



# **2022-2023 Annual Report**





CELEBRATING

20



YEARS



# Leadership Letters

## *From the President of the Board*



I am delighted to address you in this year's CCA annual report as we reflect on the 2022-2023 school year and the strides we have made in our mission to improve the outcome for children with ASD.

One of the highlights of the past year was the expansion of our programs and services. We have extended our reach ensuring that others have access to the highest quality of care and education possible. Our commitment to evidence-based practices remains steadfast, as we continually refine our approach to best meet the unique needs of each child we serve.

When I walk the halls of our building during our school day, I am always amazed by the sounds and energy of children learning in such unique ways. I am also amazed by the dedication of every teacher and staff member who genuinely wants to see each child succeed. The expansion of the consultation services allows families and school districts an opportunity to talk about possible next steps for that child. Our summer program is very popular and receives great reviews from parents and children.

As mentioned in last year's annual report, one of our challenges has been our current building. Without room to physically grow, we now have a waiting list for our services which has been a core value of ours not to have since the founding of CCA. I am thrilled to say that in September 2023, we announced the purchase of a new building at 100 Commercial Drive in Fairfield in which we will move our programs and services to after some major renovation. Plans are now being finalized to make that space a first-class learning environment for our families. Much more to come on that as we move forward there.

None of our achievements would have been possible without the generous support of our donors, volunteers, and advocates. Your dedication to our cause is the cornerstone of our success and we are deeply grateful for your unwavering commitment to our mission. Thank you for being a part of our journey.

*Jason Leyda*

# Leadership Letters

## *From the Executive Director*



As we reflect on the past year, we're thrilled to commemorate a significant milestone in our journey - the celebration of our 20th anniversary. This year has been a testament to the unwavering commitment, dedication, and innovation that have defined our collective efforts over the past two decades.

Twenty years ago, Matt and Susan Brennan embarked on a journey with a vision that was driven by passion, determination, and a belief in making a difference. Today, as we mark this special occasion, we celebrate not just the passage of time, but the incredible achievements, challenges overcome, and the remarkable growth that has shaped Cincinnati Center for Autism.

Throughout this anniversary year, we have had the opportunity to reflect on the pivotal moments that have defined us, from the humble beginnings to the significant milestones achieved. Our success story is a result of the hard work, resilience, and collaboration of every individual who has been part of this incredible journey.

In the face of unprecedented global challenges, our adaptability and resilience have been thoroughly tested. We've navigated uncertain times, evolving our strategies, embracing innovation, and demonstrating a collective determination to emerge stronger.

This year's annual report encapsulates not just the financial highlights and operational achievements but the essence of our journey - the people, the stories, and the values that have been the cornerstone of our success.

We are expanding our center and will be moving to a new facility in 2024. This will allow us to support more families, school districts and the community. We will be increasing our Transition Into Meaningful Employment program for the older students to have more work opportunities. In addition to a new facility, we will be increasing our consultation services to assist school districts to support students in their current educational environment. We hope with this move we are able to increase our enrollment to 100 students over the next five years.

As we look ahead, the 20 years behind us serve as a sturdy foundation for the future. We're poised to continue our pursuit of excellence, innovation, and sustainability. Our journey is far from over, and with the same fervor and dedication that brought us to this moment, we will stride confidently into the future.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our board, employees, supporters, and, most importantly, our clients/students who have been the driving force behind our success. We hope to continue to share our mission with the greater Cincinnati community and increase our fundraising efforts as we embark on the next 20 years of excellence.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Here's to the past, present, and the exciting future ahead!

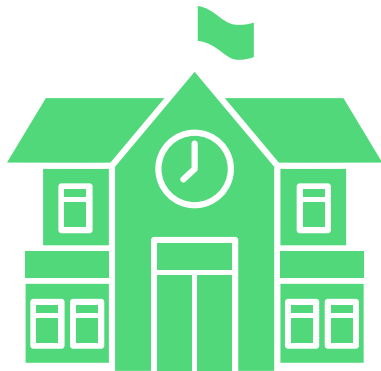
*Susie Wolfe*



# By the Numbers



65+ Students Served

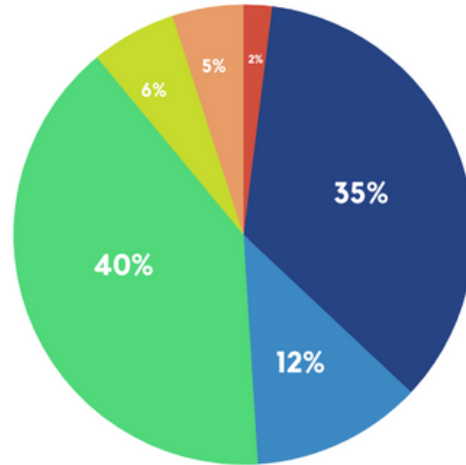


24 School Districts Partnerships



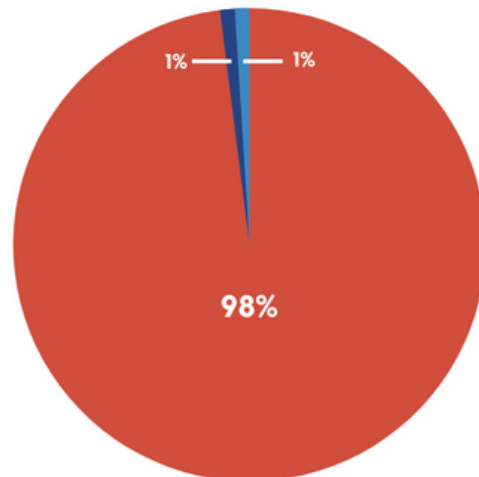
86% Parent Satisfaction Rating

Total 2022-2023 Revenue: \$3,199,206



- Fundraising & Donations
- Autism Scholarship Program
- Insurance
- School District Contracts
- Consultation
- Summer Programs

Total 2022-2023 Expenses: \$3,087,314



- Program Expenses
- General Expenses
- Repairs and Maintenance

# Our Mission Statement

We support individuals with autism and their families through programming in the areas of academics, adaptive behavior, communication and social participation.

# Our Core Values

## Excellence

Offering research-based practices by highly qualified staff

## Individualized

Providing a unique approach to learning & growing

## Trust

Maintaining a safe & enriching environment on the foundation of trust

## Collaboration

Collaborating to maximize educational & behavioral success

# Our Vision Statement:

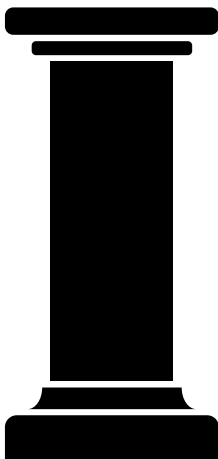
We build independence and promote happy and fulfilling lives.

# Services:

What sets CCA from other ABA centers is the multidisciplinary approach to programming. CCA bridges educational, behavioral, and therapeutic support to create a well-rounded individualized program to meet all individuals' needs. This provides individuals and their families access to an entire team of experts. CCA's goal is to support the individual in the least restrictive environment and build independence so they can return to their local school district and participate in their neighborhood activities. CCA has continued this year to provide consultative behavior services which allows students to stay within their local district while providing ABA training to the district's staff.

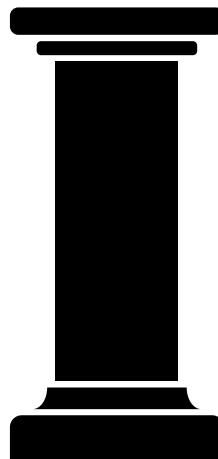
# Pillars of Development

## Accreditation



Obtained BHCOE Accreditation for additional 2 years

## Transition Services



Curating partnerships with Matthew 25, Meals on Wheels, the Laundry Spot, and additional community businesses

## Expansion of Services



Establishing relationships with several school districts to provide consultation services for students within their districts





*Years of Service  
and Impact*

In the wake of a life-altering diagnosis on September 11, 2001, Matt and Susan Brennan's world shifted when their youngest son, Blake, was diagnosed with Autism. Faced with the immediate need for intensive early intervention, the Brennan's encountered the harsh reality of a waitlist for crucial services. Undeterred by the challenges, this resilient couple turned their personal journey into a mission for change. In 2003, fueled by the unwavering determination to ensure that no child with autism in Cincinnati would go without essential services, Matt and Susan Brennan took matters into their own hands. The founders channeled their experience, empathy, and a deep commitment to the community to establish the Cincinnati Center for Autism. Through this endeavor, they sought to create a haven where families navigating the complexities of autism could find timely and comprehensive support, turning adversity into an opportunity for positive transformation in the lives of countless families

*We are Moving in 2024*  
**to a new location**

Cincinnati Center for Autism  
will be moving to:

100 Commercial Drive  
Fairfield, OH 45014

Stay up to date with details about our  
move on our website, Facebook or  
Instagram!

# Board of Directors

## *Board Officers*

**Jason Leyda, President**  
Vice President, Business Support, and Treasury  
Management,  
General Electric Credit Union

**Anne Voller, Vice President**  
National Director, Talent Acquisition,  
Swinerton Construction

**Stephanie Maher, Treasurer**  
Vice President/Commercial Lender, Wesbanco

**Shelly Ruberg, Secretary**  
Advanced Program Manager, Kroger  
Technology & Digital

## *Board Members*

Caroline Bove  
Vice President and Certified Treasury  
Professional, First Financial Bank

Chris Galish  
Parent Representative

Michael S. Glassman  
Partner, Dinsmore and Shohl's Labor and  
Employment Department

Michael Meade  
Parent Representative; Vice President,  
Finance, Setco Sales Company

Mike Ryan  
Certified Funeral Celebrant, Vorhis and Ryan  
Funeral Home

Beverly Smith  
Early Intervention Consultant for Individuals  
with Disabilities. Instructor, Morehead State  
University, Early Childhood, Special Education

# Leadership Team



**Susie Wolfe, M.A., SLP-CC**  
Executive Director

**Erica Konopka, M.S., OTR/L, BCBA, COBA**  
Assistant Director

**Allysa Babb, M. Ed.**  
Educational Coordinator

**Sara Hazelton, M.A., BCBA, COBA**  
Behavioral Coordinator

**Haley Damron, M.S.**  
Human Resources & Development  
Coordinator

**Karsen Cronin**  
Administrative Specialist



# Keeping Up With CCA



## 2023 Annual Golf Outing

On June 9th, we had CCA's Annual Golf Outing at Glenview Golf Course. We had 25 companies and families sponsor the event and over 100 golfers at the event. Golfers were provided with boxed lunches, dinner, welcome bags, golf carts, green fees, and refreshments as part of the foursome package. The Golf Outing helped generate over \$20,000 of funds for CCA and the founders of CCA, Matt and Susan Brennan, plan to match our proceeds!



## Honorary Chapter FFA Degree

On April 19, 2023, the Fayetteville FFA held their annual FFA banquet where they recognized their chapter's achievements and honored members in the community for their contributions.

Cincinnati Center for Autism was invited to attend this year and was surprised to be recognized during the banquet with an "Honorary Chapter FFA Degree". Assistant Director, Erica Konopka, and HR & Development Coordinator, Haley Damron, were invited on stage and FFA officers presented them with a plaque and thanked CCA for inviting their organization to come to CCA for Agricultural Day for the past 8 years.

CCA feels privileged to have been invited and to have received this honor. It was incredible to hear about all of the outstanding work the FFA students have done this year. We are truly lucky that such a great organization visits us each fall and provides us with Ag fun!



## 2022 Trunk or Treat

CCA's annual Trunk-or-Treat was a great success in 2022! CCA students and families joined us for a night of tricks and treats, games, and activities. The CCA staff went all out in creating "spooktacular" trunks and the students came dressed to impress. We were thrilled to see 23 of our students and families attend last year's event.



## 2022 Cincinnati Comic Expo

Cincinnati Center for Autism would like to give a huge thank you to The Ohio Speederbike, Ohio Garrison - 501st Legion, Apollo Base - Rebel Legion, Rancor Clan (OH Mandalorian Mercs Chapter), Galaxy United, and Roxy the Rancor for collecting donations for our organization at the 2022 Cincinnati Comic Expo. They raised over \$4,000 for CCA and we could not be more grateful for their continued support. We look forward to attending this event year after year!

## Oakley Lodge #688 Fundraiser

Oakley Lodge #688 generously named us the beneficiary of their annual motorcycle ride fundraiser in June. Then in August, they invited us to a home cooked dinner with a warm welcome from the local members where they presented a donation check for a total of \$2,128! Thank you to the Oakley Lodge and all who participated for your generosity.



# Our Gratitude

## *Thank You To Our Donors*

Cincinnati Center for Autism gratefully acknowledges the generosity of all donors who made gifts between August 2022 and July 2023. Each gift we receive is appreciated and important because it helps us provide quality resources and services to the individuals and families we serve.

## *Special Thanks To Our 2023 Golf Outing Supporters*

Cincinnati Center for Autism's 2022 Golf Outing would not have been successful without the support of our sponsors, golfers, and donors. We greatly appreciate the support and look forward to another successful event in 2023.

## *2023 Golf Outing Sponsors*



DRUE CHRISMAN, INC.

- KATZ TELLER
- FIRST FINANCIAL BANK
- LACEY ENGINEERING & DESIGN
- COHEN RECYCLING
- GORILLA GLUE
- ASHCRAFT TITLE AGENCY
- JTM
- JAKE SWEENEY
- DAVE & LAUREEN BINGHAM
- JONATHAN & GAIL BATROSS
- KING INSULATION SERVICES
- WESBANCO
- MARSHMCLENNAN AGENCY
- MCCLOY FAMILY FOUNDATION
- HERITAGE BANK
- DINSMORE & SHOHL
- PAYOPTIONS
- LOVELAND EXCAVATING & PAVING
- MATT & SUSAN BRENNAN, FOUNDERS
- CORE & MAIN
- ENCORE PRECAST
- SRM CONCRETE



# *In Loving Memory of Joshua Meade*



*June 21, 2003- April 9, 2023*

"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed, and very dear." -Unknown