



HobeSoundEarlyLearningCenter

Foundations For A Brighter Future



Annual Report

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Mission Statement

The Hobe Sound Early Learning Center provides families, regardless of income, an affordable early-education program incorporating nurturing, education, and recreation to stimulate their children's healthy emotional and social development and help them excel in school and life.

Vision Statement

For all children to realize their full potential in an impactful high-quality, high yield early learning environment.

History



The Hobe Sound Early Learning Center has been serving children and families in Hobe Sound and surrounding areas since 1962. Our programs and services have evolved over the years but our quality and commitment to early childhood development remains the forefront of everything we do. During the 2022-2023 school year, HSELCC served 165 children ages 1-5. Our enrollment number will increase in the 2023-2024 school year and the Center will provide early learning experiences to over 200 students.

A Warm Welcome from The Head of School

When you love what you do, it's more than just work, it's a passion!

I'm lucky enough to be The Head of School at Hobe Sound Early Learning Center. I'm thrilled to share with you all of the magic that is created and cultivated at our early learning center, and the impact we continue to make in our Hobe Sound Community.

Research shows that 90% of the brain is developed by age five, and our educators at HSELCL take this percentage very seriously as we recognize the responsibility we hold in guiding our students to success.

Through implementing different quality programs, we are able to touch upon skill sets that encourage a sense of self, creativity, fine motor skills and even strengthening a young child's memory! These programs continue to add to the quality of our center, and we are eager to add more in the future.

Our team of teachers is dedicated to providing a quality care experience through continuing their education, implementing a social-emotional curriculum, assessments through the Early Learning Coalition, and participating in classroom management trainings such as Conscious Discipline.

Our goal at HSELCL is to create a safe, enriched learning environment for our students to feel loved and supported – along with their families. As educators, we recognize how vital the parent's involvement is to the child's success in school. After all, a parent is a child's first teacher.

Part of our growth this year, was opening three additional classrooms in order to serve and reach more children in the Hobe Sound Community. With this expansion, an additional 54 students under the age of five, will have access to early childhood education.

With access, requires transportation, so we were committed to creating a plan of action to support our families in need. The Hobe Sound Community Chest graciously donated the funds for a 14-passenger bus which allowed us to further support our



mission of reaching those in need. Our bus transports families to and from school every morning and afternoon, with five bus routes total for each shift.

Thank you to The Loblolly Community Foundation for helping us prepare for the increase in enrollment by donating a second van to use for transporting additional families beginning in the 2023 – 2024 school year.

At Hobe Sound Early Learning Center, we absolutely love what we do, the difference we make, and the lives we continue to change – it's an honor to be a part of every student's journey as they graduate from our program – because as Bill Gates said "The first five years, have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out"

Thank you again for making a difference in the lives of the children we serve each and every day!

Ashley Arri

Head of School
Hobe Sound Early Learning Center



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect upon the past year, filled with so many moments of growth and achievement, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the tremendous support and dedication we have received from our community. It is with great pleasure and appreciation that we join in presenting this Annual Report from the Hobe Sound Early Learning Center.

First and foremost, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Rob Kloska, our predecessor as Board President. Rob's steadfast leadership over the past decade-plus played a pivotal role in establishing and nurturing the Center's reputation in Hobe Sound. His dedication and commitment have set the stage for our continued success, and we are deeply grateful for his service.

We would also like to extend our thanks to Tom Weber, who served as the CEO of the Center over the last two years. Tom's efforts were instrumental in seeing the expansion project through to fruition. His dedication and passion for early childhood education have left a positive mark on the Center, and we are immensely

grateful for his contributions.

Beginning several years ago, we embarked on an ambitious endeavor to expand the Center's footprint. Through the collective efforts of our indomitable staff and the unwavering support of the Hobe Sound Community Chest, over the summer, we were able to transform our physical plant with the addition of three new classrooms to accommodate over 200 children ranging from ages 1 through VPK—a forty percent increase in enrollment. This project also resulted in the addition of much needed administrative office space. This remarkable achievement would not have been possible without the generosity and belief of our community, and for that, we extend our sincerest thanks.

In our commitment to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, we have made significant strides in enhancing campus security. The implementation of the Centegix emergency alert system and the installation of a new security fence around the campus have bolstered our efforts to protect our children and staff. The safety of our community, especially the children, faculty and staff at the Center, is a paramount concern for our Board, and we will continue



to prioritize this aspect moving forward.

None of our accomplishments would be possible without the dedication and steady commitment of our remarkable staff, led aptly by our Head of School, Ashley Azzi. Their passion for education and nurturing young minds is evident in every interaction with our students and families. We are grateful for their tireless efforts and the love they pour into their work every single day.

We are also incredibly fortunate to have a diverse and talented Board of Directors, whose wealth of experience and enthusiasm bring a multitude of perspectives to the Center. Their unwavering support and guidance have been instrumental in our success, and we express our deepest appreciation for their commitment to our mission.

Last but certainly not least, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors. Your belief in the mission of the

Center and your generous contributions have made an immeasurable impact on the lives of thousands of children in our community. It is through your support that we are able to provide quality early learning opportunities and set the foundation for a brighter future for each child we serve.

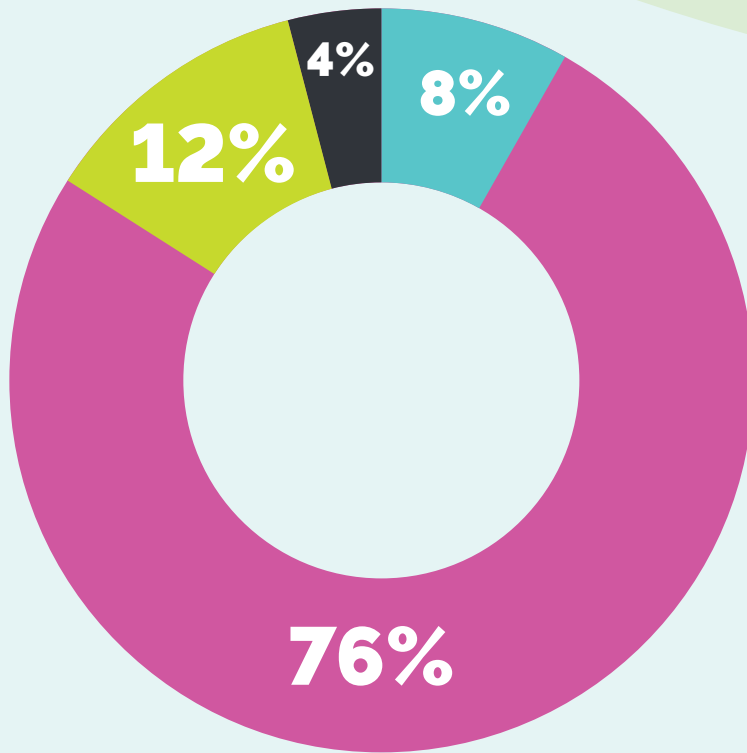
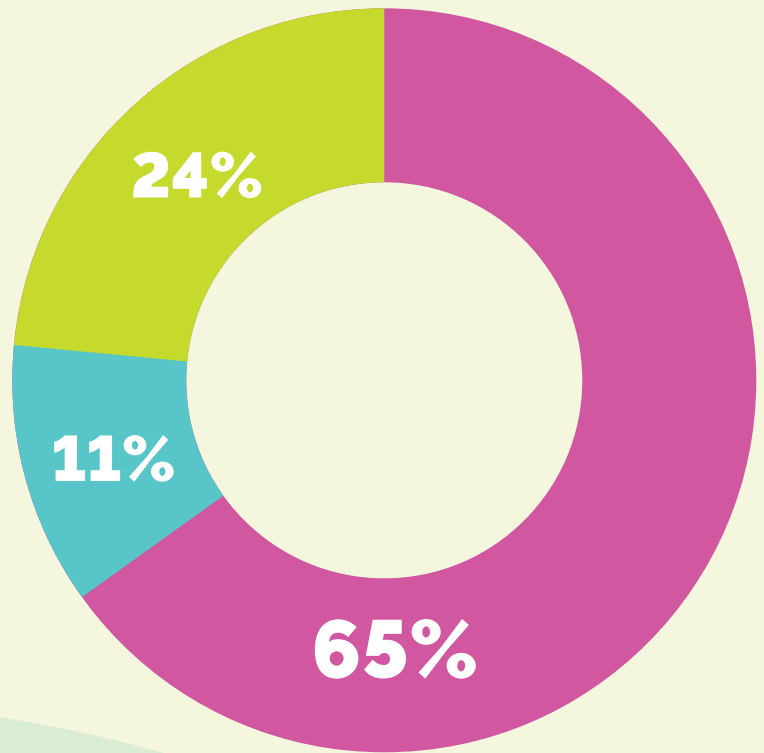
In this annual report, we celebrate the collective achievements and express our deepest gratitude to every individual who has played a part in our journey. It is because of you—our dedicated community—that the Hobe Sound Early Learning Center continues to thrive and make a profound difference in the lives of our youngest learners.

With boundless gratitude and warmest regards,

John Boyer and Steve Bartram
Co-Presidents of the Board
Hobe Sound Early Learning Center

Revenues

- Tuition, Reimbursements, Subsidies
- Community Support
- Fundraising



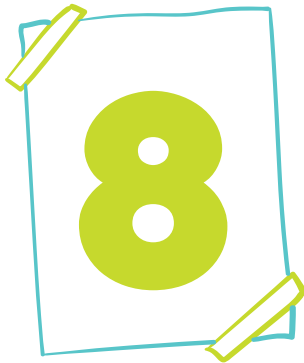
Expenses

- Staff
- Occupancy
- General Expenses
- Fundraising

2021-2022	Total Revenue	\$2,177,609
2021-2022	Total Expenses	\$2,265,167

2022-2023	Total Revenue	\$2,568,223
2022-2023	Total Expenses	\$2,625,166

Impact



**BILINGUAL
STAFF MEMBERS**

Our 14-passenger bus, donated by the Hobe Sound Community Chest, provided transportation to **14 families** attending the Center and an additional **34 Hobe Sound Elementary School students** during the 2022-2023 school year. The Loblolly Foundation graciously awarded the Center a grant to purchase a van to provide additional students and families with transportation beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

13

The Center hosted **13** family events

165

The Hobe Sound Early Learning Center enrolled **165** students

40

Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) students graduated from the Center

65%

of students receive tuition assistance

63,216 FREE HEALTHY, WARM, AND NUTRITIOUS MEALS SERVED

19,076 breakfast | 22,460 lunches | 21,680 snacks

100%

OF OUR TEACHERS HOLD ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
BA Degree, AS Degree, Child Development Associate, or DCF Child Care Certificate





Expansion Project

“UNFOLDING NEW CHAPTERS, EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES”

In 2019 the HSELC Board of Directors identified strategic priorities and committed to give all children in our community access to a quality, early learning experience. They saw a tremendous opportunity to increase our student capacity, reinforce the Center's infrastructure, develop additional staff, bring a full-time social worker on-site, and purchase a new bus. All of these improvements are allowing us to reach, nurture & develop the youngest members of our community.

Phase I which included two new classrooms with a dedicated therapy room, was completed in 2020. Additional teachers and support staff were brought on board to accommodate our increased student enrollment. With Phase I complete, the leadership team with the support of our Board of Directors and generous donors, began work on the second and largest phase.

As part of Phase II, we added three additional classrooms, hired new education staff, and employed an on-site social worker. Extensive upgrades were made to support the increase in students from 155 to 210. Some of these enhancements included expanding the electrical and power supplies for the enlarged footprint of the school, doubling the size of our parking area, and the purchase of a 14-passenger bus to transport children who otherwise would not have access to an early learning opportunity. The final piece of this plan was an extensive beautification project, meeting Martin County code and engineering requirements with the removal of invasive and the addition of new, non-invasive plant materials, and dry detention areas to allow for proper drainage.

Phase II was completed in June of 2022 in large part with the generous support of The Hobe Sound Community Chest, generous grant partners, thoughtful donors and friends who share our strategic vision of providing access and opportunity to all children.

Curriculum



FROG STREET PRE-K curriculum is a comprehensive, dual-language program designed to meet the needs of diverse learners while supporting developmental learning domains. This engaging, interactive pre-kindergarten curriculum celebrates the joy of learning as children travel down the road to success.



FROG STREET THREES provides intentional instruction in key areas of development so children ages 36-48 months can effectively continue the path to kindergarten readiness. This curriculum has well-rounded activities developed around early brain development research, addressing all development domains. It includes social and emotional emphasis through Conscious Discipline.



FROG STREET TODDLER nurtures curiosity through exploration. It focuses on enhancing the simple joy of childhood while equipping parents to nurture curiosity through exploration. This program is specially created for children ages eighteen to thirty-six months. The activities center around five development domains and differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all learners. It is designed with intention and purpose to move children forward in their development.

Head Start & Early Head Start Programs

HSELC contracted with the Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. (ALPI) to provide educational services to Head Start and Early Head Start families. Research has proven how important these formative early years are for children's later successes in school and life. This partnership removes the financial barrier many families face when considering an early childhood education for their children and helps to build the foundations needed to perform academically on their grade level.

Head Start programs support children's growth in a positive learning environment through a variety of services, which include early learning and development, health, and family well-being.

The child's entire family, as well as the community, is involved to create a quality program and assist the child with school readiness.



Conscious Discipline

Conscious Discipline is a comprehensive classroom management program & social-emotional curriculum. It is based on current brain research, child development information & developmentally appropriate practices. Conscious Discipline's foundation is built on the premise of developing discipline within children rather than applying discipline to them.

Conscious Discipline creates a compassionate culture and facilitates an intentional shift in adult understanding of behavior via the Conscious Discipline Brain State Model. It then provides specific brain-friendly, research-based strategies for responding to each child's individual needs. This highly effective approach is proven to increase self-regulation, a sense of safety, connection, empathy and intrinsic motivation in both children and adults.

For over 25 years, Conscious Discipline has fostered a fundamental shift in thinking that empowers adults and children to be the change they want to see in the world.

Embraced in 101 countries and 25 languages, Conscious Discipline's foundation of safety, connection and problem-solving is leading a revolution of the heart as concepts initially applied in the classroom extend to every aspect of our lives – and we are honored to call ourselves a "Conscious Discipline School"

During the 2023-2024 school year, Ginny Luther, Master Instructor, will host an 8-week Conscious Discipline workshop for our parents and the community. This will allow families to learn more about Conscious Discipline and the strategies and tools we use in our school.

"Attending the weeklong Conscious Discipline training was a life changing experience for me! Meeting so many people and creating a bond with fellow educators is something I will cherish forever! I learned so many helpful techniques and strategies that I will be utilizing inside my classroom but also at home with my own children." – Brittany Slifer, 3-year old teacher

Programs



ArtReach

The center's art program under the guidance and leadership of the Lighthouse Gallery, in Tequesta, engages children's imagination in the world of art. The ArtReach program offers children weekly interactive art instruction and materials to inspire their creative spirit. **This program is generously sponsored by the Hobe Sound Community Chest!**

Music Together® Class

This in-school curriculum raises the overall quality of a child's education by touching crucial factors all at once: school readiness, family engagement, parent-child relationships, and teacher professional development. When Music Together is a part of the school day, music is not just fun – it is a powerful learning tool, too! **This program is generously sponsored by the Hobe Sound Community Chest!**

Small Group Instruction

Our certified educator works directly with VPK students in small groups based on their skill levels to provide extra learning opportunities. Small group instruction has been a key factor in our success with students who are struggling with School Readiness Skills.

Parent Empowerment Workshops

These classes are "life changing" and help parents deepen their connection to their children and foster self-love, responsibility, resiliency and self-esteem. They provide young parents the tools they need to create a safe, peaceful & supportive environment in their home. We are enthusiastic about making these workshops available to all parents.

Technology

Classrooms were provided with tablets to help guide children through learning technology skills sets & utilize interactive programming to be prepared for kindergarten.

Bi-Lingual Program

Bi-lingual educators and staff open the lines of communication and prepare students to be fully engaged, informed, and aids in their achieving a level of inclusiveness that enhances their lives.

Healthy Meals and Healthy Minds

Every day, we provide a healthy breakfast, a warm & nutritious lunch and wholesome snacks to all children attending our Center. All meals meet the daily nutritional recommendations for children one-five years of age. Last year we served 63,216 free meals to our students. **On May 1, 2023, the Center partnered with Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County's culinary program. The Fork in the Road program provides workforce development to youth in our community. HSELC is proud to serve meals prepared by certified, trained teens in Hobe Sound.**





Voluntary Prekindergarten

Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) is a free educational program that prepares four-year-olds for success in kindergarten and beyond. The program has been offered at Hobe Sound Early Learning Center (HSELC) since 2005, the year of its inception in the state of Florida.

The school year program requires 540 instructional hours. Students who attend VPK programs can develop improved language skills, independence, score higher on school readiness tests, and have better social skills and fewer behavioral problems once they start school. Students perform pre-assessments and post-assessments to show the progress made throughout the year.

Our VPK students receive additional academic support from our Small Group Instructor. During small

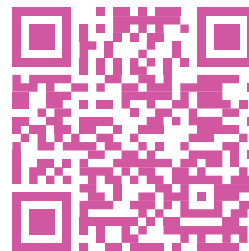
group instruction, students participate in differentiated activities and are provided with individualized instruction based on their needs. Small Group instruction engages children and deepens their understanding in the areas of focus.

Mrs. Linda Shockley, Small Group Instructor, has been with HSELC since 1991. After 33 years of service, commitment, and dedication to the Center, Mrs. Linda has decided to retire. She has spent countless hours working with individual students to ensure growth and progress in various subject areas. She has played a vital role at the Center for many years and although we are sad to see her go, we know this isn't the last we will see of Mrs. Linda.

91%

of our students met or exceeded expectations on their year-end assessment!

Watch Graduation Video



Mary King

AWARD of EXCELLENCE



This Fund was established in 2021 in honor of Mary King, the long-serving Executive Director of the Hobe Sound Early Learning Center in Hobe Sound, Florida. This fund provides an annual monetary award to one Hobe Sound Early Learning Center teacher or staff member each academic year. To qualify for the award, the teacher or staff member must display exemplary collaboration with fellow school family members, exhibit and model excellence as a leader, contribute to the overall environment of HSELCL, demonstrate open mindedness, initiative, and a willingness to expand on current HSELCL practices.

The first ever Mary King Award of Excellence was awarded to Morgan Johns in March 2023. Morgan has served on our staff for 5 years. Morgan has a true passion for working with children and mentoring her fellow teachers. Through the process of getting her Child Associates Degree (CDA), Morgan became a certified CDA observer which allows her to observe and evaluate other teachers while offering teaching strategies and assistance creating a strong classroom routine. In the Spring of 2022, Morgan received her Associates degree and is now working towards her Bachelor's Degree in Early Education. Her unwavering commitment to her goals is truly inspiring. Morgan is always encouraging others to continue their education and supports them along their journey. When it comes to school led fundraisers or community events, Morgan is always willing to volunteer her time. She is known to be the first one to show up and the last to leave. Her commitment to HSELCL over the years has impacted her co-workers, students, and the families we serve. Morgan's positive attitude brings out the best in others and she has the ability to make others feel valued and appreciated. We feel incredibly lucky to have Morgan as part of our school family!

PARENT *Testimonials*



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Our family has been a part of the Hobe Sound Early Learning Center since 2010. We are honored to say our third child is currently attending the Center. All of the teachers throughout the years have been nurturing in every way. Our oldest son Brandon, now 17, will be a senior in high school. Our second child Chassity is 13 and an 8th grader in the Martin County school district. Our youngest Marcus is currently attending the Center in Miss Nicole's VPK class. My eldest children have been on the honor roll since 6th and we feel we owe that all to the staff and teachers at HSEL. The teachers at the Center make sure students are academically ready to start their elementary school years by teaching them the much-needed skills to help them succeed while also teaching them kindness, self-esteem, coping and social skills. All of our children truly enjoyed going to school every day and you can feel the love in the air when you walk through the doors. We felt relieved knowing our children were in a safe, nurturing environment where they could learn and grow. The teachers and staff always find ways to include parents in school activities. We love attending holiday parties, parades, and other family events. We are incredibly grateful for HSEL and although this is our last time around, we couldn't have asked for a better school for our children.

- THE MCCLAIN FAMILY

”

With much love and affection, I'm thrilled to share our experience regarding the development of our first child who entered the Center at the age of three. Our daughter spent two full years there, during which her learning and development were astonishing, thanks to the experienced staff who have the passion to teach.

As Hispanic parents, we had concerns about how to approach the English language with our little one. However, this was not a problem for either the teachers or my daughter as our child was prepared to move forward into kindergarten, where she has the ability to translate and assist the teacher and classmates.

Now, we have our other two little ones at the Center, and we feel very at ease knowing that there is no better place for them to be learning and experiencing new things, alongside people who love their work.

-THE JIMENEZ LOPEZ FAMILY



ALUMNI Stories



I first attended Hobe Sound Early Learning Center 32 years ago as a two-year-old. I remained at the school until I graduated Pre-K. I still remember the excitement of saying hello and good-bye to "Dunkin the Dinosaur" each day. My life has now come full circle. My daughters are now attending HSEL, both started in the one-year old class! It's a very nostalgic feeling to be back at the school during daily drop offs and pick-ups.

While looking for a preschool, HSEL checked all the boxes. They have clean and fun classrooms and outdoor play areas, great parent communication, and age appropriate curriculums. The school staff and teachers are professional and friendly. They create a warm and inviting environment that makes my girls feel safe. As a current Martin County School District teacher, I understand the importance of developing a strong foundation for learning. HSEL goes the extra mile to support all the areas of social and emotional development. Our daughters are thriving, and we are extremely happy with their growth. From all the way back in 1991 to the current day, HSEL has always been the best!

- BRIANNA CAMPBELL AND FAMILY

I started at Hobe Sound Early Learning Center in 1990 and was there until I graduated. I remember how special it was being able to talk to Ms. Colleen, my best friend's mom, who happened to work at the Center. It gave me more of a sense of belonging at a young age. I loved having Ms. Debbie as my VPK teacher and was excited to watch my son get to experience the same teachers and people years later, before Ms. Debbie and Ms. Colleen retired. HSEL was a place that felt like home, that felt like family. I still have friendships I forged from there, I have memories of this special place. I remember when Barbara Bush visited, I remember some of the songs we learned, it is truly amazing to think back 33 years ago and remember some things from that time. HSEL set the foundation to my education and my life. HSEL is a large part of my family, with 2 siblings, cousins, nieces, nephews, and my son all attending over the years, we have seen it grow and flourish into what it is today. Seeing teachers who not only teach your children, but care about them and their wellbeing is all any parent can ever want when sending their child to school.

-MANDEE JOHNS AND FAMILY





Timeless Dedication, Lasting Impact!

It's a very special time at Hobe Sound Early Learning Center! We

think all of our school family members are fabulous however, this year will recognize and celebrate our **FAB 5** who's combined years have served our young students for over 130 plus years.

From teachers, to our kitchen crew, to our maintenance and business managers, this special group has stayed the course and provided so much to so many, contributing to the Center's stability and culture.

Kathy Cagni "Miss Kathy," has been on staff since 1994, rising from an assistant teacher to lead teacher and more recently our valued business manager. Her son, daughter and nephew all attended HSELCL as young students. Miss Kathy shared that, Hobe Sound is such a small town that she's forever meeting someone who'll say something like, 'Johnny just graduated college -look at his picture', referring to a former student of hers."

Hope Gillespie has been cooking up a storm at HSELCL for 21 years. She loves the fact that her sister works in the kitchen right along with her. A cousin, son and daughter have attended the school as young learners. Miss Hope shared that it's the kindness that employees are shown by everyone, including volunteers and benefactors of the school, that keeps her coming back year after year!

In her 33 years at Hobe Sound Early Learning Center, Linda Shockley has taught VPK and three- and four-year-olds. Miss Linda says that working with the children and watching

them grow and blossom is the best feeling in her heart. One of Miss Linda's favorite memories took place in 1992 when then-First Lady Barbara Bush visited HSELCL and Linda was able to meet her.

As our Maintenance Manager, "Mr. Roy" – Willie R. Parks – has kept the physical aspects of the Center running smoothly for 30 years. Some of his happiest memories are of seeing his own grandchildren and great-grandchild graduate from HSELCL. Mr. Roy has many other roles such as Chief Listener, Mr. Fixer (of anything in need of repair), Best Builder (of all furniture assembly) and our favorite of all, Friend.

Suzanna Anderson does not have children of her own however, she's always felt that her students are an extension of her own family. Miss Sue says she's forever blessed to have had the chance to teach them. In her early years at HSELCL, one of her three-year old students gave her a silver locket with his picture in it because he loved her. Sue's 23 years at HSELCL have been filled with joy at watching the children thrive and grow.

We are thrilled that each of these very special individuals are important members of our school family. Their abilities, commitment and contributions to the Center are the many reasons that HSELCL is so special.

People are our greatest asset. We thank Kathy, Hope, Linda, Roy, and Sue for all you do!



Watch Parade Video



HALLOWEEN PARADE

Another Spooktacular Halloween parade took place on October 28, 2022. It was a magical day of costumes and creativity! Parents and families lined the playground to watch their child march in the Halloween parade. This annual, festive event brought out friendly and spooky spirits! From witches and goblins, to princesses and cartoon characters, we saw an entertaining variety of costumes! We're looking forward to another hauntingly happy Halloween parade again in the 2023-2024 school year!

“ WHERE IMAGINATION KNOWS NO LIMITS
AND EVERY STEP BRINGS NEW WONDER. ”

Watch Parade Video



EASTER PARADE

There was joy and laughter as our students and teachers showed off their creativity during the annual Easter Bonnet Parade & Contest. Everyone embraced their playful spirits as they paraded around the playground displaying their unique, colorful bonnets. Families were cheering and their children were beaming with pride! Prizes were awarded for the Most Unique, Best Easter Theme, Most Humorous, and Best Teacher designed bonnet!

Thank you to our incredible judges Beth Leonard with Hobe Sound Farmers Market, Raul Mastrapa, Center parent, Jenny Ojeda, Program Coordinator of the Hobe Sound Community Chest, and Drew Grey, Director of Fatherhood Programs at Martin County Healthy Start Coalition, Inc. Thank you Peter Gorman with Peter Gorman Photography for capturing this special event!



Going Above & Beyond

TO PROVIDE QUALITY EDUCATION



Early Learning Coalition Scores

CLASS is an observation tool that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in preschool classrooms. CLASS includes three domains or categories of teacher-child interactions that support children's learning and development: Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support.

As an Early Learning Center who benefits from the support of the Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin, and Okeechobee Counties, we are held to a higher standard of providing quality, age appropriate, programs and educational opportunities for our students ages one – five.

During the 2022-2023 school year, four of our classrooms were assessed and exceeded ELC's expectations! We couldn't be prouder of the dedicated team of teachers that we have here at HSEL! Our teachers are always finding innovative ways to inspire and engage their students. We feel incredibly lucky to have such a special group of educators that are committed to creating the foundations of a child's success in school by igniting the magic in learning and supporting their social-emotional development.

Community Collaborations



USING OUR PASSION
AND KNOWLEDGE TO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE



At Hobe Sound Early Learning Center, we recognize the importance of a child's early brain development for building a strong foundation that supports learning. We believe that children thrive when we address their cognitive, emotional, and social needs. In order to ensure that each child's unique developmental needs are met, we collaborate closely with various community agencies specializing in early childhood intervention. Our cooperative partnerships promote a cohesive and united effort to support our children's growth.

One such agency we work closely with is the **Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System** (FDLRS), which plays an essential role in assessing children's abilities. FDLRS is equipped with a team of professionals trained and experienced in identifying a wide range of developmental challenges and learning differences. This expertise ensures accurate evaluations and effective interventions tailored to each child's unique requirements in order to address challenges. FDLRS offers an array of services including speech therapy and occupational therapy. Families are able to receive multiple forms of support under one organization, streamlining the intervention process and reducing the need for families to navigate various agencies separately.

Another vital community partner is **Tykes and Teens**, which focuses on supporting the emotional well-being and mental health of our young learners. Partnering with Tykes and Teens provides valuable insights and strategies that assist teachers, parents, and caregivers in fostering children's emotional resilience and social competency. An assigned therapist meets with children enrolled in the program, on-site at the Center, once a week for individual sessions in which parents can also participate. This early emphasis on emotional well-being sets the stage for healthy relationships, effective communication, and self-regulation skills that are crucial for a child's overall development.

We are also proud to work in conjunction with **Helping People Succeed**, an agency known for its outstanding behavioral program. This partnership strengthens our commitment to providing a comprehensive educational experience. Their behavioral programs work closely with families to provide effective strategies for managing behavioral challenges that may arise. Their evidence-based approach equips our teachers with the tools to address behavioral issues sensitively and proactively, which also enriches the learning environment.

We believe in fostering relationships with our parents and caregivers so that they are actively engaged in their child's development and are included in every step. Our collaborative efforts not only benefit the children under our care but extends out to support our families. The partnerships created with our local agencies help us to empower families with the tools and strategies needed to continue nurturing their child's growth at home. Together we strive to provide a strong educational foundation that prepares our young learners with the skills, confidence, and enthusiasm needed for a successful academic journey. By partnering with FDLRS, Tykes and Teens, and Helping People Succeed, we are able to address a spectrum of developmental, emotional, and behavioral needs. These collaborations are a testament to our commitment to ensuring that each child receives the best possible foundation for their future growth and success.

Family Events

“ TOGETHER
IS A WONDERFUL
PLACE TO BE. ”



During the 2022-2023 school year, the Center hosted numerous family events to encourage parent engagement and involvement. The events gave families the opportunity to spend time in their child's learning environment while participating in entertaining and exciting programs. Music Night with Miss Jodi allowed families to make fond memories while singing and dancing. Art Night with Sip & Splatter made for a special night of creativity and color! Our Daddy-Daughter Dance was a huge success. The night was full of dancing, laughing, and bonding! The sweet event gave dads and daughters the opportunity to create cherished memories that they will remember for years to come. The Mommy & Me Tea Party gave families a chance to celebrate the bond between a mother and her child in a delightful way! There were delicate pastries and sandwiches served with tea and an adorable backdrop for photo opportunities. These fun events were enjoyed by all and we look forward to creating more memories with our families during the 2023-2024 school

Leaders ARE Readers



The Leaders are Readers program was established during the 2022-2023 school year. This fun, educational program allows members in our community to share a book with our students and discuss the importance of reading. The program allows the Center to collaborate with other organizations in Hobe Sound and surrounding areas who share a love for learning, reading, and are passionate about academic success for young children.

Benefits of reading to children include:

- Supports cognitive development
- Improves language skills
- Increases vocabulary
- Prepares child for academic success
- Increases concentration and discipline
- Improves imagination and creativity
- Cultivates a lifelong love of reading



Thank you to our 2022-2023 Leaders!

Dr. Amber Deckard, *Alma Neurocognitive Specialty Group, LLC.*

Elisabeth Glynn, *Director of Philanthropy, United Way of Martin County*

Angela Hoffman, *Vice President Stuart Martin Chamber of Commerce*

Lainey Muenich, *Chief Executive Officer, Hobe Sound Chamber of Commerce*

Angel Robertson, *Outreach Coordinator for Congressman Brian Mast*

Phillip Rooney, *Philanthropist and Retired Capt. U.S. Marine Corp.*

George Stokus, *Assistant County Administrator, Board of County Commissioners*



CHILI COOK OFF SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsor

\$5,000

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Avonda

Cayenne Sponsor

\$2,500

"Gramma"

Hospitality, Kids' Zone, and Entertainment Sponsors

\$1,500

Bank of America

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& Construction

Jalapeno Sponsors

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Poblano Sponsors

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Treasure Coast Wallcovering
WGI, Inc.

Watch Event Video



Chili Cook Off

Hot bowls for a cool cause! It was a perfect, crisp, sunny day for the 6th Annual Chili Cook Off benefitting the Center! The event took place on Saturday, January 14, 2023. Competitors from Hobe Sound and surrounding areas brought the heat and ignited the crowds' taste buds for a chance to win titles, trophies, and bragging rights! This was a CASI (Chili Appreciation Society International) sanctioned event so the stakes were high for many of our competitors. Not only did chefs showcase their culinary skills, they decorated their booths to represent their team name and theme! Jupiter Narrows Band entertained the crowd and the Kids' Zone was open with fun activities for children of all ages.



**Taste, savor, and
vote at next year's
Chili Cook Off!**

**SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2024**

*A heartfelt thank you to all the chefs,
judges, attendees, and volunteers who
made this event unforgettable!*



TEACHER & STAFF DRIVEN

Fundraisers



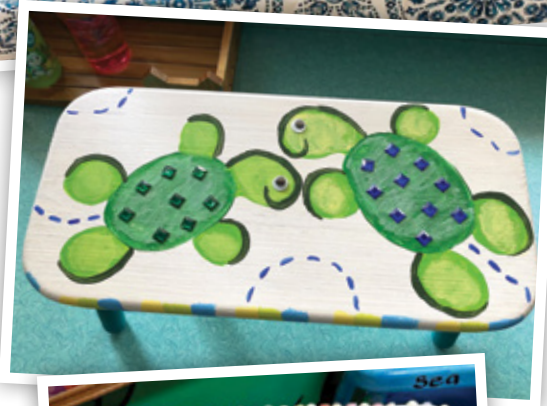
Poinsettia Sales

Spreading holiday cheer through selling festive flowers is one way the school participates in fundraising. This fundraiser is supported by businesses, organizations, and families in the community who purchase poinsettias for the holiday season. This initiative allows teachers and staff to take an active role in supporting their classroom needs and enhances their sense of ownership and pride in their teaching environment.



Penny Wars

Once again, a penny war was declared at the Center! Teachers and families enjoy this FUNdraiser year after year. We saw a lot of friendly competition during this week-long event! All funds raised were distributed back into the classroom for materials and supplies needed to provide our students with the educational and developmental tools needed to be successful in school and their future. The Purple Room was the 2023 Penny War Champion!



Step Stool Auction

The Step Stool Auction was a big hit again this year. Teachers and students created different designs to represent their classroom. This fundraiser allows teachers and students to showcase their creativity and imaginations while raising funds for their classrooms. This unique approach to fundraising not only helps meet the immediate needs of classrooms but also empowers teachers to take a creative role in supporting their students' learning experiences. Parents, friends, and families had a week to place bids on their favorite stools. **Thank you, Sands Construction of Hobe Sound, for donating stools again this year.** We appreciate your continued support to the Center!





2022-2023 Annual FUND

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the children we serve each day!

Graduating Society

\$100,000 - \$125,000

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Flinn

Leading Society

\$25,000-\$49,999

Jansing-Cook Foundation

Achieving Society

\$20,000-\$24,999

Cox Foundation
The McCausland Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. William Whelan

Guiding Society

\$10,000-\$19,999

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bartram
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Botsford
Mr. & Mrs. E. Philip Franke
Mr. & Mrs. Clement McGillicuddy
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Quesada
Mr. William Whitman

Advancing Society

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Allen
Ms. Heidi Cox
Hayford Family Foundation
James Riepe Family Foundation
Mr. John Madigan
Mrs. Lee Styslinger

Developing Society

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Mrs. Tristram Colket
Discovery Land Company
Free & Accepted Masons of Florida
Jupiter Light Lodge No. 340
Mr. & Mrs. John Keller
Mrs. Douglas Seaman
The Florence Mahoney Foundation
The Henry Foundation

Supporting Society

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Accel Foundation
Mrs. Victoria Brox
David & Elizabeth Long Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Dwyer

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bagby
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bent
Mr. & Mrs. John Boyer
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Brooks
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Buck
Mr. & Mrs. Willard Bunn, III
Mr. & Mrs. George Conrades
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas G. Cousins
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Geddes
Mr. & Mrs. Clay Hardon
KL Consulting
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Krehbiel
Legatus Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Per Lofberg
Mr. & Mrs. W. Scott McGraw
Mr. & Mrs. John McKenna
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Murray
Mr. & Mrs. Claude Nielsen
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh O'Kane
Mr. & Mrs. William W. Shelden
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Sheperd
The Abra Wilkin Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Timbers
Mr. F. Borden Walker
Mrs. Patricia Warner
Mr. Robert Watson

Yellow Blocks

\$500 - \$999

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Balderston
In honor of Philip Franke & Natalie Whelan
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bartram
In honor of Ann Mehling
Mr. & Mrs. H. Alex Bradford
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Bubla
In honor of Rob Kloska
Mr. & Mrs. Bryan Colley
Ms. Carolyn Goodman
Gorter Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick O. Hanser
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Jones
Mrs. Jean B. Mahoney
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Marsh
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen McPherson
Ms. Julia Murray
Nelson Mead Fund
Network For Good
Mrs. John Payson
Mrs. Ralph Sexton
Mr. & Mrs. Royce B. Towner, II
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley S. Trotman
Mr. & Mrs. William Wallace
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Weber
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Wiedenmayer
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas White

Green Blocks

\$250 - \$499

Mrs. Robert Carr
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Cruger
Mr. & Mrs. William O. DeWitt
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Fridholm
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Parsons
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rowden
Mr. & Mrs. John Welsh
Mr. & Mrs. Jay McLean Wilson

Blue Blocks

\$100 - \$249

Mr. & Mrs. John Cavanaugh
Mrs. Allen Dines
Mrs. Frank W. Ford
Mrs. Nina Griswold
Mrs. Richard A. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kloska
Ms. Loretta Kocik

Mr. Peter Lawson-Johnston
Mrs. James McGraw
Mr. & Mrs. John Reese
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sawicki
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Sheperd
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Steiner
Mrs. Kathleen Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Royce B. Towner, II
In honor of Rob Kloska

Purple Blocks

\$99 and below

Mrs. Cinttya Alba
Ms. Kiersten Alberto
Ms. Suzanna Anderson
Ms. Dee Ardolino
Mr. & Mrs. Cody Azzi
Ms. Kathy Cagni
Mrs. Natasha Ernst
Ms. Marissa Franke
Ms. Sandy Gomez
Ms. Cheyenne Hall
Ms. Morgan Johns
Mrs. Barbara King
Ms. Lisha Lopez
Mr. & Mrs. Drew Nash
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Naumann
Ms. Ursula Nicolas
Ms. Roxette Ojeda
Ms. Patty Phillips
Ms. Petra Pitkonen
Ms. Sheila Preston
Ms. Madelyn Thies
Mrs. Jennifer Sardina
Mr. & Mrs. Jules Shockley
Ms. Beth Sikes
Ms. Natasha Woods
Mr. & Mrs. Dante Zanetti

SAFETY & SECURITY CAMPAIGN

Mr. & Mrs. J. Geddes Parsons
\$50,000

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bartram
\$10,000

Cox Foundation
\$10,000

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Casa Del Vino
Craft Haus
Hobe Sound Social & Coffee
Ms. Morgan Johns
The Lavish Palm
Legendairy Treats
Monkee's of Stuart
Mr. & Mrs. Drew Nash
Osprey Graphics
Lowell Palmer
Peter Gorman Photography
Ms. Patty Phillips
Sands Construction Co.
Scooter's Fun Food & Spirits
Ms. Jaime Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Steiner
Taste Casual Dining
Ms. Rachel Terlizzi
The Grove Cucina & Wine Bar
The Print Shop
Winn Dixie - Hobe Sound

GRANTS

Community Foundation for Palm Beach Martin
Christ Memorial Chapel
Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin, & Okeechobee Counties
Hobe Sound Community Chest, Inc.
Loblolly Community Foundation
The Honda Classic
United Way of Martin County

WAYS TO *Get Involved*

Annual Gifts: Including HSELG in your annual charitable contributions ensures there will always be resources to continue our stellar programming.

Monthly Giving: You can impact more children and help HSELG receive a consistent source of revenue year-round.

Gifts in Honor or Memory: Honor someone special or remember a loved one by giving a gift in their name.

Matching Gifts: Many employers will match a gift to HSELG made by an employee, employee's spouse or a retiree.

Events: Sponsor or purchase tickets to a Center event.

Gifts of Stock & Securities: There are advantages to donating stock directly to HSELG rather than liquidating and donating. You can claim the full market value of the stock on the day it was given, and you do not have to pay capital gains tax when stock is donated.

In-Kind Donations: In-kind donations are important and provide vital budget relieving goods or services. In-kind donations are tax-deductible at the depreciated value of the donation and allow the Center to concentrate our resources to fund our children's programming.

Bequests & Planned Gifts: Your lifetime of good work can become a legacy. Estate provisions often can make gifts possible that might not have been possible during your lifetime. Deferred gifts can be made through bequests in a will or trust, and include gifts of appreciated stock, bonds, mutual funds, life insurance or another planned giving vehicle.

Ways to Give



VISIT hobesoundearlylearningcenter.org

CALL 772-546-5462

SEND GIFT to 11580 SE Gomez Avenue, Hobe Sound, FL 33455



**Give a gift
*today!***



HobeSoundEarlyLearningCenter

Foundations For A Brighter Future



11580 S.E. GOMEZ AVENUE, HOBE SOUND, FLORIDA 33455

www.hobesoundearlylearningcenter.org



United Way
of Martin County



Christ
Memorial
Chapel