

Children's Place Association Impact Report

FY2024-2025

Because of you, Children's Place Association cares for Chicago families facing the challenge of complex medical issues compounded by extreme poverty.

CPA is honored to be the bridge between generous community members who can give of their time and treasure and those who need support and services. Together, we foster hope, belonging, and opportunity for our neighbors.

YOU HELPED A PARENT PROVIDE FOR HER FAMILY

Carmine is a dedicated mom and a hard worker. But her overnight job was physically demanding. She was always exhausted and felt she couldn't give her children her best.

When she became pregnant again, Carmine knew her current employment wasn't sustainable. She was worried. CPA's Family Support team helped her explore alternate career paths. Through free job training, Carmine successfully transitioned to a career in early childhood education.

Carmine's new position allows her to provide for her family and enjoy more quality time with her kids. While she's working, all three of her children are enrolled in CPA's early learning program, building a strong foundation for their futures.



YOU ENSURED A FOSTER TEEN WAS NOT ALONE

Destiny was a young teen when she was plunged into foster care. A teacher realized Destiny had endured years of abuse from her mother's boyfriend. Diagnosed with HIV and an STD, Destiny was facing nearly insurmountable physical and emotional hurdles...alone.

CPA was tapped to place Destiny in a foster home where she could begin to heal. The CPA team rallied around her and the foster family to ensure that everyone was supported. In the years that followed, the CPA staff was continuously awed by Destiny's incredible reserves of resilience and determination.

Destiny is now finishing a college degree in nursing, managing her HIV well, and is on the cusp of aging out of the foster care system. The CPA team is confident she will continue to thrive—and they are determined to keep cheering her on as she enters adulthood.



104 children in the **early learning program** are meeting developmental milestones, overcoming challenges related to their medically complex diagnoses, becoming kindergarten-ready, and building a strong foundation for life. (Meanwhile, the parents of these children are employed, providing for their family, and contributing to the economic health of our communities.)

66 children/youth, including **36** with health challenges or disabilities, were served in the **foster care and adoption program**. CPA provides niche foster services for kids with medical issues that make them more likely to be abused and neglected. The Foster Care team trains foster families to support medical needs and to traverse the trauma these kids have endured.

270 families, totaling more than **1000** individuals, benefited from robust **case management services**, including medical case management when appropriate. Each family has a “coach” to help them navigate challenges, connect with necessary resources like job training or mental health services, and keep the family stable.

83 youth enjoy regular interaction through **THRIVE**, which provides after-school and summer programming. Kids and teens benefit from having a safe space with caring adults who can help them navigate challenges, offer individualized support, engage in civic activities, and build healthy relationships. As a result, participants have higher school attendance, fewer behavioral issues, and higher self-esteem.

