



Bright Futures

Connect With Us

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NextDoorMKE.org



Get Involved

Volunteer or Host a Book Drive

Contact Martina at
414.562.2929 x2529
or mstevens@NextDoorMKE.org

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NextDoorMKE.org



Our mission: Next Door supports the intellectual, physical and emotional development of children by partnering with their families for success in school and the community.

Our Vision: Next Door's vision is to position neighborhood children and families for long-term success.

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October 2017

Hello from our President

The beginning of a new school year is one of my favorite times of the year, and we're off to a strong start at Next Door!

It's exciting to see several building improvements we've made across all three of our locations. We remodeled our main entrances for improved safety, filled the hallways with colorful, educational art, and placed important early learning quotes on every classroom door.

We have also enjoyed new partnerships, honors and special events this fall. Here are some highlights:

- Next Door participated in the the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's *On the Table* program. The initiative featured mealtime conversations all over the Milwaukee area, tackling community issues and ways to improve our city. Read more inside.
- We formed a new partnership with Anthem BlueCross BlueShield. As part of a grant we received, Anthem is leading a four-part nutrition and physical activity program for our K4 and K5 families.

- Next Door received the 2017 "Outstanding Community Partner Award" from COA Youth and Family Centers. COA is part of the early childhood partnership program Next Door leads - working to increase access to high quality early learning and care in Milwaukee.
- The Green Bay Packers recognized Next Door as the "Leader of the Pack" at a pre-season game. Just before it started, the team welcomed a Next Door representative to the field while the announcer introduced the important work we do with children and families.

I am so proud of this growing community involvement and recognition for Next Door. We are doing the most important work in Milwaukee getting our children ready for school. We couldn't do it without your support!

Tracey Sparrow, Ed.D.
Next Door President

Honoring a Milwaukee Legend: Jane Bradley Pettit



Next Door is proud to be part of a fundraising campaign celebrating the legacy of Jane Bradley Pettit. She was known for her extraordinary charitable work in Milwaukee, which included donating the funding to build the BMO Harris Bradley Center. As part of the center's final season celebration, it recently launched the "Pay the Gift Forward" campaign to honor Mrs. Pettit. This campaign will culminate in civic gala on April 11th and benefit 16 charities that Mrs. Pettit and her legacy

foundation have supported over the years - including Next Door.

At a September 12th press conference announcing the celebration plans, the Bradley Center recognized Next Door as one of the first three charities chosen for the fundraising campaign. It was an honor for us to be there that day and we are so grateful for the support! We look forward to a memorable final season at the BMO Harris Bradley Center while remembering a true philanthropic gem for our city!



Back to School at Next Door!

The 2017-2018 school year started with lots of smiles, new learning adventures and several colorful improvements to our buildings. Below is a sampling of scenes from our center-based and home-based programming, as well as our 12 partnership sites.

Inside the Classroom



Nia, Dominique and Treasure are focused on their puzzles.



Story time with Miss Kim for twins, Braya and Alaya.



Lunch time smiles from Kaedon and Kemar.

In the Hallways



Our hallways are now decorated with vegetables, animals, musical instruments, the alphabet, numbers and more to keep learning alive all over Next Door!

At Home



KaPru is one of our home-based students practicing her number counts with apples on a tree!



Sheik is a home-based student showing off his handiwork with beads!

Our Partner Sites



Spot the Dog gives a "high-five" to Trenton at the YMCA Northside branch during a visit from our Books for Kids Mobile Library.



Spot the Dog helps Kaori pick out a book aboard the Books for Kids Mobile Library at the YMCA Northwest branch.



Thanks & Farewell

Six Next Door directors retired from their Board roles in late September. Together, they served nearly 70 years on the Next Door Board of Directors. The picture above is from a special reception honoring them. Pictured left to right is: Susan Doyle, with North Shore Bank, Lorelle Mahoney, retired from Aurora Health Care, Board Chair Tom Arenberg, retired from Accenture, Hans Kirkegaard, with Imagine Branding LLC, and Tchernavia Rocker, with Harley-Davidson. Not pictured: Michael Aldana, with Quarles & Brady LLP. We thank you all for your service and leadership, and for being such dedicated champions for the children and families we serve at Next Door!

Next Door Joins *On the Table* conversation



High-engaging conversations dominated the *On the Table* breakfast session at Next Door's 29th Street campus.

Conversation that fuels change – that was the goal of a recent, region-wide forum called *On the Table* from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. On Tuesday, October 17th, more than 5,000 people came together all over the Milwaukee area for mealtime conversations and discussed the issues our community faces and the individual/collective measures we can take to create change.

Next Door served as a "Super Host" for the event and held two diverse gatherings – a breakfast at our 29th Street campus and a lunch at our Capitol Drive building. We welcomed more than 100 guests, including Milwaukee Alderman Russell Stamper and Alderman Cavalier Johnson. We also had early childhood experts from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Marquette University,



Julia Means, RN with Ascension Columbia St. Mary's, and Margie Margolies with HIPPIY USA, were two of the guests at the *On the Table* lunch session at Next Door's Capitol Drive location.

plus Next Door donors, volunteers, staff members and parents.

Our conversations focused on issues related to poverty, and how the benefits of investing in high quality early childhood education can help break that cycle for children and families living in Milwaukee's central city.

During the event, we asked participants to come up with one action goal they can take over the next month to help build a stronger community. We will be following up with each individual to learn about their progress and get program feedback.

It is our hope that this *On the Table* experience fosters new relationships, generates ideas and ignites action to move Milwaukee forward!

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Save the Date!
November 28, 2017
**Giving
Tuesday
Tours**
at Next Door



Next Door Foundation
2545 N. 29th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210

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Student Masterpieces at the Milwaukee Art Museum!



We love seeing our families celebrate their child's success! The Wright family came to the Milwaukee Art Museum to see their son's artwork on display. Three-year-old King-Nehemiah points out his picture – one of more than 170 pieces of Next Door artwork featured during a *Kohl's Generation Family Sundays* program.