
Children's Investment Fund Newsletter



A toddler at the Haverhill YMCA plays on a new play space funded by the FY21 EEOST Capital Fund program.

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

Over the last several months, early childhood education and out-of-school time providers across the state have continued to work on facility improvement projects. Some have been completed and others have just begun. Centers are busy welcoming new children for the fall.

We celebrate alongside the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) the [most recent EEOST Capital Fund awardees](#), who were announced at an in-person event this week by Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. We are also happy to announce that five centers in Boston are improving their accessibility, [thanks to generous support from the Liberty Mutual Foundation](#).

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and we welcome your feedback!

Best,



Theresa Jordan
Director



Program News:

FY22 EEOST Capital Fund Round

This fall, the Baker-Polito Administration awarded a total of \$3.9 million in capital grants to 17 projects throughout the Commonwealth as part of the FY22 [Early Education and Out of School Time \(EEOST\) Capital Fund](#) grant round. Among these new projects are Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) upgrades, new windows, and outdoor play space improvements. A complete list of awardees and more information about the round can be found on [our blog](#) and on the [EEC website](#).

On September 20th, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito celebrated the awards with an [event at the Methuen YMCA](#), which was one of several grantees receiving \$250,000. The Lt. Governor toured the facility, which currently serves over 200 toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children. In her remarks, Department of Early Education and Care Acting Commissioner Kershaw recognized the ongoing efforts that the child care industry has sustained throughout the pandemic, noting that, "the Commonwealth runs on child care!"



EEC Acting Commissioner Amy Kershaw, Representative Linda Dean Campbell, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Representative Frank Moran, and the FY22 EEOST Awardees.



CIF Director Theresa Jordan, EEC Acting Commissioner Amy Kershaw, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Merrimack Valley YMCA CEO Frank Kenneally, and Representative Linda Dean Campbell.

Inclusive Futures Capital Grant Program

In March, CIF launched a small capital grant program to fund accessibility improvements in Boston centers.

[Five centers recently received grants](#) for improvements such as ramps, elevator repair, outdoor play space modifications, and other items that increase the accessibility of the centers. Projects must be completed by spring 2023, so stay tuned for updates on their progress.

We are grateful to the generosity of the Liberty Mutual Foundation for making this work possible!



Accessibility consultant Tejal Mhatre of KMA assesses parking spaces at a site visit for the Inclusive Futures grant program.



The Inclusive Futures review team looks at a door threshold and entrance to assess its compliance with accessibility code.

2022 Facility Needs Survey Results

Each year, CIF conducts a survey of the early childhood education and out-of-school time field in Massachusetts to learn about current facility challenges and needs.

This year, the survey was offered in English and in Spanish. 132 centers and family child care providers responded. While the survey is not necessarily a representative sample of the field, it offers important information on capital needs. Some takeaways from the survey include:

- 1 out of every four programs responding reported a lack of operable windows in all of their classrooms, which is critical to providing adequate ventilation
- 1 of every three programs do not have at least one sink in all their classrooms, which is important for frequent handwashing to prevent the spread of disease
- Close to half of the programs have an HVAC system that is either 20 years old or more, or of an undetermined age
- 88% of those responding need a building renovation – the top needs are updating core mechanical systems and renovating other interior spaces such as classrooms/bathrooms

Thanks to all of the providers who took the time to respond! These results will inform our work over the next year and help us communicate the need for additional investment in facilities.

Looking to improve your facility?

Children's Investment Fund can help you along your journey to renovate space, newly construct a building or addition, and/or acquire property. CIF offers financing, training, and technical assistance to support the creation of high-quality educational space. Reach out to Theresa Jordan by emailing tjordan@childrensinvestmentfundma.org if you'd like to learn more about our services.

Project News and Events:

East Boston Social Centers

In May, East Boston Social Centers (EBSC) celebrated the completion of a [new site for infants and toddlers](#). The FY20 EEOST Capital Fund round awarded EBSC \$1M for the project, which involved renovating the ground floor of the historic Barnes School Senior Housing development on Marion Street in East Boston. The organization was able to preserve 7 infant and 26 toddler slots that were displaced because of a previous site in Chelsea needing to relocate. In addition, it was able to add capacity for 7 new infant slots which are in high demand in the city of Boston.

Congratulations to the EBSC team on this accomplishment!



EEC Acting Commissioner Amy Kershaw, East Boston Social Centers Executive Director Justin Pasquariello, City of Boston's Office of Early Childhood Director Kristin McSwain, members of the CEDAC/CIF team, and members of the EEC licensing team at the May 2022 ribbon-cutting event.



EEC Acting Commissioner Kershaw peers into a new classroom at the Barnes School.

Old Colony YMCA

The Old Colony YMCA received a \$1M EEOST Capital Fund award in 2020 to renovate its out-of-school time (OST) program space in Brockton, transforming what was the previous pool and locker room space into two OST classrooms, a new gross motor space, and restrooms. It also received an FY21 modified round grant to renovate the HVAC system and bathrooms on the first and second floors.

EEC Acting Commissioner Kershaw and CIF's Theresa Jordan spoke at an event at the Brockton branch, which also celebrated the re-naming of the building in honor of the Y's current CEO, Vince Marturano, and his wife Nancy.



A new out-of-school time classroom space at the Old Colony YMCA, made possible by \$1M of EEOST Capital Fund grant dollars.



A new out-of-school time classroom space at the Old Colony YMCA, with the photo of the space during construction in the foreground.

Haverhill YMCA

In July, the CIF team joined the Haverhill YMCA in celebrating a \$250,000 EEOST Capital Fund award that supported many improvements to its early learning center, including a new toddler play area and the repairs of a leaky roof. Representative Andy Vargas attended and spoke of the importance of investing in projects like the Y's. For more photos, check out an [article from the Eagle Tribune](#).



The YMCA team along with CIF's Theresa Jordan and State Representative Andy Vargas at the July ribbon cutting.



The new toddler play area made possible by the Haverhill YMCA's FY21 EEOST grant.

In the News:

The Boston Foundation spotlights the child care industry in its new report, [Care Work in Massachusetts: A Call for Racial and Economic Justice for a Neglected Sector](#)

CIF Board member Renée Boynton-Jarrett underscores the importance of investing in child care in a [Hechinger Report article](#)

A [new study](#) finds that most kids in child care aren't getting enough physical activity. Investing in indoor and outdoor play spaces can help!

[Great news from the city of Boston](#), which renewed its efforts to secure financial contributions from developers towards child care when building in certain areas of the city.

Donate

 Share  Tweet  Forward

Copyright © 2022 CEDAC/Children's Investment Fund, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).