GUIDING
LIGHT
MENTORING

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

LOOKING TOWARD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

OUR MISSION

Guiding Light Mentoring [GLM] is a nonprofit mentoring organization dedicated to serving youth ages 8-18 in the Greater Cincinnati area by providing positive role models, teaching relationship skills, and developing moral character. Our mission is to provide youth with guidance, support, and encouragement to make positive decisions that lead to a successful life.

GLM helps youth increase interest in school and the workforce while improving school participation, school performance, and achieving their graduation goal. As a leading nonprofit organization, we work toward helping youth visualize their highest self so they can perform to their best potential. This approach allows their minds and their voices to change the world instead of letting the world change them.

We instill core values of commitment, honesty, excellence, and accountability to meet the needs of the increasing number of youth in the Greater Cincinnati area. Looking toward a brighter future starts with making a change for today.

BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

Without a doubt, 2019 was a very active and exciting year as we increased our reach and number of youth served. The ability to create and sustain new community partnerships, created a stronger foundation and positioned the organization for a successful future.

Founder & CEO, Latisha Owens

Now more than ever, youth development and leadership programs are the centerpieces in addressing some of our nation's most pressing crisis: poverty, drug exploitation, and self-efficacy. The damage inflicted on individuals, families, and communities by these crisis has reached epidemic proportions and is continuing to grow substantially.

Guiding Light Mentoring's work has never been more needed. Going forward, we are working diligently to strengthen our communities and deliver results for our families as well as our organization. We are building our team with an intense focus on our values and a high-performing culture. We are confident in our future and enthusiastically embrace the changes and innovations that will redefine our organization and profession in the years to come.

We want to thank all of our partners, individual contributors, and corporate sponsors for supporting our cause by investing in the future and well-being of our youth. We look forward to continuing our work in 2020, inspiring more young people toward a brighter future. As we engage in this important work together, I welcome your thoughts and service.

There has been over

$96,000

in overall funds that have been used for youth services and activities.

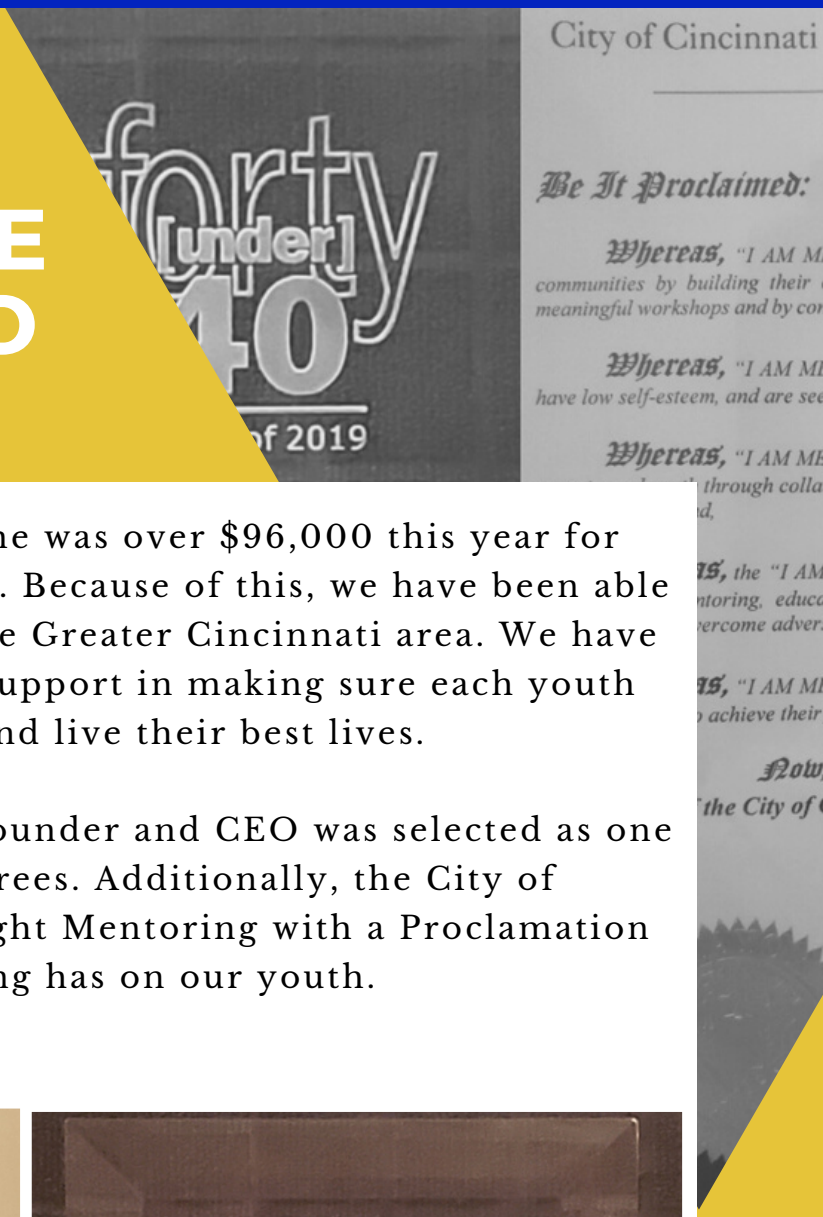
And over

300

youth that have been supported through funds achieved, which allows our work to continue to be successful.

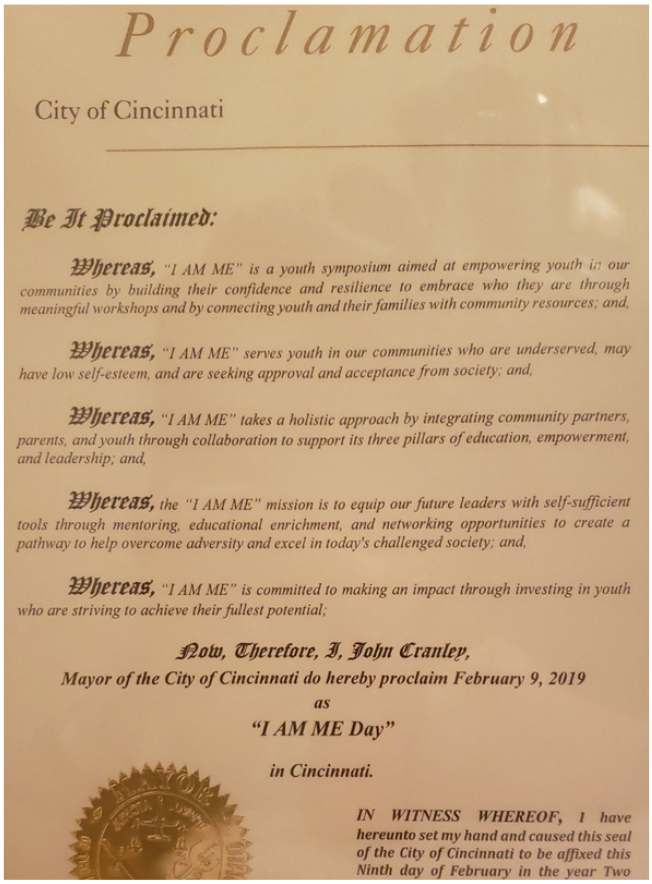
a year's overview

WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED



Guiding Light Mentoring's income was over $96,000 this year for our youth services and programs. Because of this, we have been able to help over 300 youth within the Greater Cincinnati area. We have dedicated all of our efforts and support in making sure each youth has the opportunity to succeed and live their best lives.

With all of our hard work, our Founder and CEO was selected as one of the 2019 Forty under 40 honorees. Additionally, the City of Cincinnati presented Guiding Light Mentoring with a Proclamation to show the importance mentoring has on our youth.



Proclamation

City of Cincinnati

Be It Proclaimed:

Whereas, "I AM ME" is a youth symposium aimed at empowering youth in our communities by building their confidence and resilience to embrace who they are through meaningful workshops and by connecting youth and their families with community resources; and,

Whereas, "I AM ME" serves youth in our communities who are underserved, may have low self-esteem, and are seeking approval and acceptance from society; and,

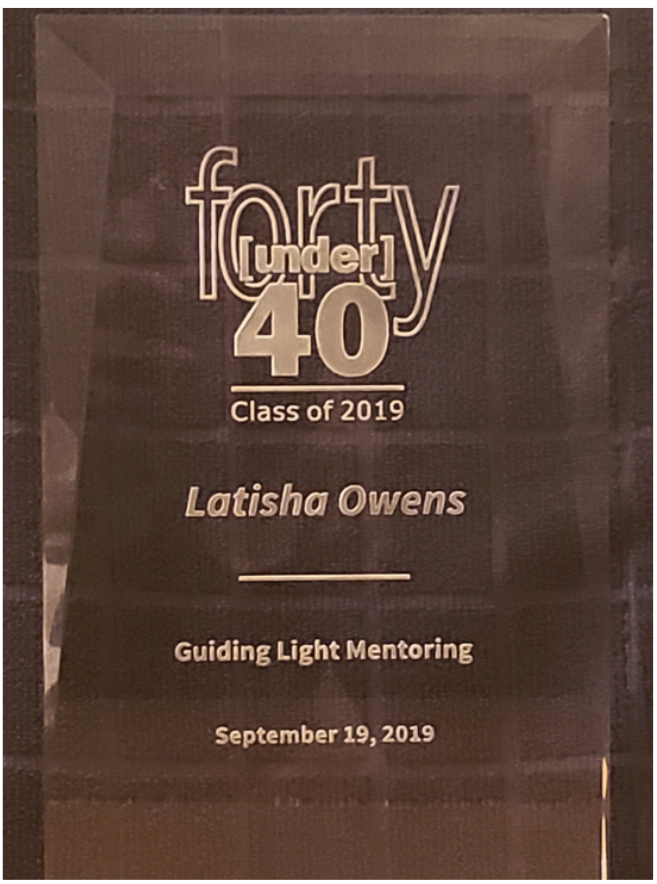
Whereas, "I AM ME" takes a holistic approach by integrating community partners, parents, and youth through collaboration to support its three pillars of education, empowerment, and leadership; and,

Whereas, the "I AM ME" mission is to equip our future leaders with self-sufficient tools through mentoring, educational enrichment, and networking opportunities to create a pathway to help overcome adversity and excel in today's challenged society; and,

Whereas, "I AM ME" is committed to making an impact through investing in youth who are striving to achieve their fullest potential;

Now, Therefore, I, John Cranley,
Mayor of the City of Cincinnati do hereby proclaim February 9, 2019
as
"I AM ME Day"
in Cincinnati.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the City of Cincinnati to be affixed this Ninth day of February in the year Two

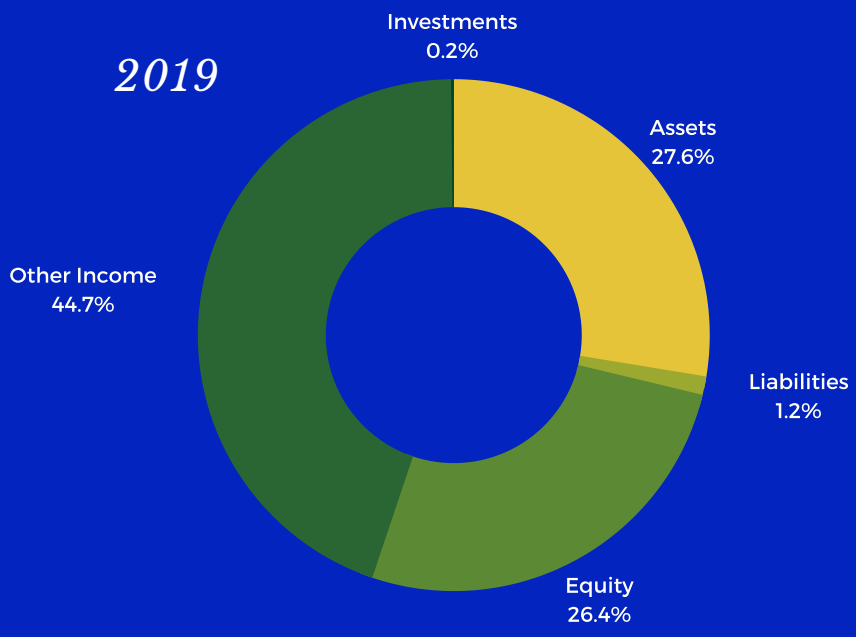


FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

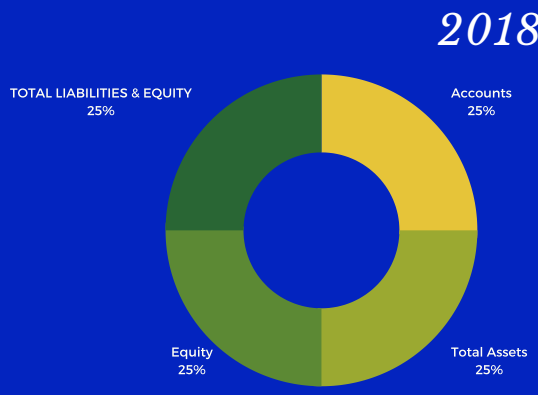
JAN. - DEC. 2019

Profits

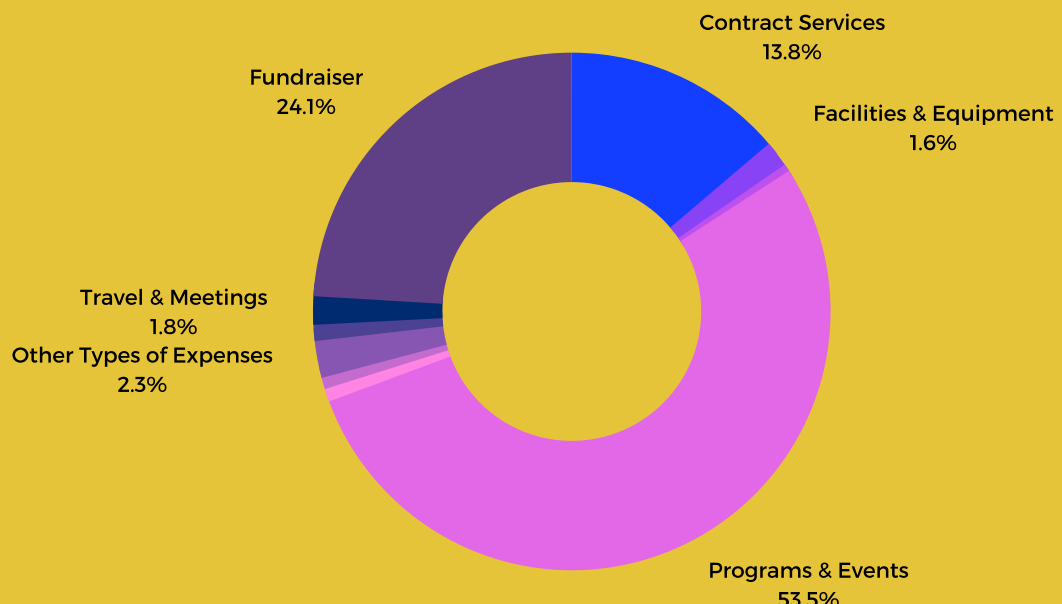
2019

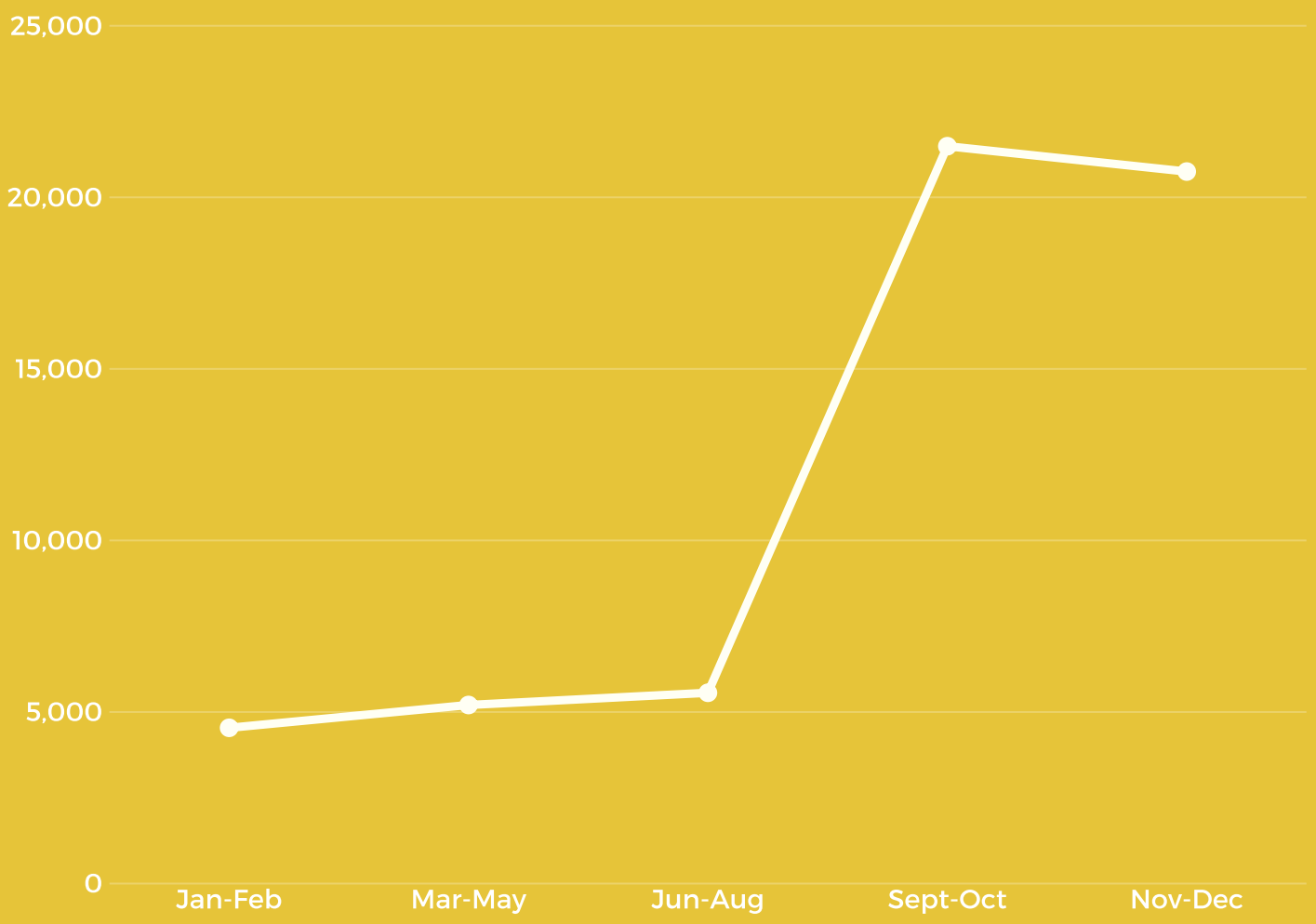


2018



Expenses





STATISTICS

We use social media to engage the community, promote events, recruit volunteers, and make people aware of Guiding Light Mentoring and what we do. Using outlets like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter allows us to produce content that is helpful, easy to read, and allows us to boost awareness to the benefits of mentoring, as well as programs and/or leadership opportunities available.

- Our social media outlets have been able to reach over 57, 000 people on our pages in 2019, averaging between 150 to 160 per day.
- Reaching an incredible 194 page likes for this year, which is averaging 4 like per day.
- We have had 94 check-ins for the various activities and events we've had throughout the year.
- Between all of your social media content, we have reached over 67, 000 people, with August through December being our biggest output for the year.

2ND ANNUAL I AM ME YOUTH CONFERENCE

In 2019, our organization received a Proclamation from the City of Cincinnati. It declared that February 9th is "I AM ME Day" in the City of Cincinnati.

GO PIG OR GO HOME

Guiding Light participated in the Flying Pig marathon again this year, by volunteering with cheering on runners and making sure the course was clear to run on. This event was a fundraiser for Guiding Light Mentoring as well. This is one of the important ways we can not only connect with the community, but to also build the connections between our mentors and mentees.

3RD ANNUAL GUIDING LIGHT MENTORING GALA & FUNDRAISER

This year's Gala & Fundraiser was held at Music Hall, and was a black tie event. Its purpose is to help raise money for upcoming activities and events for youth to take part in. Our keynote speaker was Terrence "J'" Jenkins, who is a national spokesperson for the Thurgood Marshall Foundation, philanthropist, author, actor, radio and television host. We want to give a special thanks to all of our sponsors for this year's gala.

What We Do

YOUTH SERVICES

Education

Our Education Program is focused on increasing the number of under-served youth through community-based education. We create mentee-mentor relationships with a focus on employment readiness and improving family environments. Participants are assigned an advocate to support coaching and tutoring. In order to drive high success rates, we support youth in developing an individualized service plan as a blueprint to establish both short- and long-term goals. The advocate aids in creating an environment that enables critical thinking, information literacy, and communication skills. Our program ensures participants are equipped with the tools to establish a safe and challenging atmosphere.

Wellness

Our Youth Wellness Program is dedicated to improving the health of youth with a priority on social, cultural, and emotional intelligence of youth. This program is all about "Getting Up and Getting Out." Youth are exposed to a variety of activities and culture. This includes, but is not limited to, arts/crafts, group outings, dance and sports. Integrated into this program are elements of self-preservation and self-worth. "Getting Up and Getting Out" helps to improve the minds and bodies of our participants and volunteers.

Tutoring

Our Youth Tutoring Program provides youth weekly assistance with their educational needs. Youth get help with test preparation, homework/class assignments, and are taught positive study habits.

Leadership

Our Youth Leadership Program is committed to creating future leaders. The five week leadership summer program supports youth by establishing 3 key principles: Growing Talent/Developing Oneself, Collaboration, and Making A Difference. During the summer program, youth acquire self-esteem and leadership and relationship building skills. Additionally, youth in the program will identify a need in their community and take on the role of a philanthropist by making a donation to a non-profit of their choice.

To become a part of our youth programs, please visit https://www.guidinglightmentoring.org

In 2019, our volunteers put forth their best effort to make each event and activity a success. We couldn't have done it without them.

103

NUMBER OF ONE-TIME VOLUNTEERS

22

NUMBER OF MENTORS

1413

NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

SPECIAL THANKS

We want to thank all our volunteers for giving their valuable time and talent with Guiding Light Mentoring.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer? Give us a call at 513-541-9777 to speak with one of our staff members.

LIGHT OF HONOR

GLM is very grateful for the financial support provided by our generous community.

Individual Donors

Amanda Gray
Andrea Waite
Ann Burns
Ashton Wilson
Calvin Owens Jr.
Charee Owens
Christopher Willis
Clarice Warner
Crystal Cook
Curt Spycher
Damita Tartt
Daniel Caroll
Debra Garrett
Distinguished Men of Deja Vu
Dominic Franchini
Erin Hedges
Gary Wedig
Gwen Parham
Henry Daniels
Jason Harris
Jerome Parker
Joe Naegeli
Kai Stoudemire
Katherine Fiorelli
Lisa Reed
Marjean Wedig
Mark Frankey
Mildred Kennedy
Phyllis Rosewood
Rhonda Starghill
Robert Starghill
Rochelle Williams
Ruth Frankey
Sherian Steele
Stephanie Rowland
Stevie Swain
Susan Bennett
Terri Helsel

Community Partners

Abundance University
Accelerate Great Schools
Apple of His Eyes INC
Behind Every Kid
Boys & Girls Club
Called 2 Encourage LLC
Center for Closing the Health Gap
Cincinnati Christian University
Cincinnati Opera
Cincinnati Police Youth Services
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
Cincinnati Recreation Commission
Cincinnati Recreation Commission McKie Branch
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens
City of Cincinnati
Easter Seals
Evolving Lives
Family Solutions of Ohio
First Financial Bank
Flying Pig Marathon
Garden Of Wellness
Healthy Links Mental Health Agency LLC
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Leadership Scholars
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Mount Saint Joseph
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Go-Vancy
Hill Childcare
Interact Health
Meijer
Miami University
OurStory Book Fair
Panera Bread
Summertime Kids of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Target
Thrivent Financial
Wal-Mart Foundation

These funds help to provide all of our youth quality services and events year around.

If you have any questions about giving opportunities, please contact one of our staff members at 513-541-9777.

To make a donation please visit www.guidinglightmentoring.org/donate

BROOKE BRIGADOI
LEAD MENTOR

ALEXIS FRAZIER
SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING INTERN

LATISHA OWENS
FOUNDER & CEO

BRIAN FRANKEY
SECRETARY

TIMOTHY LANE
BOARD CHAIR

ERIC ROBINSON
VICE CHAIR

TYEHIMBA BOMANI
TREASURER

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