapies in our Center, in children's homes, and out in the community, each classroom has a team comprised of teachers, therapists, and other support staff who work together to ensure that all children are receiving what they need the healthiest possible start in life.

TLC graduates are individuals who are curious, engaged, and can work well with all types of learners with a wide range of abilities. It is our hope that in doing so, children will approach the world with compassion, empathy, and a lifelong love of learning.



## 2023 TLC Board of Directors



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Celebrating 68 Years of Serving  
Children and Families in Northern Colorado!



TLC Learning Center

*TLC Learning Center has exemplified caring, comprehensive therapeutic early learning and family support for nearly 70 years. Our inclusive environment benefits every child, preparing them for success in school and beyond by fostering empathy, compassion, and a lifelong love of learning.*