

#### **Celebrating 45 years**

Happy 2022!

The start of a new year is typically greeted with optimism and hope; however, the first two weeks of 2022 have offered more frustration than optimism with the surge of COVID cases and weather-related cancellations and delays.

My office window has a sweeping view of a Whole Foods Parking lot. This scene often acts as a barometer of frustration levels. I regularly hear blaring car horns and see traffic piling up as a tangle of cars try to get in or out of parking spaces. Yesterday, I witnessed something different. What looked like a typical jam – a car trying to exit a space while another was waiting to enter, the line of cars waiting to exit the lot grew. As frustrated drivers began to sound their horns, a nearby shopper abandoned her cart to assist and direct the line of waiting cars to back-up. The maneuvering took some time, but once drivers realized they needed to move in order for the jam to be resolved, one by one, cars carefully backed up. The horns stopped.

I would never compare Wonders to the Whole Foods parking lot, but the scene I watched yesterday was a great reminder of the value of broadening perspectives, taking initiative, and working together to move forward. In two months, we will mark two years since the start of the pandemic. Through it all, the Wonders team continues to lead children through their days with care and compassion. Our partnership with families and community members adds perspective to our work and strengthens our ability to be responsive in the many ways that are required of us. We are grateful to be marking the start of a new year with our community and we look forward to many good days ahead.

We all wish you a happy and healthy new year,

Janne Ahut

Joanne Hurt Executive Director

#### Wonders Summer Camp Early Bird Rates and Sibling Discounts Available Now



Wonders Summer Camp 2022 promises enriching experiences that spark children's creativity, inquiry, empathy, and joy. Our camp counselors are planning fun cognitive-rich activities and many hands-on community building opportunities. Our Summer Camp Leaders have years of experience offering high-quality summer camps.. Our Summer Camp Leaders have years of experience

offering high-quality summer camps. <u>Click here for our early bird</u> rates and summer camp schedule.

New and Returning Families Enroll Here
Currently Enrolled Families Register Here

#### **Wonders News**

For many years, Wonders has partnered with <u>A Wider Circle</u> to offer a family service day. Wonders families joined together for a day of service at A Wider Circle's Silver Spring location to sort and clean donated items destined for families who are moving out of homelessness. Although we are not able to gather in person again this year, we encourage our staff and families to keep the tradition going! This weekend **A Wider Circle is looking for non-**





perishable and Giant gift card donations. Food items and gift cards will be distributed to neighbors in need in Southeast, DC on January 17th.

You can drop off donations at the <u>Center</u> OR you can purchase items via their <u>Amazon Wishlist</u>. Donations are needed by Sunday, January 18th!



Once again we would like to express our appreciation to the Wonders community for your support of our Build Back Stronger campaign. Our numbers keep growing! We have raised \$34,098.43 for Wonders professional development. Thank you! Our educators are regularly engaged in efforts towards continuous improvement in their skills and knowledge in the classroom. We invite you to visit our Professional **Development Consortium** page for updates on our professional development goals and achievements throughout the year!

## Professional Development Consortium: Parent Workshop, Wednesday February 2



Strategies for Healthy Eating Habits and Ways to Encourage Picky Eaters

Wednesday, February 2 12:00 - 1:00pm

Presented by: Amy Freedman, M.A., CCC SLP Pediatric Speech Language Pathologist Child Development Consultants, LLC

How can parents reduce eating struggles and support healthy eating?



- What are practical strategies that parents can use to help children eat a varied diet and make mealtimes fun?

This workshop will cover these frequently asked questions and more!

# **Contact Us**

**Our Contact Information** 

- \*{{Organization Name}}\* \*{{Organization Address}}\*
- \*{{Organization Phone}}\* \*{{Organization Website}}\*

\*{{Unsubscribe}}\*



## Get To Know Our Programs

