

2019

Report to the Community



nextdoor  
— Stronger Families Through Education —



Dear Friends,

We had a memorable and exciting 2019 at Next Door. The milestone year marked our 50th Anniversary!

We went back to the place where Next Door was founded – Our Savior’s Lutheran Church – to launch our 50th Anniversary Fundraising and Community Relations Campaign. The year continued with ten more successful events, nearly 100 community partnerships supporting the work of Next Door and a fundraising campaign raising \$7.1 million to date for our critical early childhood educational programs and building renovations at our 29th Street campus.

We wish to thank all of our friends and supporters – both past and present – for contributing to our campaign and helping us commemorate Next Door’s 50 years of serving Milwaukee. You can read more about the campaign on page 14.

In 2019, we continued building strong community partnerships to enhance the high quality early childhood programming and family support services we deliver to central city families.


One of our biggest achievements was the opening of Next Door’s Family Success Center. The center offers a hub of much-needed services for Next Door families and neighborhood residents ranging from basic healthcare screenings to medical diagnoses of autism for children. Our partners include Children’s Wisconsin, Maximus, Medical College of Wisconsin and the Next Step Clinic led by Marquette University and Mental Health America of Wisconsin.




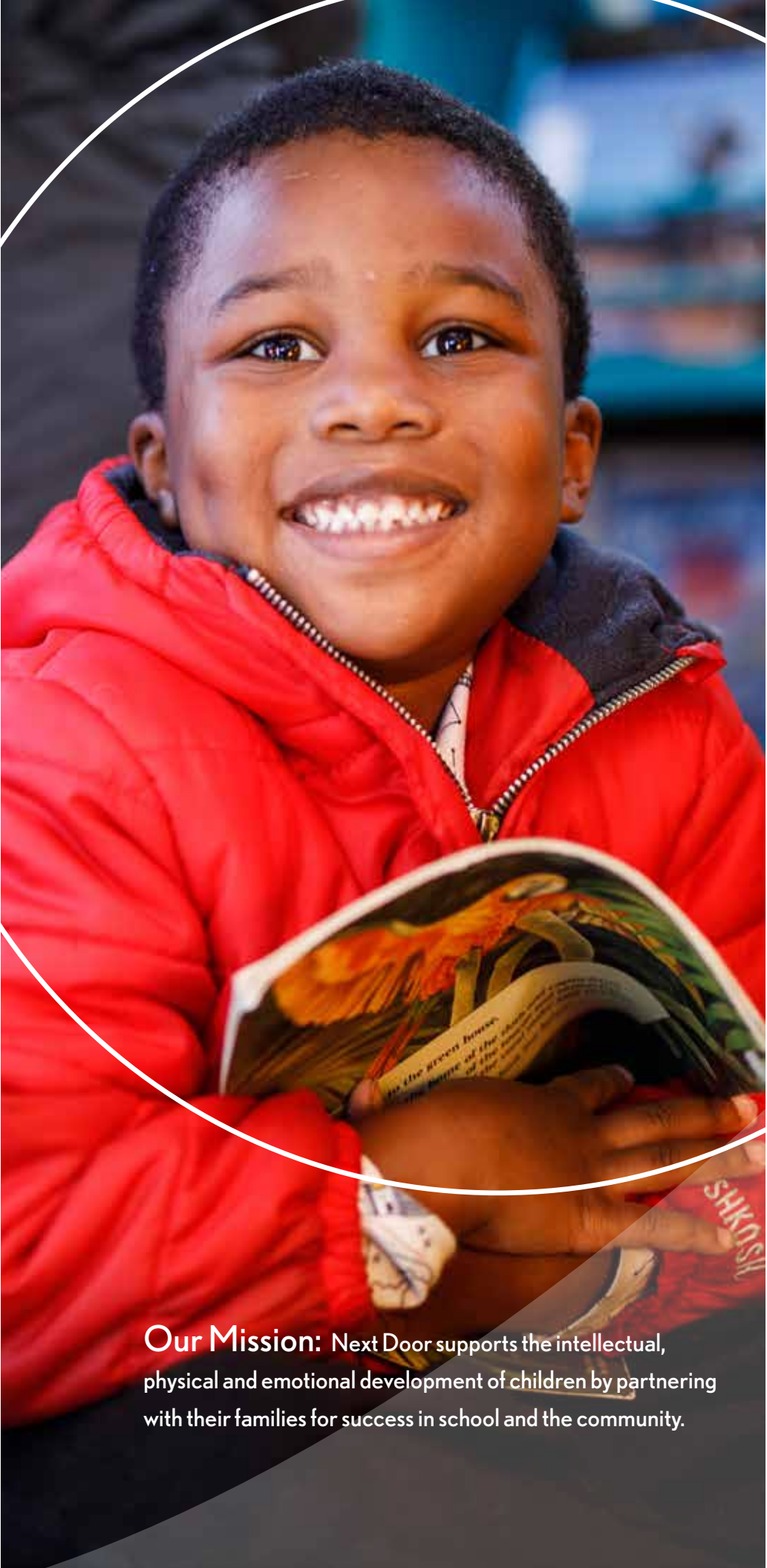
# Doing the Most Important Work in Milwaukee

While we’ve had a lot to celebrate in 2019, one of our biggest challenges is the national teacher shortage for early childhood educators. We are working hard to attract and maintain staff with multiple measures introduced this year. They include raising Next Door’s minimum wage from \$12 to \$14 an hour, offering financial support to pay back student loan debt, and adding two success coaches working with staff members to address work and life challenges.

All of these accomplishments couldn’t happen without the support and dedication of an outstanding Next Door team – our teachers, staff, administrators, board directors, parents, volunteers, donors and community partners. We thank you all for empowering Next Door year after year to do the most important work in Milwaukee!

  
**Bob VanHimbergen, CPA**  
Board Chair

  
**Tracey Sparrow, Ed.D.**  
President



**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.

## 2019 Next Door Board of Directors

- Bob VanHimbergen, CPA, Chair**  
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- Katherine Lambert, Secretary**  
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- Paul Bee**  
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- Jeb Bentley**  
Northwestern Mutual
- Simone Conceição, Ph.D.**  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Rebecca Cook**  
ManpowerGroup
- Benjamin S. Cordani**  
Caterpillar, Inc.
- Vicky Cordani**  
Community Volunteer
- Darrian Davis**  
Community Volunteer
- Robert Duncan**  
Children’s Wisconsin
- Mark Filmanowicz**  
The Walbec Group
- Sadique Isahaku, Ph.D.**  
Milwaukee Area Technical College
- Jason Klein**  
US Bank
- Marge Laughlin**  
Elementary School Teacher – Retired
- Molly Mulroy**  
We Energies
- Tanika Murphy**  
Harley-Davidson Motor Company
- Amy Rislov**  
Sentry Insurance
- Wendy Schueller**  
Baird
- Sean Scullen**  
Quarles & Brady
- Quamale Stanton**  
Policy Council Chair/Parent Representative
- Barbara Wanzo**  
Black Arts MKE



To secure a strong future for Next Door, our work is guided by our strategic plan focused on providing the highest quality experience to our children, families and staff. The plan includes five position statements. Below are some key accomplishments in 2019.

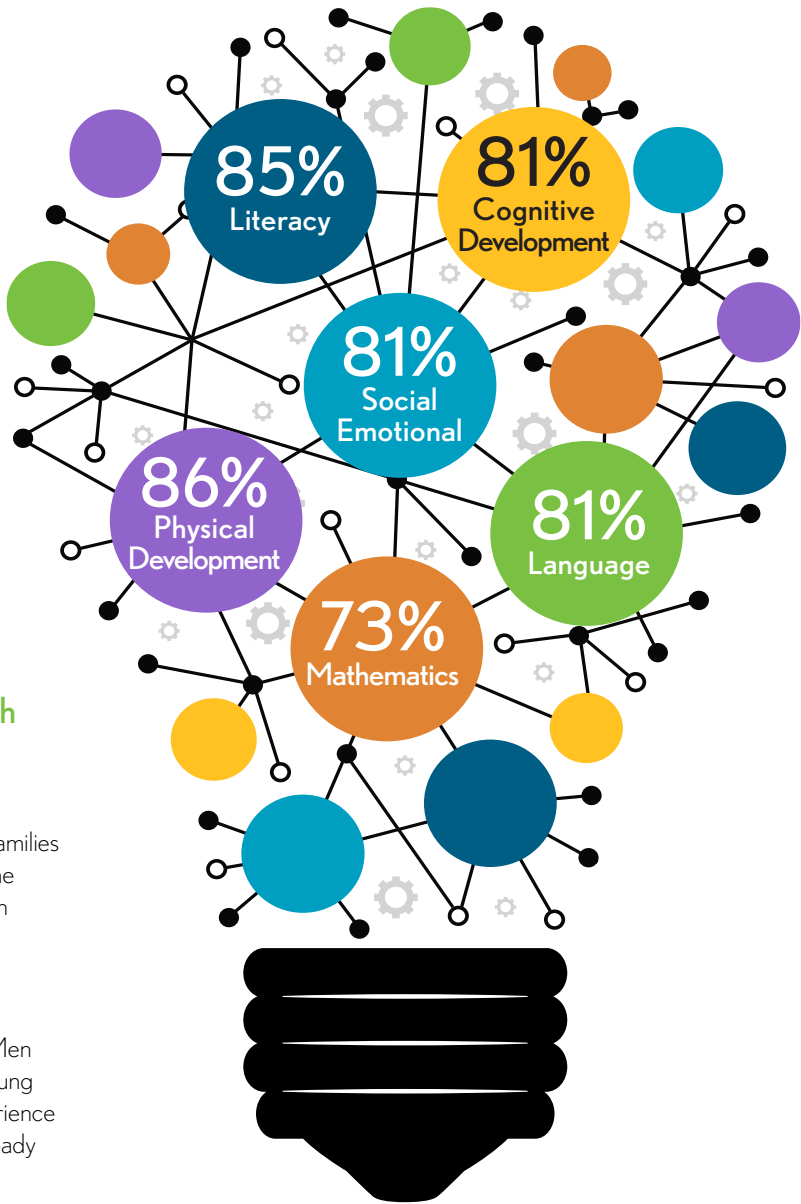
**Next Door will be recognized as the preeminent leader in early childhood education in Milwaukee.**

- 80% of Next Door students met developmental benchmarks for literacy, math, cognitive, language, physical and social emotional development.
- Next Door’s emphasis on literacy and math for three to five-year-old children resulted in positive gains in the 2018-2019 school year. Our four-year-old children saw a 41% increase in math from fall to spring and a 37% increase in reading over the same period.
- 75% of classrooms scored in the top 10% nationally for a teacher-student interaction assessment called CLASS.
- 87% student attendance rate for the 2018-2019 school year.

**Next Door will extend its reach through quality partnerships.**

- Next Door opened its Family Success Center with much-needed community resources for Next Door families and neighborhood residents. The support included the launch of the Next Step Clinic – an extensive coalition of community partners providing mental health and developmental services for underserved Milwaukee children and families.
- Next Door completed its first year with the Leading Men Fellowship program from Literacy Lab – featuring young men of color working in our classrooms to gain experience as early childhood educators and help children get ready for school.
- Next Door welcomed 14 Marquette University students, including Burke Scholars, as Early Literacy Fellows supporting our teachers with literacy/language development for children. We also worked with Marquette and AmeriCorps to develop the 414 Fellows program, offering 30 students as classroom volunteers for the 2019-2020 school year also focusing on literacy/language development for children.

**Next Door’s Strategic Plan:  
Year Three Achievements**



**School Readiness Report**  
Early Head Start & Head Start –  
Children Meeting Developmental Benchmarks

**Next Door will maximize philanthropy to support our quality programming.**

- Next Door doubled overall fundraising activity from \$2.1 million in FY18 to \$4.1 million in FY19. We also doubled our ten-year fundraising average (\$2 million) in FY19.
- Next Door launched a successful 50th Anniversary Fundraising and Community Relations Campaign with \$7.1 million raised and pledged to date to support our early childhood educational programs and building renovations at our 29th Street campus. See page 14 for more on campaign results.

**Next Door will be the employer of choice among early childhood providers.**

- Next Door raised its minimum wage from \$12 to \$14 to offer more competitive wages.
- Next Door launched a pilot program offering financial support to help teachers pay off student loan debt.
- Next Door added two Success Coaches as an additional resource to help employees manage work and life challenges.
- Annual survey results showed a 4.8 out of 5 score evaluating how employees feel about their manager caring about their concerns, helping them learn and grow and making it easier to do their job.
- Annual survey results showed a 4.5 out of 5 score evaluating how employees feel about Next Door operating with strong values and moving in the right direction.



**Next Door will leverage its assets to support the strategic plan, including board governance, volunteer engagement, physical facilities, and information technology.**

- Next Door received a state grant to increase safety and security measures at our sites, like more outdoor lighting, electronic card readers and door locks.
- Annual survey results show 88% of Next Door Board Directors are very satisfied with their decision to join the board; 94% agree or strongly agree that they understand the financial status of Next Door; and 94% agree or strongly agree that the Next Door Board plays an active role in developing annual goals and objectives and long-range strategic direction for the organization.
- Survey results showed 97% of Next Door volunteers are satisfied or very satisfied with their experience at Next Door; 99% are likely to return; and 100% are very likely or likely to recommend Next Door.





### Meet Imani London

Imani London says she's not one of those parents who sit on the sidelines of their child's education – and she's proving that at Next Door.

**"I think it's just the type of person I am – just wanting to really be involved and see what's going on. Being involved in my daughters' education is very important to me," Imani said.**

**Imani enrolled her two daughters – Eliora and Aadya – at Next Door in the fall of 2018. She spent their first year volunteering in Aadya's room every day.**

"I would eat breakfast with the children, sit on the floor and sing songs, play in the different learning areas and interact with all the students – not just my daughter," Imani said.

Imani joined both of her daughters for family learning events hosted by Next Door throughout their first year. These opportunities allow parents to engage with their children in educational and interactive activities based on different themes, like recycling and holidays.

"Those are really fun and the kids love them!" Imani said.

Imani's heavy involvement led to close relationships with her daughters' teachers, who told her about another way to engage with Next Door and advance her own education.

**Imani enrolled in the Early Childhood Scholars program – a collaboration with Milwaukee Area Technical College that allows Next Door parents to earn an early childhood credential to launch a teaching career at Next Door. The scholars take evening classes at Next Door taught by MATC faculty with additional training from Next Door staff. Imani hopes to start teaching here next year.**

"Next Door has given a lot to me when it comes to my children and their education and the relationships they've built with me, so I would love to be able to give back to them," she said.

## Next Door Parent Success

Over the past year, Imani took one more step furthering her parent engagement with Next Door. **She joined the Policy Council – a parent governing body of Next Door where parents learn about agency operations and programs, develop family engagement plans, and evaluate, discuss and vote on business matters similar to the board of directors.**

"I like seeing the under-workings of everything and seeing what's really going on behind your children's education," Imani said.

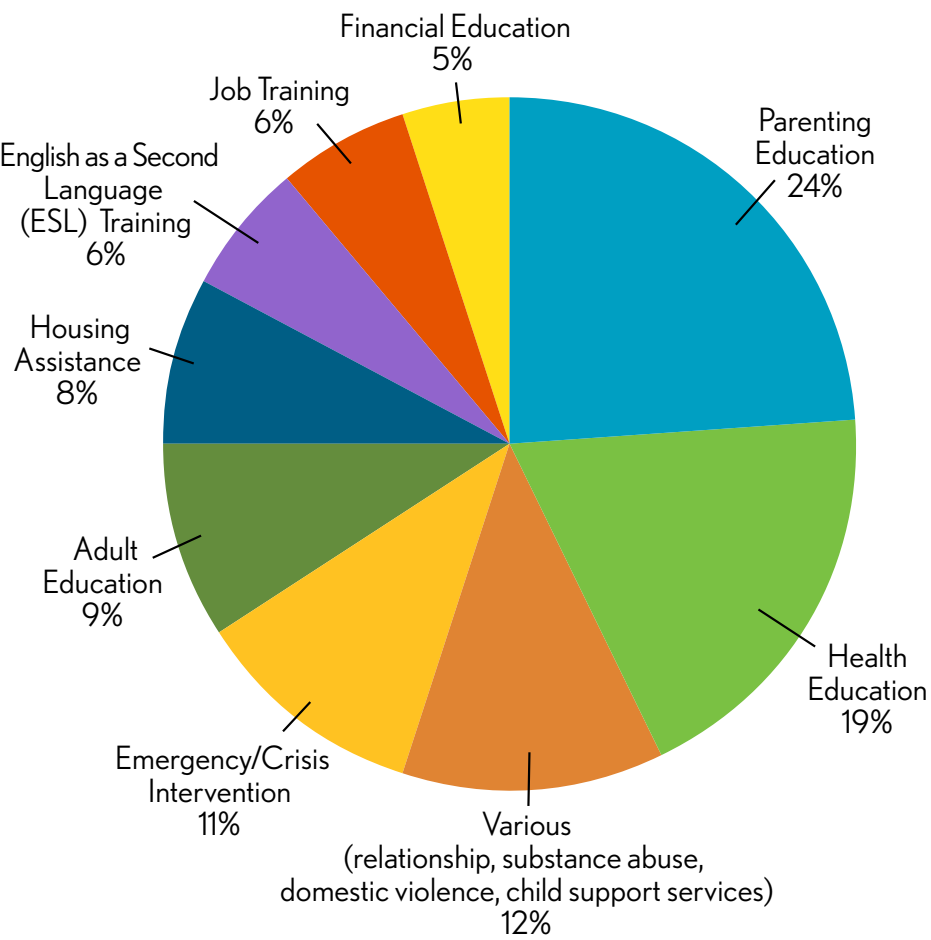


Through all of her involvement at Next Door, Imani says she's feeling more empowered as a parent and feeling good about her family's future.

**"Next Door has really made me more confident as a mother. When my daughters come home, I feel more confident to be able to give them what they need," she said.**

## Supporting Next Door Families

### Support Services Accessed by Families (2018-2019)



**1,774** children served  
**1,558** families served  
**100%** of children attend Next Door free of charge  
**82%** of children are living in households at or below the poverty level  
**1,286** cases of families accessing support services  
**100%** of children have health insurance  
**98%** of children have a medical home  
**136** pediatric mental health consultations  
**6** languages spoken by families supported by staff fluent in them





### Meet Mariah Pondexter

When Mariah Pondexter looks back to her early years at Next Door, visits to the library to select free books stand out vividly.

**“It was your book that you could take home and keep for as long as you wanted, read it as much as you wanted and you didn’t have to worry about returning it to the library,” Mariah recalled.**

Mariah visited the library with her classmates as part of Next Door’s Books for Kids program, which collects donated books from the community and distributes them for free to Next Door students to help build their home libraries.

“I did really enjoy that program and I remember it fondly,” Mariah said.

**Mariah attended Next Door from 1997 to 1999 from age three to five. Today, she’s 26 and busy building her resume for medical school.**

“I’ve always wanted to become a doctor since I was really young,” Mariah said. “I want to give people a chance to live, take care of them and make sure they’re OK.”

Mariah’s resume includes a bachelor’s degree from UW-Madison where she earned a full-ride academic scholarship, a year in AmeriCorps serving in Milwaukee Public Schools, and a year overseas in England earning a master’s degree in Public Health at New Castle University.

**From her studies in England, Mariah gained valuable experience learning about preventative care strategies and doctor-patient relationships. She focused her dissertation on diabetes prevention and started building a bedside manner to better connect with her future patients.**

“I think as a doctor, I’ll be more aware of the different kinds of factors that affect people’s decisions about their health,” Mariah said.

After finishing her master’s program, Mariah decided to take one more step before medical school.

In spring of 2019, Mariah earned her Basic Life Support credential at Waukesha County Technical College to become an Emergency Medical Technician, or EMT. She currently works for the Milwaukee-based company, Paratech Ambulance Service.

### Next Door Alumni Success



“I wanted to get some actual experience working with patients in the healthcare field and thought working as an EMT would be a good start,” Mariah said.

She’s working 12-hour shifts as an EMT while applying to medical schools.

**Mariah’s dream is to attend medical school in Wisconsin and eventually serve the north side community where she grew up.**

“I want to work in underserved communities and low-income communities, and be able to help people who might not have the resources to get the medical care they need,” Mariah said.



### Meet LaParis Mondy-Walton

When LaParis Mondy-Walton discovered Next Door’s adult education department, she found the catalyst she needed to get her life back on track.

**“I would say Next Door prepared me for life. It helped me cope in life. It helped me to get back out into the real world,” LaParis said.**

LaParis came to Next Door in 2016 – about a decade after dropping out of high school to care for her ailing mother and to support her brothers.

**Her goal was to earn her high school diploma through the state’s High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) program. Next Door’s adult education department offers academic preparation and life skills development for that program, and LaParis took full advantage of the support.**

“I would come every day – Monday through Thursday. Sometimes I would be here from 7:30 in the morning until 1:00 in the afternoon,” she recalled.

LaParis worked closely with Next Door adult education instructors and volunteer tutors on math, reading and language arts. She had a lot on her plate – juggling her school work with a full-time job, pregnancy and a Lupus diagnosis.

**“LaParis persevered despite the many personal and academic obstacles she faced. We admired her for balancing all of this throughout her training here,” said Peter Kafkas, one of Next Door’s adult education instructors.**

LaParis credits Peter for his determination to keep her on track. She also worked with Kaitlin Koepke who she described as a “wonderful influencer” and a “great motivator.” Paris is pictured, center, with the two instructors.

**In 2018, LaParis completed the HSED course and received her high school diploma. She went on to enroll at Milwaukee Area Technical College in the Cosmetologist Apprenticeship Program. She chose this field because of the positive ways it makes people feel.**

“That’s my thing – I like to make people feel good about themselves. That touches me and makes me feel good about myself,” LaParis said.

Her goal is to become a salon owner and teach in the cosmetology field.

“I have little doubt that she will fulfill whatever she sets out to do,” Peter said.

### Next Door Adult Education Success

**145 students participated in our Adult Education program in the 2018-2019 school year. Teachers and volunteer tutors led more than 7,000 hours of instruction.**



LaParis still keeps in touch with her Next Door instructors. She has come by for help on college assignments and requested letters of recommendation, which they wrote for her. Their impact on her shines through her zest for life and soaring confidence.

“Now I’m like, ‘This is your life, you’re either going to waste it or you’re going to use it. So right now, I’m utilizing every moment to make it better for me and my family,’” LaParis said.



**To become a volunteer tutor, contact Martina at 414.999.2529 or mstevens@NextDoorMKE.org**





In 2005, Next Door joined the Educare Learning Network as the third Educare school in the country. Today, the network of 25 schools employs a best practice, research-driven model for high quality early childhood education for children living in poverty. The Buffett Early Childhood Fund and the Ounce of Prevention are two principal partners in the network.

### Partner Spotlight: Marquette University

In 2019, Marquette University marked a series of ongoing and new projects with Next Door.

- The launch of the Next Step Clinic at Next Door supporting mental health and developmental needs of underserved Milwaukee children and families.
- Developing the 414 Fellows program with Marquette and AmeriCorps to offer 30 students as classroom volunteers for the 2019-2020 school year with a focus on literacy/language development for children.
- 14 Marquette University students serving as Early Literacy Fellows supporting our teachers with literacy/language development for children (pictured below).
- Implementation of LENA (Language Environment Analysis) technology measuring student-teacher conversational interactions in an effort to build language development.
- Research on the Calm Classroom program working to help children build coping mechanisms and classroom productivity through mindfulness instruction.



## Our Community Partners

**Next Door collaborates with an extensive group of local and national partners to offer valuable resources that enhance the high quality early childhood education experience for our children and families.**

- Aurora Family Services
- Bryant and Stratton College
- Cardinal Stritch University
- Children's Wisconsin
- Clayton Early Learning Academy - EMBRACE
- DentaMed
- Employ MKE
- LENA
- Literacy Lab
- Marquette University
- Maximus
- Medical College of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy
- Medical College of Wisconsin Pathways
- Milwaukee Area Technical College
- Milwaukee Center For Independence
- Milwaukee Coalition for Children's Mental Health (part of Mental Health America of Wisconsin)
- Milwaukee Justice Center Mobile Legal Clinic
- Milwaukee Public Museum and Kohl's On the Move
- Milwaukee Public Schools
- Milwaukee School of Engineering
- Milwaukee Succeeds
- MJ Care
- New Threads of Hope
- Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee
- ResCare
- Safe & Sound
- School Community Partnership for Mental Health
- Social Development Commission Foster Grandparent Program
- United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.

Since 2015, Next Door has led a federal grant program working to increase access to high quality early childhood education for Milwaukee families.

The grant features an Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (CCP) program with nine early childhood organizations (shown below) with 11 sites across Milwaukee County.

At each location, a Next Door instructional coach offers teachers individualized coaching and professional development opportunities – all to raise the quality of learning and care in their classroom.



## Child Care Partnership Program

In addition, the CCP program provides Next Door Family Advocates to help families at the partnership sites access important community resources. The advocates also arrange for children to have medical and dental screenings.

This partnership program allows Next Door to directly reach 344 children across 69 classrooms and indirectly impact 1,400 additional children at the partner sites.

### CCP Teacher Success

Nancy Fernandez is an early childhood teacher at La Causa – one of Next Door's CCP partners. She works with Next Door instructional coach, Lesvia Gregory – a professional development resource Nancy says she can always count on.

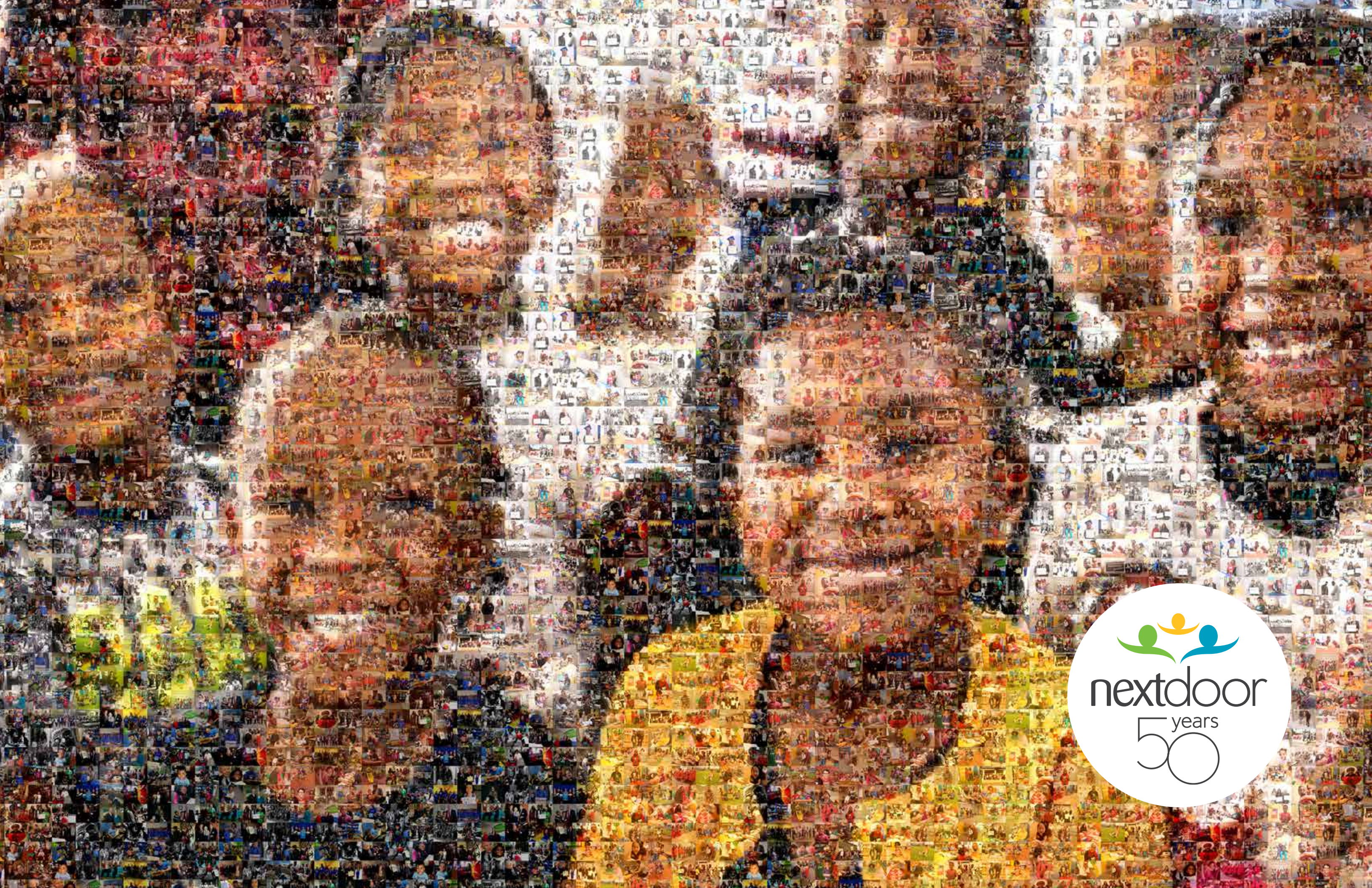
**"I love it because sometimes we have questions and we have struggles – and she's always there for us," Nancy says.**

Lesvia monitors Nancy's teaching strategies through classroom observations – some of which are recorded. During one-on-one coaching sessions at least once a week, they discuss Nancy's performance, student assessment tools, professional development opportunities, and anything further she may need.

**"I've been growing a lot, especially with Lesvia helping me. I feel like I'm a different teacher right now, more confident and more secure," Nancy said.**











To commemorate our first 50 years of serving our community, Next Door launched a 50th Anniversary Campaign in January 2019. The campaign focused on three main areas of activity – fundraising, community relations and events – with a purpose of re-engaging long-time friends who were a part of Next Door at its beginnings, bringing new community members into the Next Door family, and increasing awareness of and supporting the highest quality early childhood education in Milwaukee for the years ahead.

We started the year with our President's Breakfast at the place where Next Door began – at Our Savior's Lutheran Church – and hosted our pinnacle celebration in the beautiful atrium and ballroom of our 50-year partner Northwestern Mutual.

Throughout the year, we welcomed dozens of community members and organizations into Next Door to provide inspiring experiences for our students; help increase awareness of the critical issues related to early childhood education through screenings of the documentary *No Small Matter*; celebrate our staff's daily investment in our mission with a picnic and a holiday breakfast; participate in the 30th year of our annual Walk for Children with a parade-style neighborhood walk and block party; share 50 stories from 50 years; volunteer and donate books; and join our biggest ever Read with Me – with 335 volunteers reading to every child at Next Door on a single morning.

We thank everyone who was a part of our 50th year – your support made this milestone year one we will never forget!

## Celebrating our First 50 Years

**\$7.1M** Total funds raised (to date) towards Next Door's 50th Anniversary Campaign for early childhood educational programs and the renovation of our 29th Street campus

**981** Total donors (to date) towards Next Door's 50th Anniversary Campaign for early childhood educational programs and the renovation of our 29th Street campus

**1,576** Community members engaged during the 11 events hosted

**135** Special visitors from community partners including the Milwaukee Bucks, Boswell Books, UWM Athletics, Scripps WTMJ4, PNC Bank's "Grow Up Great" Planetarium, Executive Women Intl., and more

**92,307** Books donated through community book drives

**50** Stories shared from 50 years of history

**28** Media coverage from CBS58, FOX6, WISN12, WTMJ4, BizTimes Media, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Urban Milwaukee, 103.7 KISSFM, Wisconsin Public Radio, Milwaukee PBS Black Nouveau, and a feature story used in Comic Relief USA's Red Nose Day national campaign

### 50th Anniversary Committee

Thomas Arenberg  
Lynn Barney ★♦  
Donna Baumgartner  
Lisa Berman  
Peter Bruce  
Jennifer Buchanan  
Mary Conlon  
Rebecca Cook  
Vicky Cordani ★♦  
Susan Doyle  
Linda Groth ★♦

Kathryn Housiaux ♦  
Dr. Sadique Isahaku  
Mary Kellner ★♦  
Hans Kirkegaard  
Jay Koenitzer  
Kathy Lambert  
Tim Larson  
Marge Laughlin  
Brenda Levatich ★♦  
Usamah Loveless  
Laurie Mahoney

Jamie Morningstar  
Tanika Murphy  
Sharyn Parsons ♦  
Sue Pieper  
Jeanne Prochnow  
April Rechlitz  
David Romoser  
Nancy Roos ★♦  
Rev. Ed Ruen  
Bob VanHimbergen  
Craig Williams

**Brenda and Matt Levatich**  
Chairs  
50th Anniversary Celebration

★ 50th Anniversary Celebration Subcommittee

♦ Community Read with Me Subcommittee





Meet Camilla Levin

When Camilla Levin started volunteering for Next Door’s adult education program, classes took place in a choir room with students learning from the risers.

It was the 1980’s and Next Door was at its original location at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church. Camilla started coming one to two times a week as a volunteer tutor but that didn’t last long.

“I very soon started coming to every session. In time, I came to be referred to as unpaid staff,” Camilla said jokingly.



Camilla came to Next Door four days a week to work one-on-one with adult education students in morning and afternoon sessions. At the time, she was one of a few volunteers serving this program focused on preparing students for testing to earn a High School Equivalency Diploma like the GED.

“There was a universal yearning to improve their lives, especially for their children,” Camilla said of the students she worked with. “They were highly motivated, happy to be there and appreciative of any help, so it was always a positive experience.”

Camilla continued volunteering with Next Door when the agency moved to the 29th Street building in the early 1990’s.

She remembers working with students who persevered significant hardships in their lives while working toward

Next Door’s Longest-serving Volunteer

2,316 people, including parents and community members, volunteered more than 69,000 hours in the 2018-2019 school year.

their GED. When they earned it, Camilla recalls the adult education team holding graduation celebrations for them. There was one student Camilla remembers working with for about five years who earned her GED but couldn’t attend a celebration at Next Door – so Next Door came to her.

“The staff and I went to her home, we took her a cap and gown, some gifts and a cake and had a personal celebration for her. It was very special to me because she came in at a very low level of education and she worked doggedly to get her GED,” Camilla recalled.

Today, Camilla comes to Next Door once a week during the fall, winter and spring to tutor adult education students. Next Door’s Adult Education Coordinator, Peter Kafkas, says Camilla is one of those volunteers who connects well with her students and stands out with her math instruction.

“Camilla’s experience as a tutor and her ability to convey mathematical concepts is truly inspiring. She is immensely appreciated by the students and the adult education staff,” Peter said.

Camilla says she’ll continue volunteering as long as she can because of the high level of fulfillment she experiences on every visit to Next Door.

“Education has always been a passion of mine and I just get a lot of gratification from it. I always say I get more out of it than the students do,” Camilla said.



To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Next Door, contact Martina Stevens at 414.999.2529 or mstevens@NextDoorMKE.org

We welcomed hundreds of community members as volunteers at Next Door during 2019. They read with our children in the library, cleaned and repaired donated books for Books for Kids, served as classroom helpers, worked in our gardens, tutored our adult education students and did so much more to lend a helping hand. We thank you for your time, commitment and service to Next Door.

200+ Volunteer Hours

Jim Benefiel  
Bonnie Chmielewski  
Meg Fox  
Ginny Gribble  
Andrew Hope  
Barbara Schwister

100-199 Volunteer Hours

Executive Women International  
GPS Education Partners  
Greendale Middle School  
Harley-Davidson Motor Company  
Holy Family School  
Rita McDonald  
Messmer Saint Mary  
Milwaukee Bucks  
Northwestern Mutual  
Christine Pagenkop  
PNC Bank  
Jana Ranson  
Miranda Spindt ★♦  
Janiya Swayzer  
St. John Vianney  
John Wierschem

50-99 Volunteer Hours

Mary Coughlin  
Evelia Guerrero ★♦  
Gruber Law Offices  
Julie Hall  
Kate Hennessey★  
Brigid Hughes ★♦  
Mel Johnson  
Alison Keefe  
Pakou Lee  
Camilla Levin  
ManpowerGroup  
Medical College of WI  
Ozaukee Congregational Church  
Jane Pfaff  
Jeanne Prochnow  
Grace Rigney★  
Amy Rovin  
Dr. Mark Rhyner  
St. Robert Catholic School  
Lynn Tolcott  
Karen Zimmermann

25-49 Volunteer Hours

Elfrieda Abbe  
Leah Allegretti ★  
Associated Bank  
Keoni Bailey ★♦  
Baird

Bayside Middle School  
Bruce Beehler  
Nancy Bornstein  
L’Tanya Brabham  
Andrea Broggy ★  
Cardinal Stritch University  
CoreLogic Inc.  
Julie Cummings  
Abigail Dobbins ★  
Claire Fritsche  
Cristina Galliani ★  
Good City Brewing  
Gordon Brothers  
Patty Hammer  
Bob Hirschi  
Madeline Janisch  
Kyle Johnson  
Kennedy Lake ★  
Brenda Levatic  
Amalia Liguori-Conneff ★  
Lincoln School for the Arts  
Marquette University  
Marquette University  
High School Staff  
Badger Meter  
Mortenson Construction  
New Horizons Shorewood  
Molly Nystedt ★  
Rexnord  
Rockwell Automation  
St. Eugene School  
St. Monica School  
Christine Standley  
Mural Tunio ★♦  
University School of Milwaukee  
Marycruz Valdivia  
Annie Wegner LeFort  
Wilson Elementary School

10-24 Volunteer Hours

Atwater Elementary School  
Cassandra Backus  
Gwen Berglund  
Peter Blenski  
Barbara Bracey  
Brew City Marketing  
Brookfield Chamber  
of Commerce  
Jackson Bubolz  
Judy Buchs  
Claire Casey  
CG Schmidt  
Dominican High School  
Khadjah Drame  
Empower Retirement

Thank You to Our Volunteers

Equips Company  
Debra Erickson  
Jessica Fiebrantz  
Shennel French  
Kevin Gannon  
Juan Garcia  
Gena Gilmore  
Girl Scout Troop #8913  
Kristina Gorecki  
Isabel Hernandez  
JCP Construction  
Rita Kehl  
Elena Krukowski  
Julie Kuehl  
Lake Bluff School  
Jordan Lazovik  
Kasey Leaf  
Janice Levy  
Steven Lewis  
Life Navigators  
Rebekah Long  
Mary Ellen Luxem  
Joy Mancuso-Mohsen  
Milwaukee Business Journal  
Isabella Montgomery  
Mt. Carmel Church  
Maddie Myers  
Debra Newsom  
Bridget O’Brien

Mary Ellen O’Sullivan  
Annegret Paas  
Valerie Phillips  
Sincere Pollard  
Zoe Postula  
PricewaterhouseCoopers  
Lily Regan  
Grace Rigney  
Rise Youth and Family  
Joe Schmitz  
Roger Schroeder  
Stacie Shaw  
Shannon Sims  
Starbucks Coffee  
Erin Taylor  
Evan Tillman  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Athletics Department  
Jackie Wales  
WE Energies  
Christine Weisbrook  
Abeni Wichinski  
Faith Yang

★ Marquette University Early Literacy Fellow

♦ Marquette University Burke Scholar







## Books for Kids

### Creating a love of reading early on!

Next Door's Books for Kids program works to ensure children in Milwaukee have access to books they can call their own! Through generous community donations, we distribute free books to help Next Door students and children in the community build home libraries and develop a love of reading early on. We give the books away through our Read with Me program, our Mobile Library and our weekly Community Library.

During the 2018-2019 school year:

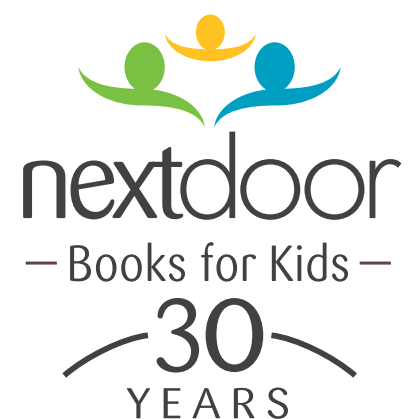
- 71,419** books distributed to children, families and teachers
- 130** book drives
- 10,010** books distributed from the Books for Kids Mobile Library
- 1,962** volunteer reading hours
- 2,121** hours of volunteer book cleaning

## Books for Kids Turns 30!

We're celebrating Books for Kids 30th birthday in 2020! Over the past three decades, Books for Kids has evolved into a heartwarming and community-driven program that has distributed nearly two million free books to children to help them build their home libraries.

We kicked off the celebration with a special visit from the E.W. Scripps Company and its Milwaukee affiliate, WTMJ4, and Scholastic Books. They all partnered to share a book fair experience with Next Door students where each child selected a brand new book to take home. Overall, this generous program donated more than 1,000 free books to Next Door!

We thank everyone who has supported Books for Kids over the past 30 years. Whether you donated books, led a book drive, read to a child in our library or cleaned the donated books we receive, you have all helped enrich a child's life with the joy and magic of reading!



To learn more about book drives and volunteer opportunities with Books for Kids, contact Jackie at 414.999.2509 or [jshanti@NextDoorMKE.org](mailto:jshanti@NextDoorMKE.org)

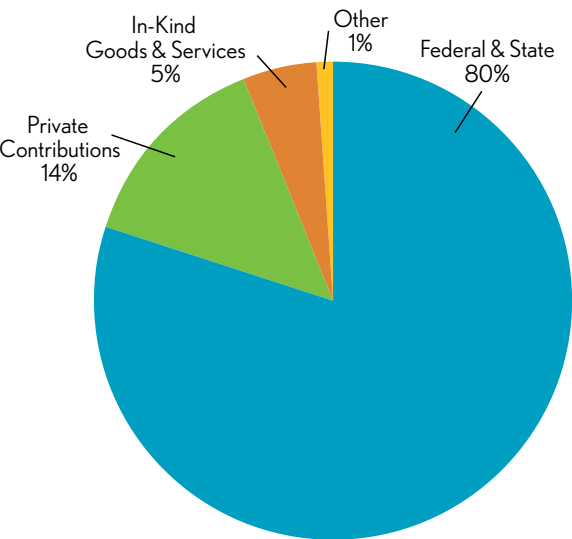




# 2018-2019 Financial Outcomes

## 2018-2019 Operating Revenue

Year Ended June 30, 2019

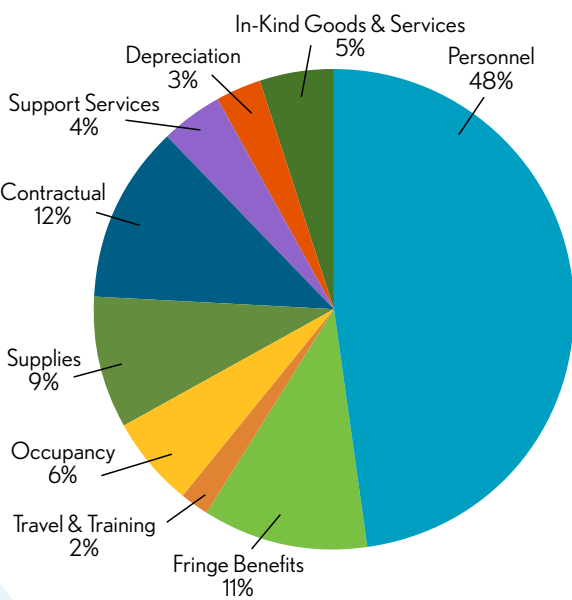


Operating Revenues	Amount	Percentage
Federal & State	\$20,956,115	80%
Private Contributions	3,684,781	14%
In-Kind Goods & Services	1,290,377	5%
Other	274,435	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,205,708</b>	<b>100%</b>

2018-2019 figures are from audited financial statements of Next Door Foundation. A fundraising and community relations campaign was launched in FY19 as a part of Next Door’s 50th Anniversary. Excess revenue over expense includes funds pledged and designated for multiple years of early childhood education programs and the renovation of our 29th Street campus, which have not yet been expensed.

## 2018-2019 Operating Expense

Year Ended June 30, 2019



Operating Expenses	Amount	Percentage
Personnel	\$11,251,827	48%
Fringe Benefits	2,524,721	11%
Travel & Training	411,425	2%
Occupancy	1,406,323	6%
Supplies	2,143,095	9%
Contractual	2,940,378	12%
Support Services	948,062	4%
Depreciation	719,573	3%
In-Kind Goods/Services & Other	1,306,378	5%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$23,651,782</b>	<b>100%</b>

Many donors make gifts in honor or in memory of those they care about. These gifts are a meaningful way to pay tribute to their values and to help children get a strong start to life. The following gifts were made between January 1 and December 31, 2019.

## Tribute Donations

- In Honor of Joan Aker**  
James Giffin

**In Memory of Loren Aman**  
Marsha Morrow

**In Memory of Nancy Andrich**  
Laurel and James Moschetz

**In Honor of Tom and Diane Arenberg**  
Dr. Mary Arenberg

**In Honor of Kay & Fred Austermann**  
Ben and Lee Kordus

**In Memory of Dr. Alfred Bader**  
Baird Foundation, Inc.  
Mary Ellen and Scott Stanek

**In Honor of Grace, Emma, Hudson, Brooke, Ashley, Avery, and Weston Bailey**  
Joan Aker

**In Memory of Sherree Baker**  
Janice Navarro

**In Honor of John Bauer’s 70th Birthday**  
Thomas and Mary Pat Kirchen  
Michael Korducki

**In Memory of Joan Brengel**  
Richard and Sara Aster  
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Mary and James Conlon  
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Dee Stewart Way  
Anna and Russel Werner

**In Honor of Joan and Peter Bruce on their 50th Anniversary**  
Gregory and Rhonda Oberland

**In Memory of Henry & Jennie Chan**  
Dr. Carlyle Chan and Patricia Chan
- In Honor of Mary Conlon**  
Dr. Isabel Bader  
Robert Ferriday and Barbara McMath  
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**In Honor of Amy and Rich Roven**  
Jamie Gualdoni

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Executive Women International

**In Honor of Marni Seigle**  
Robert Stein

**In Memory of Susan Seigle**  
Susan and Alan Carneol

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Augie Engelken  
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**In Honor of Dr. Tracey Sparrow**  
Vincent and Margaret Sparrow

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**In Memory of Judy Wied**  
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**In Honor of John, Lisa and Alexis Wilson**  
James and Catherine Wilson

**In Honor of Sue Ziegler-Harper**  
Kevin and Amy Ziegler



Next Door’s generous donors play an extremely valuable role in ensuring Next Door students receive the highest quality early childhood education. They also help us provide a host of critical community resources to help families succeed. We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to our donors who represent individuals, families, community foundations and corporations. Without your significant investment in Next Door, we couldn’t do the most important work in Milwaukee! The following gifts were made between January 1 and December 31, 2019.

**\$250,000+**  
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Northwestern Mutual Foundation

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## Thank You to Our Donors

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