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2020  
2021  
IMPACT STATEMENT  
2022

2023  
2024

Live  
Grow  
Work  
Thrive

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Our 64th year brought challenges, rebuilding, new milestones and tremendous work from our dedicated staff, community partners, funders and volunteers. This past year was pivotal in many ways, particularly because it was the first year of our new strategic plan, and a time when we brought to fruition initiatives across our cross-functional organization.

We made significant strides to strengthen our local community. Pooling the resources of our Early Learning & Early Intervention Center (ELC), Adult Community Support Program and Baby Bloomers Urban Garden & Fruit Orchard, we provided PPE, vaccinations and preventative health services, and necessities like food and clothing to families in need. We optimized operations of our Community Support Program, leveraging virtual reality to introduce new environments and new skillsets to persons supported. Additionally, we tapped into existing partnerships to expand the curriculum and offerings of

our Health and Wellness Initiative at the ELC.

For all the barriers that we have overcome in over six decades, I believe our best chapters are ahead of us yet. We will continue to focus our energy on advocating (for education, health, financial and social equity) and impacting the lives of persons with differing abilities and all persons. There is still much work to be done – and NCC is well positioned for the next level of success.

Partnership and teamwork are essential – especially when it comes to driving progress and achieving our mission of ensuring that the most vulnerable among us have the services they need and deserve. There is a saying that I love: “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” As we continue on this journey, we invite you to join us. Together we can continue to create an environment that helps everyone to **Live, Grow, Work and Thrive!**



## WHO WE ARE

NCC is one of the largest non-governmental providers of services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For over 64 years, we have been a leading advocate, resource and community partner, ensuring that people - regardless of physical or mental ability are equipped with the skills they find necessary to **live, grow, work, and thrive.**

## OUR WHY

NCC is passionate about bridging the gap in education, poverty, health and overall well-being for those who may otherwise be denied - but instead are empowered through our programs and services to live life to its fullest.



## ABOUT NCC

## WHO WE SERVE

Our proudest distinction is that NCC provides an array of services to infants, children, and adults of differing abilities in the local community. In doing so, we offer a lifetime of opportunities enabling productive and fully integrated lives.

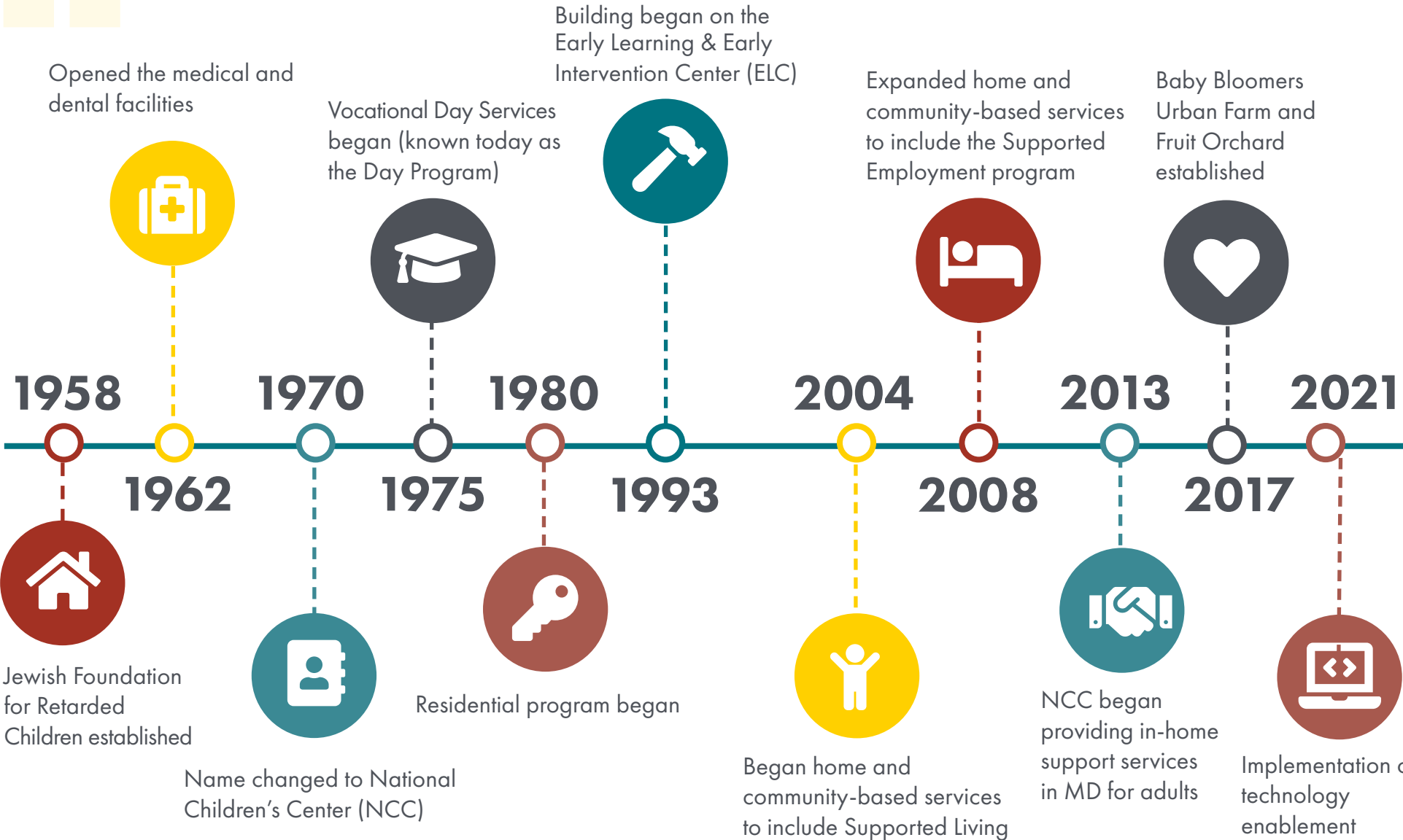


## COMMUNITY IMPACT

Since inception, we have focused on fulfilling needs, developing skill sets and improving life outcomes for people we support. We do so by providing a variety of highly accredited, locally recognized programming, including early childhood education, day habilitation, residential support and sustainability.

# HISTORY OF NCC

Providing service to the community for 64 years



# TOP 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

Enhancing the lives of people of all ages, diverse backgrounds and differing abilities through inclusive opportunities.



## LEND Grant with Georgetown University

NCC and the Georgetown University (GU) Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities were awarded a 5-year grant, Leadership Education in Neurodevelopment Disabilities (LEND). As a result, NCC collaborates with GU graduate students and trainees (during the grant period) to provide enhanced services and support for people with autism and other developmental disabilities and their families.



## "Power the Palate" Initiative

"Power the Palate" promotes cooking with fresh ingredients by reducing barriers to obtaining healthy food. The Ward 8 community has been especially challenged by rising grocery prices, and constrained by a limited number of local full-service grocery stores. In addition to our nutrition education and cooking classes, we provided families with free bags of groceries weekly, including an array of fresh fruits, vegetables, protein, and meal staples like eggs and pasta.



## Going to Harvard

NCC was selected for a poster presentation on research and best practices related to the Health and Nutrition Initiative at the Teaching Kitchen Research Conference. The event was hosted by the Teaching Kitchen Collaborative and Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health at UCLA. NCC, in partnership with Georgetown University, spoke as thought leaders with physicians and allied health professionals, nutritionists, health researchers, hospital systems, and academic institutions about the future of healthy communities across the country.



## Tele-Medicine: StationMD

Through the implementation of StationMD, individuals in our residential programs have been able to seek immediate care from physicians specially trained to treat those with intellectual and developmental disabilities while in the comfort of their own home using technology and Bluetooth health monitoring devices. This reduces stress associated with urgent care visits while offering a highly informed care option for those experiencing illnesses, discomfort, or health complications.

# 2022 BY THE NUMBERS

**1,280**

Community hours of persons supported in the Residential program

**800**

Pieces of PPE distributed to staff, families, and the adults we support across our residential homes

**5,200**

Packages of diapers and wipes distributed to vulnerable families with small children [pack of diapers & wipes are distributed to each child per week]

**3,500**

Pounds of food distributed

**1,440**

Hours of clinical services

**60**

Hours of professional development

**150**

Items (i.e. coats, gloves, backpacks, etc.) donated to children and families in need for the 2022-2023 school year

**61,880**

Chef-prepared meals to students and teachers

**1,960**

Community hours of persons supported in the Day Service program



# EARLY LEARNING & EARLY INTERVENTION CENTER

## Empowering our students, families and communities to live fulfilling lives

The **Early Learning & Early Intervention Center (ELC)** has served thousands of students since inception, including medically fragile and typically and atypically developing children. Over the last year, NCC has delivered best-in-class education and provided vital developmental support. Our dedicated team supplied food and resources to those in need, hosted memorable experiences, and leveraged strategic partnerships that enabled us to expand programming. **Communities thrive when everyone's individual needs are met.** Our holistic approach is empowering our students, families and community to **live, grow, work, and thrive** even in the most challenging of times.



### Children are our Future

- We gave high quality education focused on head start standards to enrolled children of all abilities, including providing developmental support for our medically fragile and those with special needs.
- We introduced the children to new experiences and new concepts like STEAM via our outdoor classroom.



### Families are their Guides

- We placed a substantial priority on health and wellness, becoming a local destination for preventative care (i.e. onsite dental care, wellness checkups, health screenings, Covid testing and vaccine administration, etc.), food source for families in need, and a promoter of healthy eating and lifestyles through educational sessions and cooking demos.
- We also assisted children of families in need by supplying diapers and wipes, backpacks and seasonal essentials like hats, coats and gloves.



### The Community is their Village

- We prioritized community engagement, hosting a series of clothing drives, food giveaways, and seasonal celebrations.





# ADULT PROGRAMMING COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

## TECHNOLOGY ENABLEMENT

We expanded use of virtual reality (VR) to increase engagement and enjoyment for persons supported. Through technology, and more specifically virtual reality, persons supported can be in complete control of their surroundings in immersive environments to safely learn and practice new skills, as well as participate in activities where barriers in real life can be overridden with the power of a virtual space.

## COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

We believe that every person deserves a safe and nurturing home. Our 48 community-based homes and apartments offer people with differing abilities the individualized services and support required to help them live independently within the community.

## FIRST TECHNOLOGY ACCREDITATION



NCC received the Technology First Accreditation through the DC Department of Disability Services Technology Project. We are committed to using technology to enable independent living for persons supported.

## COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES

Our services aim to help people with differing abilities achieve greater independence through personal choice, self-awareness, and wellness. With the support of Direct Support Professionals (DSP), adults in our programs become active members of their communities by developing the skills, abilities and connections they desire to achieve meaningful lifestyles and autonomy.



# BABY BLOOMERS URBAN FARM & FRUIT ORCHARD

## Feeding and fostering our local community

Per a recent Hunger Report, "1 out of 10 residents in the Metropolitan Washington region is food insecure.... nearly 1/3 of them are children." **Baby Bloomers Urban Farm & Fruit Orchard** was built in 2017 as a community farm to address issues of food insecurity affecting persons supported and families in surrounding neighborhoods. We strengthened our impact in 2022, focusing on the following:

### Food Distribution

Hundreds of pounds of fresh and nutritious food and ingredients to our children, families and local community in need.

### Education

Dynamic **garden curriculum**, giving students hands-on lessons in sustainability. They learned where food comes from, planted and watched the harvest grow and ate farm-to-table.

**Health and nutrition classes with cooking demonstrations** for our families as it is not enough to give produce without sharing the impact of nutrition on brain and gut development - and how easy and fun it is to prepare a healthy meal.

### Curated Experience

**Honey Harvest Celebration**, provided a memorable experience for the children in Ward 8, demonstrating the unique extraction process and producing and distributing **batches of Baby Buzzers Honey**.

### Farm Development

With 70+ raised beds, we **added new produce** to our growing assortment of fruits & vegetables.

We introduced **two new habitats - caterpillar and butterfly**, raising awareness of the vital role they play in the ecosystem and illustrating the transformative process in nature.



# SPOTLIGHT: Exploration and Adventure @ the ELC



## Summer Enrichment

While many schools have a summer break, the ELC remains open year-round to teach our young scholars, as well as provide parents with peace of mind that their children are in a safe, nurturing environment. The students participate in a multitude of activities including the Summer Enrichment Program, reinforcing reading and math skills - and harvesting honey from our very own bees at our Baby Bloomers Urban Farm & Fruit Orchard. The kids who participated learned the process led by our certified Beekeepers.

When asked how to tell which is the Queen Bee, one student said with complete confidence, **“That’s easy! She’s the one with the crown!”**



## Fall Harvest

The Early Learning and Early Intervention Center (ELC) hosted an annual Fall Harvest in October. It was the highlight of the school day, where children from every classroom arrived at the festively decorated Baby Bloomers Urban Farm & Fruit Orchard with all autumn accents. The organized activities were fun and festive. A petting zoo station with goats, mini horses, and other small livestock was incorporated, an extensive pumpkin patch was created, engaging sensory games were presented to children of all age groups, and sweet goodies like apple cider donuts were distributed from a market stand for everyone to enjoy. The Fall Harvest was an absolute blast, this was the perfect way to “Fall into Autumn.”

# SPOTLIGHT: Engagement and Community Support



## NCC'S Health and Nutrition Initiative

To help tackle the issue of food access, we partnered with Georgetown University's Community Health Division to develop a Health and Nutrition Initiative for our children and families. At Baby Bloomers Urban Farm & Fruit Orchard, we paired increased access with health and nutrition education by incorporating Georgetown students and physicians, NCC staff and clinicians, and ELC parents and families in monthly sessions to learn, discuss, and socialize!

NCC's staff and culinary team collaborated with Georgetown University faculty and staff to form a curriculum that focused on nutrition's effect on the body. We hosted two interactive sessions monthly with interested parents and families. Every month, the group learned from each other about various health benefits, manageable lifestyle changes, and best practices for parents on things like how to navigate picky eaters. The sessions also featured cooking demonstrations from Chef Nelson and Chef Rosie with recipes that can be replicated at home.



## 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Our 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament was a tremendous success. This is always a special event that gives us an opportunity to bring people together to have fun, play golf, and raise funds to support NCC's mission of enhancing the lives of all people.

Thanks to the support of our event Co-Chairs, Sponsors and 100+ golfers, we raised funds to advance the progress of our "Yellow Brick Road" - the outdoor STEAM classroom for the students of the Early Learning & Early Intervention Center.

# KEY PARTNERS, FUNDERS & CHAMPIONS

Partnerships are vital to NCC. Strengthening existing partnerships and identifying new opportunities to collaborate, sustains our work by leveraging our resources and embeds us further into the community's fabric, ensuring that children and families in our community have the necessary resources to thrive. Partners assist in numerous ways. Their support includes providing therapy services for children, offering professional development for teachers, enabling community-based senior citizens to serve as volunteers in the infant and toddler classrooms, and donating garden beds with fresh produce for children and the community. Join the growing number of NCC partners and supporters.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Park
- Department of Behavioral Health
- City Blossoms
- Early Stages
- Health Services for Children with Special Needs
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)
- Strong Start
- The DC Child and Family Services Agency
- Atmos Solutions, Inc.
- Sesame Street in Communities
- American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR).

## KEY PARTNERS



**WOLF TRAP**

INSTITUTE FOR  
EARLY LEARNING  
THROUGH THE ARTS



**Healthy Futures**

cultivating leaders through relationship education



## UNIVERSITY PARTNERS

Georgetown University

Howard University

George Washington University

Trinity University

The University of the District of Columbia

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sodexo

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Co-Development Committee  
Chair  
PayPal, Inc.

 denotes Executive Board Member



# GET INVOLVED

**PARTNER | DONATE | VOLUNTEER**

Your generosity fuels NCC's programs, services and community outreach. Join us and help strengthen the vitality of the communities we serve!

## Are you ready to invest your capital – financial, social, and intellectual?



### Partner

We are always looking for Partners, Sponsors and "Friends of NCC" to help us expand, scale and implement actionable solutions to uplift people of all abilities. Partner with us and gain additional visibility for your organization, reach new target audiences and make a significant impact in your local community. Learn more by visiting: [www.nccinc.org](http://www.nccinc.org)



### Donate

When you donate to NCC, you are providing a lifetime of opportunity for people of varying abilities. You can make your tax-deductible donation in multiple ways, whether a one-time gift recurring, Donor Advised Fund or even Planned Giving. Learn more by visiting: [www.nccinc.org/donate](http://www.nccinc.org/donate)



### Volunteer

Volunteers are a critical part of NCC. Through their time, volunteers develop new skills, explore their personal interests, and make significant contributions that enable NCC to fulfill its mission. Interested in being part of one of our many experiences? Learn more by visiting: [www.nccinc.org](http://www.nccinc.org)

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# CONTACT US

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