
Children's Investment Fund Newsletter



Community Art Center's school-age program, Cambridge

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

We are enjoying a busy 2019, with many exciting projects in development and with early education as a popular topic of discussion at the national and local levels. At the end of 2018, we were awarded over \$1 million in new equity to increase our pool of low-cost lending capital for early education and out-of-school time nonprofit providers. We are grateful for this investment which allows us to expand our facility development financing model to better serve more children.

We are happy to welcome two new Board members to this work— Anne Douglass, Executive Director of the Institute for Early Education Leadership & Innovation and Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston; and Khushbu Webber, Director of Public Policy at the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. We are delighted to have them both.

Best,



Theresa Jordan
Director of Children's Facilities Finance

Project Spotlights:

Community Art Center

[Community Art Center](#) (CAC), an afterschool program serving the Port neighborhood of Cambridge, celebrated the completion of a major renovation in December. The arts and youth development center received an Early Education and Out of School Time Capital Fund (EOST) award of \$750,000 in 2016 as well as predevelopment and long-term financing from Children's Investment Fund. The project resulted in:

- Beautified entry way and exterior signage to increase access to community resources in the building
- Six revitalized school-age classrooms/art studios
- A new commercial kitchen that serves up to three meals a day for 78 children and is open for community events
- Fully upgraded Heating, Ventilation and Cooling System that increases comfort for three programs which collectively engage 300+ youth and their families
- Expanded teen program space including a new media lab and public art studio

These important upgrades ensure that CAC can continue to offer high-quality afterschool well into the future as it celebrates 80 years of programming for Cambridge's children.



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One of CAC's newly renovated classrooms



This updated kitchen serves up to three meals a day to children in CAC's school-age program.

Worcester Community Action Council

In 2015, when severe winter weather caused significant damage to the roof of [Worcester Community Action Council](#) (WCAC)'s early education center in Oxford, the program was faced with the task of relocating 4 displaced Head Start classrooms and 15 staff. WCAC provided transportation to another site in Southbridge for several years while it developed plans for a new program.

On March 1st, the organization celebrated the grand opening of a Head Start program operating out of a newly-renovated center in Webster. The building, which was a former senior center, houses 4 classrooms serving 71 children and their families. WCAC received a grant of \$600,000 from the EEOST Capital Fund as well as predevelopment funding from Children's Investment Fund.



Head Start preschoolers join Congressman Jim McGovern, Senator Ryan Fattman, Representative Joseph McKenna, and Worcester Community Action Council staff members in their new classroom.

Planning to Improve your Facility?

The Fund offers [predevelopment loans](#), [acquisition loans](#), and [permanent financing](#) as well as invaluable technical assistance to you and your team.

For more information, contact **Theresa Jordan** at 617-727-5944, ext. 107 or tjordan@childrensinvestmentfundma.org.

Events:

Enterprise Community Partners "Home & Hope" webinar

Theresa Jordan was pleased to be a panelist for the Enterprise Community Partners webinar in February entitled "Designing Home & Hope: Pairing Housing and Early Childhood Education Facilities — Case Studies from Boston and Seattle." Enterprise published the [Home & Hope](#) report in 2018 to document the development process and key issues to consider for co-locating housing and early education and care. [Children's Investment Fund and CEDAC have invested in several of these facilities](#) and Theresa presented a case study of one Boston program co-locating afterschool space with affordable housing. Over 70 participants from across the country joined the webinar.

Check out the [recorded webinar](#) online.



CEDAC's 40th Anniversary Event

CEDAC celebrated its 40th anniversary on March 14th at MIT's Samberg Conference Center. CEDAC honored former State Representative Mel King for his contributions to community development and Children's Investment Fund honored Judy Cody, Executive Director of the Beverly Children's Learning Center, with the *Mav Pardee Award for Building Quality*. Judy created a high-quality early learning center for over 160 children, working closely with the Fund. The event also featured a "lightning talk" focused on early education and out-of-school time facilities with Gail Fortes, Executive Director of the YWCA of Southeastern Massachusetts; Mav Pardee; and Theresa Jordan.

View [CEDAC's 2018 Annual Report](#) to see an interactive timeline of key milestones over the last 40 years.



Partnership News:

BOSTON PRIVATE

▫ COMMUNITY INVESTMENT ▫

Children's Investment Fund is grateful for Boston Private Bank & Trust Company's support of its work in 2019. Boston Private has been a longstanding partner of CEDAC's and it recognizes the role that early education plays in promoting economic development. Thank you Boston Private!

In the News:

Children's Investment Fund's 2011 report, *Building an Infrastructure for Quality*, is highlighted in an [op-ed in Roll Call](#) written by Linda Smith, Director of the Bipartisan Policy Center's Early Childhood Development Initiative.

Massachusetts was noted several times as a national leader in facility financing during the webinar event [A National Conversation on Early Learning Facilities](#) hosted by the Bipartisan Policy Center.

The University of Massachusetts Boston released its [first report](#) for an initiative to better understand the early education workforce in Massachusetts. The Fund participates in the Advisory Group for this effort and new Fund Board member, Anne Douglass, is a principal author.

CEDAC's INSITES blog converses with previous directors of Children's Investment Fund— [Dan Violi](#), [Viki Bok](#), and [Mav Pardee](#).

New Research:

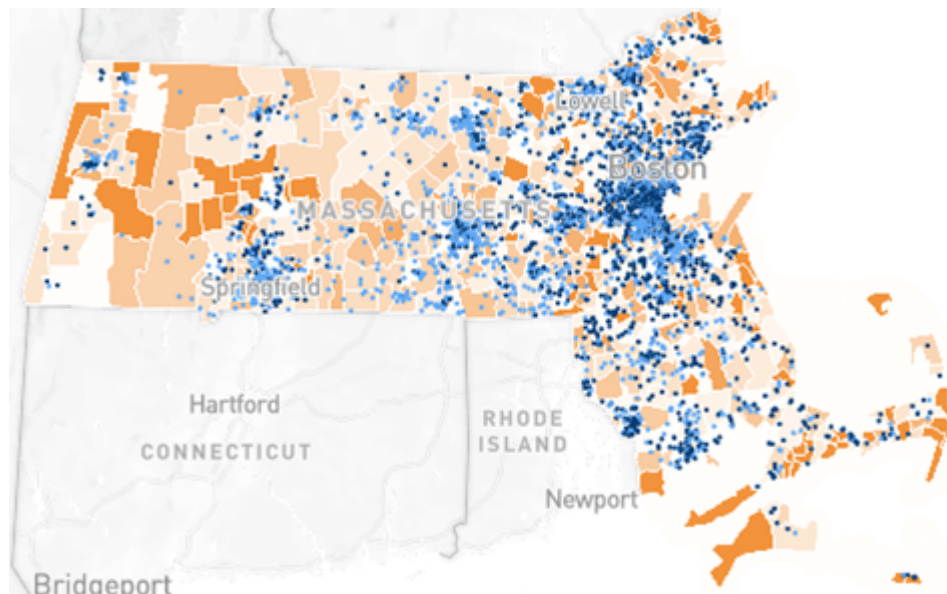
Child Care Deserts and the Importance of Early Education Infrastructure

In December, the Center for American Progress released new research on [child care deserts in America](#)—defined as census tracts in which there are more than three young children for every licensed child care slot available in the community.

Over half (51%) of Americans and 53% of Massachusetts residents live in a child care desert.

Lack of child care options for families impacts the ability of parents to work and the quality of opportunities available to their children. The preservation and construction of high-quality facilities for early education can help alleviate this problem. One of the report's policy recommendations is to invest more in the infrastructure of early education and care just as the nation invests in its bridges, roads, and schools.

Visit the Center for American Progress' interactive [data map](#) to view child care deserts in your community.



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