



Hanna Perkins Center
for Child Development

A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a white shirt and a pearl earring, smiling warmly as she hugs a young girl from behind. The girl has her hair in braids adorned with pink and white bows and colorful beads. She is wearing a grey t-shirt with a pattern of small animals. The background is a soft, light green circular shape.

Helping kids become the boss of themselves

2024 DONOR IMPACT REPORT AND NEWSLETTER

CEO Karen Baer (left)
and Board President
Mary Reed



Message from the CEO

Dear Friends,

I've been looking back at the year and thinking of people who made an impact at Hanna Perkins Center for Child Development. You are high up on the list. Your support elevates the work we do. You help us reach more children, more families and more professionals.

Throughout this impact report, we are going to share some of the ways that we reach out to our community to provide services, support and guidance. We only recently started producing these impact reports because, to be frank, we often have a hard time talking about our work in a way that clearly communicates what we do. We spend a lot of time doing the work, but how do we get to the essence of it and put it in plain language?

That's part of what's behind our new tagline, which I'm privileged to share with you:

Helping kids become the boss of themselves

I know it sounds a little bold and maybe a little scary but, if you stop and think about it, isn't this what all parents want? We want our kids to be in charge of their feelings and to learn to manage their reactions to those feelings.

In communicating, our goal is to make it easier for people to discover Hanna Perkins and understand what we do in our Community Engagement programs, Hadden Clinic for Children and Families and the Hanna Perkins School.

If you are curious to know more, please come visit us. We would be happy to give you a personal tour. There is no better way to find out more about our mission, programs and strategic priorities as we meet community needs now and into the future.

With sincere gratitude,

Karen Baer, BS, MS, MHA
Chief Executive Officer

Information in this report is based on fiscal years 2022 (ended 6/30/22) and 2023 (ended 6/30/23).



Message from the Board President

Dear Friends,

In recent years, demand for Hanna Perkins Center's services has grown tremendously. Social emotional health and wellness is more important than ever, especially for children. We continue to find innovative, cost-effective ways to deliver our services, so we can serve more children, families and professionals. Your generous support for Hanna Perkins helps children grow and thrive, so they can proudly be who they are in the world.

At Hanna Perkins, we use our deep understanding of child development to help children build lasting self-esteem, adaptive social skills, self-awareness and optimal mental health. Your commitment to Hanna Perkins goes a long way for each child, parent and professional who uses our services.

Your continued generosity provides critical resources to families who are struggling – those who are working hard to be the best version of themselves, often despite significant challenges.

By being a partner in our work, you are critical to meeting our dual goals: to deliver quality services to as many children, families and professionals as possible, while maintaining our financial integrity. In the last five years, we have more than doubled the funds we've raised from generous donors like you. And we have more donors than ever before; over the past two years, 367 people, foundations and businesses have helped Hanna Perkins kids learn to be the boss of themselves.

The work we do can be difficult to describe, but programs and finances are inextricably intertwined. That is why we share our annual financial summaries with you as donors.

Thank you for joining us in this important work.

Gratefully,

Mary Reed
President, Board of Directors



My name is Bill McLeod, Hanna Perkins School, Class of '70.

The faces, names – and even the address – have changed over the years, but this is still the same Hanna Perkins that I remember. It's hard to believe that I've been a Hanna Perkins kid for 55 years now.

When I was very young, my family and I came to Hanna Perkins. It didn't matter that I was new or that I had behavior issues. In my class, there were any number of us who threw tantrums and acted out. We learned how to be in touch with our own feelings and at the same time to be accountable for our actions.

I vividly remember Bitty Dorr. My inner life was chaotic, and she helped me sort it out and feel more in control. I also remember my principal Lois Archer. She showed her affection in ways that I still feel today. Somehow every time I visited her office, my artwork – my masterpieces – were on display. I felt that kind of caring from every single adult at Hanna Perkins.

I recently returned home to Shaker Heights, and reconnecting with Hanna Perkins was one of the first things I did. I had the privilege of visiting a classroom last spring. When I saw today's kids, I was transported back to my childhood spent at Hanna Perkins on Cornell Road. I knew that I was cared for, and that I was important – and I saw the same care and understanding today that I remember from my early childhood.

Every kid deserves Hanna Perkins, even if they can't afford it. I'm proud to support Hanna Perkins so more children can have the life-changing experience I had. We are building a better future, and I thank you for being part of the work we are doing.



Photo by Bruce Orr



**We are building
a better future,
and I thank you
for being part
of the work
we are doing.**

– Bill McLeod

Hanna Perkins School



At Hanna Perkins School, we help children learn the academic fundamentals while also learning to manage themselves in daily life.

Our 1:6 teacher-student ratio, paired with our mindful teamwork with parents on the separation process that's part of all children's early school experience, helps our families feel safe and build relationships with the teachers. We also support each family by pairing them with a specially trained child therapist, providing more resources and personal attention than any traditional early education program.

About 60% of families seek out our school because they are concerned about some aspect of their child's development.

Some of the children who attend our school have suffered trauma. Others are going through difficult life experiences, such as divorce or loss of a parent, adoption or serious medical conditions. Some children have more typical challenges – difficulty with separation and transitions, impulse control, language delays or trouble following directions. And some are here simply because their parents have sought out the best social-emotional early childhood education in Northeast Ohio.

Our school also provides the perfect setting for medical professionals and education students to witness firsthand the stages of early childhood development through classroom observations and participation in our weekly case presentations. In the past year, we have welcomed fellows in Child Psychiatry from Akron Children's Hospital and the Cleveland Clinic. Education majors from John Carroll University have observed in the school. A group of psychologists and social workers from Cleveland and Chicago have been engaged in an intensive introduction to the philosophies and theories underpinning the clinical work provided at Hanna Perkins. This rigorous course has included in-person and videoconference seminars, and is further informed by classroom observation.

Cleveland on the Couch Exhibit

The *Cleveland on the Couch* exhibit has come to Hanna Perkins! Developed by the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center, it was first displayed at the National Museum of Psychology in Akron from September 2021 to February 2022.

Cleveland on the Couch: 75 Years of Psychoanalysis in Northeast Ohio explores the past, present and future of psychoanalysis in our region. From Vienna to Northeast Ohio, it explores the arrival and impact of psychoanalysis in the United States, with a focus on local connections between the Freud family and the establishment of a psychoanalytic stronghold in Cleveland.

We have been hosting private tours with visitors from as far away as London, and larger group events. We hope that you will join us for one of our upcoming tours.



HADDEN CLINIC *for Children and Families*

For the third consecutive year, Hanna Perkins is participating as a Community Partner Champion in the Collaborative Practice course at Case Western Reserve University. Our goal has been to certify the Hanna Perkins educational model as an evidence-based program.

During the first two years, we anonymized and inventoried 375 charts from the school from the last 70 years, identifying and coding each unique data source. This year's team evaluated the qualitative data to determine if we could use our case studies to show proof of progress across groups of children. Of those, 45 files included consistent, objective metrics that will allow us to measure progress both within one child's experience and across our entire school population. This is a solid base for continued data collection and analysis.

Why is it important to move our work toward evidence-based instead of evidence-informed data? It is important to collect data consistently to prove the validity of the work. It also qualifies us to seek additional government and foundation grants to spread the Hanna Perkins Way to even more children and families.

In memory of

Arthur L. Rosenbaum, MD

1933-2023

Dr. Arthur L. Rosenbaum, a psychoanalyst whose affiliation with Hanna Perkins spanned 50 years, died on August 18, 2023, after a brief illness. He is deeply missed by members of Cleveland's psychoanalytic community, who knew him as a thoughtful and quietly effective teacher, supervisor, clinician and friend.

As chair of the American Psychoanalytic Association's (APsaA) Certification Committee, Dr. Rosenbaum recognized the need for analytic candidates to better convey the psychoanalytic process in their written reports. To that end, he wrote seminal articles on the topic, served as co-chair of the writing discussion group at APsaA meetings and developed a writing course for candidates at the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center.

In 2012, he served as Interim Clinical Director at Hanna Perkins, where he facilitated a collaboration with the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center that resulted in the APsaA approved Cleveland Child & Adolescent Psychoanalytic Training Program.

Dr. Rosenbaum excelled in working with the parents of child patients and wrote an often-cited paper on the assessment of parental functioning. We are grateful for his service and cherish his guidance through the decades.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Hospitalized Child



With support from the Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Foundation, Hanna Perkins tripled the number of Hospitalized Child professional development courses offered this year. The course is designed to help child-life professionals guide families through the challenges of childhood hospitalization by understanding a child's situation in context of their phase of child development and the emotional aspects of managing their illness. Child-life professionals are certified specialists who work with children who face prolonged or repeated hospital care. Their job involves two distinct focuses:

- Assisting sick children and their families in coping with the emotional stresses of illness and hospitalization.
- Helping the hospital adapt its procedures and treatments to the emotional needs of children and their families.

Currently, 30 child-life specialists and two psychologists from Northeast Ohio, across the country and Canada are participating in monthly sessions in three distinct groups: new professionals; seasoned child-life workers; and professionals who started in other medical fields and have moved into the child-life specialty. Based on the typical workload, the specialists taking the course have potential to impact a combined 45,000+ individuals a year.

The grant has also allowed the course to be enriched with the addition of therapeutic journaling – to support the workers themselves. Child-life workers experience severe circumstances without many established outlets to process the personal impact of their work. Therapeutic journaling promotes awareness, insight and perspective, and helps them integrate the course materials into their lives and work.

The Hospitalized Child has been stewarded by Devra Adelstein for more than a decade.

She and the other course instructors – Judith Pitlick and Barbara Streeter – are respected experts with decades of experience. We are using this opportunity for them to partner with newer psychoanalytic professionals Chanteenel McClendon, Rique Sollisch and Belinda Torres to develop their own psychoanalytic, teaching and facilitation skills.

Associate Director of Community Engagement Pam Millar is also working with Adelstein to develop a new and much-needed support group for parents and caregivers.

We're grateful to the Elisabeth Severance Prentiss Foundation for its vision in helping to expand this vital program.

Our community engagement division also provides a range of other services, including consulting with child care centers and staff; case work for Cuyahoga County's early childhood Prevention and Inclusion Programs (PIP); teaching our My Mad Feelings bullying prevention curriculum; and providing continuing education training for teachers and social workers.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

PEOPLE SERVED	2022	2023	TOTAL
PIP Consultations	745	1,698	2,443
Trainings: Teachers	1,388	4,110	5,498
Trainings: Social Workers	24	30	54
Teacher Consult	10	324	334
Parent Consult	169	216	385
My Mad Feelings	155	0	155
The Hospitalized Child	21,996	0	21,996
TOTAL	24,487	6,378	30,865



In memory of
Kim Sherwin
1939-2022

Hanna Perkins Center lost a dear friend and kindred spirit with the passing of Kim Sherwin on Aug. 8, 2022.

A lifelong philanthropist, Sherwin became involved with Hanna Perkins late in life. She was struck by how our gentle approach helps children build self-esteem by empowering them to communicate their feelings and needs. She often said that she wished Hanna Perkins had been in her life when she was a child.

In 2019, we honored Sherwin with the Hadden Award for her embodiment of the Hanna Perkins Way and her dedication to improving the lives of children across the region. "People who need help shouldn't have to walk alone," she told us at the time.

At the end of 2021, Sherwin informed us that she had included Hanna Perkins Center in her estate plans. At \$2 million, it is the largest philanthropic gift in our history. She was clear about her priorities at Hanna Perkins during her lifetime, and we will continue to honor those priorities with this gift.

- First, Sherwin always told us that she knew our board and staff would do the right thing in stewarding her gifts. We have established a Flexible Operations Fund to meet current opportunities and challenges as they arise.
- Second, she asked that we honor Elaine Hadden's memory. In accordance with her wishes, a portion of this gift establishes The Kim Sherwin Fund of the Elaine G. Hadden Endowment at the Cleveland Foundation.
- Finally, she wanted to inspire others to support Hanna Perkins Center for Child Development. A portion of her extraordinary gift is designated for a Major Gift Matching Challenge.

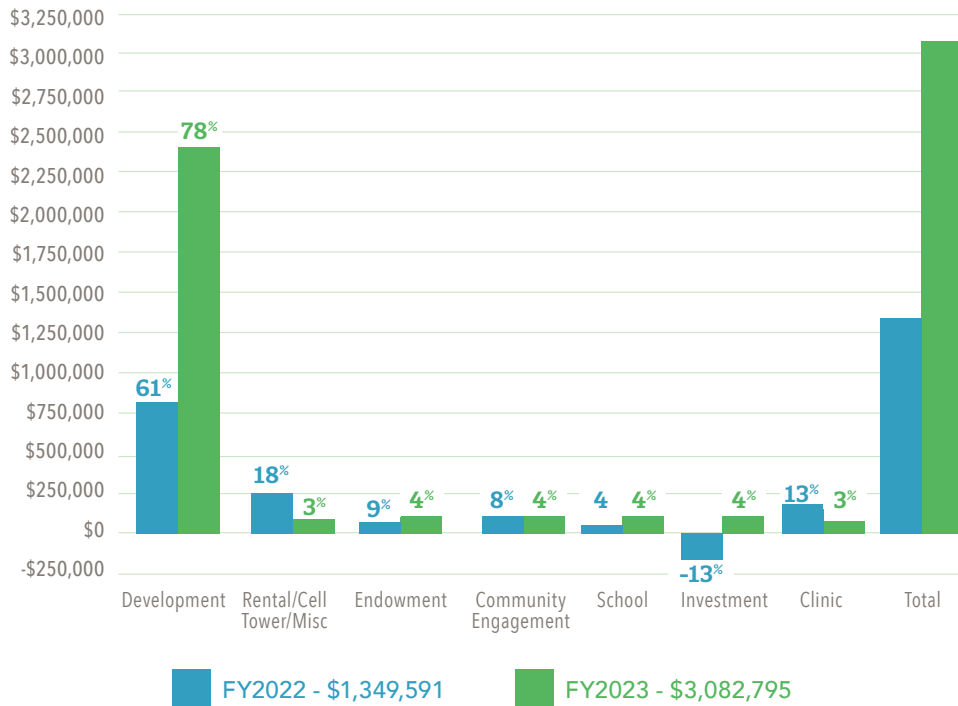
By accepting this gift, we also accept the challenge of extending Sherwin's legacy. Her generosity will help position Hanna Perkins as the premiere center for early childhood development, becoming the contemporary voice of child-appropriate mental healthcare and education in Northeast Ohio and beyond.

Financials



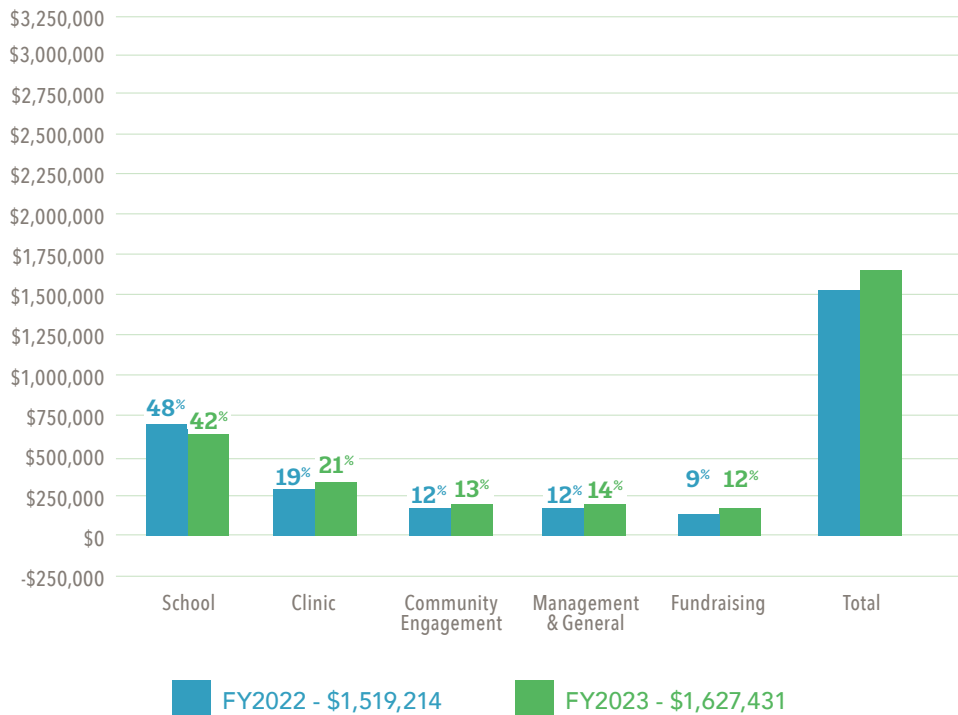
FY2022 and FY2023 Revenue

Where the Money Comes From



FY2022 and FY2023 Expenses

How the Money is Spent



HANNA PERKINS CENTER
FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT:

A Community Resource

Historic Building

We have been busy improving the beautiful Hanna Perkins campus to maximize its use and comfort. In addition to the Hanna Perkins School, the Hadden Clinic for Children & Families and our administrative office, our century-old building is home to 20 outside professionals - 90% of them mental health providers or others who work with children.

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With support from The Perkins Charitable Foundation, we reimagined our distance learning room by installing new technology for in-person and hybrid meetings and workshops. We also purchased the equipment to produce a Hanna Perkins podcast, to be launched this fall.

The Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation and the Perkins Charitable Foundation provided funding to initiate a multi-year replacement plan for the 57 water-sourced heat pumps that run our geothermal system. This vital support provides a safe and welcoming environment for students, clients, tenants, staff and visitors – essential for work that goes on here.

HARVEST *Homecoming*

HARVEST HOMECOMING COMMITTEE

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Alex Hochee

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Andrew Laytin**

Bill McLeod

Taryn Ponsky

Mary Reed**

Jean Sarlson**

Kate Vinciquerra*

* Denotes HPC Staff Members

** Denotes HPC Board Members

On Oct. 7, 2023, Hanna Perkins Center for Child Development hosted its biennial Harvest Homecoming benefit, which helped to raised nearly \$200,000 to support our work at Hanna Perkins School. A keystone of the evening was the "Scholarship Auction," with 100% of those donations directed to student scholarships.

More than 160 guests braved a hailstorm to celebrate under the tent, thanks to the remarkable vision and tireless efforts of this year's co-chairs Angela Owen and Dan Ratner.

The theme, *Cultivating Healthy Ground*, emphasized how social-emotional skills developed at a young age last a lifetime. It also reflected that fundraising sustains the work we do to help give children a strong start in life.

Highlights of the evening included the debut of our video "What is a Feeling?" (If you haven't seen it yet, please go to our website hannaperkins.org to watch it!) We announced our new tagline: **Helping kids become the boss of themselves.**

And we toasted the memories of Dr. Arthur L. Rosenbaum and Kim Sherwin, both of whom have created lasting legacies at Hanna Perkins. Their impact on our work has improved the lives of tens of thousands of children and families.

Inside the school, guests had the opportunity to tour fascinating historical artifacts from our *Cleveland on the Couch* exhibit. Under the tent, guests enjoyed cocktails, dinner from Café 56, and dessert by House of Bell, along with raffles and a live auction with items including a dinner at Il Venetian followed by a helicopter tour, and a ski chalet getaway in Big Sky, Montana.

The evening was the culmination of months of work by our volunteer committee members and Hanna Perkins staff. It brought friends, families, volunteers, donors and new acquaintances together to learn more about Hanna Perkins and support our work.

Work for the 2025 Harvest Homecoming begins soon. Please let us know if you are interested in serving on the committee by contacting Kate at 216.929.0198 or kvinciquerra@hannaperkins.org



HARVEST HOMECOMING 2023

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GROW

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We are pleased to share that our staff continues to grow.



James Hailey joins us as our Finance and Human Resources Director. He does everything from strategic financial planning and managing human resources to paying our bills and managing our client accounts for the Hanna Perkins School, Hadden Clinic for Children and Families and Community Engagement programs.

Nechama "Nina" Reich is a consultant for our Prevention and Inclusion Programs (formerly Special Needs Childcare). In this role, she supports child care providers and their families when children need additional support to be successful in their early childhood education center setting.

Last Day of Shaker Schools



1 pm, Wed., June 5 on the HPC Front Lawn

Let's bid farewell to another wonderful school year! Join us after school for lemonade on the Front Lawn to celebrate the last day of school in Shaker Heights.

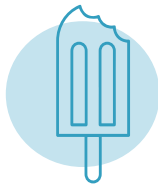
Malvern Centennial Celebration



4 pm, Wed., June 12 on the HPC Front Lawn

Celebrate the 100th birthday of the Malvern School building with cake on the front lawn.

Playground Popsicles



12:30 pm, second Tuesday June-August at the HPC community playground

Chill out with us with refreshing summertime treats. Mark your calendar for these cool gatherings on June 11, July 9 and August 13.

Fall Speaker Series



6 pm, second Tuesday September-December inside Hanna Perkins Center

Join us for insightful discussions on a variety of topics related to child development and family wellbeing. **Mark your calendar for Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12 and Dec. 10.**



PODCAST



Our Psychoanalytic Committee, clinic staff and Hanna Perkins therapists have spent the winter planning a podcast. *The Hidden Language of Children* will serve as a resource for parents and professionals who work with young children. The first 4 episodes will be ready to stream this fall thanks to the leadership of Dan Ratner, Kim Bell and Bob Rosenbaum. Stay tuned!

