

Children's Investment Fund Newsletter



The completed Outdoor Nature Classroom at the FKO Winthrop ribbon-cutting celebration. (Photo: For Kids Only Afterschool)

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

It's a busy fall! With an increased public focus on the critical role of early education, Children's Investment Fund is working hard to ensure that quality facilities are part of policy discussions. We are collaborating with the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to prepare for the

upcoming FY24 rounds of the [Early Education and Out of School Time \(EEOST\) Capital Fund](#) and continuing to support additional capital projects through philanthropic and federal sources. Many ribbon cuttings this summer and fall show us that projects are achieving amazing results. We hope you enjoy the projects profiled in this newsletter.

Thanks for your ongoing partnership!

Best,



Theresa Jordan
Director



Program News:

Early Education and Out of School Time (EEOST) FY24 Rounds

This year, we look forward to working alongside the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to implement two funding rounds for the FY24 EEOST Capital Fund -- one for smaller-scale capital projects (grants ranging from \$200,000 - \$500,000) and one for large-scale projects (grants of up to \$1 million). As the EEC Commissioner explained to the [EEC Board on October 11th](#) (start watching 1 hour, 35 min. into the recording), this year's \$10.85 million allocation from the Governor is the highest it has ever been. Stay tuned for application materials to be posted on COMMBUYS by the end of October for the small grants. The large grant round will be launched in early 2024.

Project News:

For Kids Only Winthrop

On August 3rd, For Kids Only Afterschool in Winthrop celebrated its new Outdoor Nature Classroom with a ribbon cutting and gardening session. The center received a \$222,000 EEOST grant.

Department of Early Education and Care Commissioner Amy Kershaw, Senator Lydia Edwards, and Winthrop Town Council President James Letterie attended this event. Following the ribbon cutting, the children got their hands dirty in the discovery garden. Read more about the event [here](#) and listen to the Commissioner's remarks on the importance of EEOST grants [here](#).



EEC Commissioner Amy Kershaw gardening at the FKO Winthrop Outdoor Nature Classroom ribbon cutting. (Photo Credit: For Kids Only Afterschool)

Greater Beverly YMCA

At the Greater Beverly YMCA's opening on September 21st, Greater Beverly YMCA President Andy Meyers and YMCA of the North Shore President and CEO Chris Lovasco spoke about the impact the YMCA has on young minds and the benefit of having a facility that supports the broader community in the Beverly area. EEC Commissioner Amy Kershaw remarked on the safety and quality upgrades she observed during her earlier tour of the center.

The renovation of the early learning center reconfigured the center's entrance and added key-card access to side entrances in order to enhance security. The YMCA upgraded classroom finishings, outdoor play space equipment, and surfacing. The organization received a \$500,000 EEOST grant.



Attendees pose by the newly renovated Early Learning Center in Beverly. (Photo Credit: EEC's Eugenia Soiles)

YMCA Cape Cod

On September 22nd, CIF traveled to the YMCA Cape Cod in Hyannis for a ribbon-cutting event celebrating its newly remodeled and expanded early education space. Stacie Peugh, YMCA Cape Cod's President and CEO, thanked EEC and CIF for the \$1,000,000 EEOST grant awarded for this project at the Hyannis Village Marketplace Early Education Center. In a show of great appreciation for CIF's assistance, the indoor gross motor room was named after the Children's Investment Fund.

In 2019, the YMCA Cape Cod hosted an announcement event to celebrate the six EEOST Capital Fund awardees of FY19. It was great to see the new, beautiful center open and operational four years later.



From Left – Chris Joyce, Michael F. Schulz, Rose Resnik, Tim Williams, Senator Julian Cyr, Representative Sarah Peake, Representative Kip Diggs, Commissioner Amy Kershaw, Denise Graham-Reardon, Stacie Peugh, Andrew Borgese, Theresa Jordan, PJ Richardson, Kevin Pepe, and Dave Botting. (Photo Credit: YMCA Cape Cod)

Boys & Girls Club Family Center

In Springfield, the Boys & Girls Club Family Center was excited to announce their \$500K award from the EEOST Program with a press conference on September 27th. With the capital improvements and maintenance updates to come, the community center, open seven days a week, will be able to better serve the Springfield community. Read more about the award and plans [here](#) and [here](#).



Boys & Girls Club Family Center Executive Director Keshawn Dodds addresses attendees at the celebration of the EOOST \$500K grant.

In the News

The Bipartisan Policy Center provided a 2023 update to its report on facility investment, [From the Ground Up: Improving Child Care and Early Learning Facilities](#). The report features CIF and several MA projects.

Boston Indicators released a report and video about [Care Work and the Racial Wealth Gap](#), which includes data on the child care workforce in Massachusetts.

The [Massachusetts School Building Authority](#) spends thousands more on school construction aid for white students than for students of color.

[K-12 schools](#) and early education facilities opened school for the fall this September amidst a heat wave. CIF's recent annual Facility Needs Survey showed that 1 in 4 child care centers that responded are operating with HVAC systems over 20 years old.

Copyright © 2023 CEDAC/Children's Investment Fund, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a member of CEDAC and/or Children's Investment Fund.

Our mailing address is:

18 Tremont Street, Suite 500

Boston, MA 02108

Want to change how you receive these emails?

Please email us at CIF@childrensinvestmentfundma.org