

Change Your Lens. Change Your Life.



# Life Learning Center

Annual Report 2018



## Life Learning Center

20 West 18th Street  
Covington, Kentucky 41011

[www.lifelearningcenter.us](http://www.lifelearningcenter.us)

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## WILLIAM P. BUTLER

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The very essence of Life Learning Center is to lead and empower Candidates to reflect upon themselves and take action physically, emotionally, spiritually, relationally, and financially to reach their highest potential. As the economy continues to grow, employment opportunities in our region are plentiful. However, LLC offers more granularity in service scope, expanding beyond connecting individuals to employment. Individuals experiencing poverty need more than a job to stabilize their family. Rather, they require a transformational change that involves a conscious effort and a laser focused approach, revealing a plethora of barriers preventing families from moving forward.

In our state-of-the-art facility, we host 20 residential community partners to provide on-site services to our Candidates and Members. In addition to the opening of “The Hanger” clothing boutique, we expanded our Care Continuum offerings to include preventative and restorative dental services. Perhaps one of the most extraordinary care expansions in 2018 is the formation of LLC’s bicycle co-up in partnership with Reser Bicycle Outfitters. This initiative allows the community to donate gently used bicycles to be tuned and fitted for the 70% of Candidates challenged with the barriers of transportation while improving their physical well-being. Moreover, in 2018 we are proud to report that 100% of the Candidates who graduated from LLC secured employment. Additionally, LLC was selected as one of the twelve United Way funded organizations to serve as a Family Outcome Leader – an effort to test and measure the impact of Family-Centered Learning: an integrated approach to propel families out of poverty.

Finally, we could not have the success we have garnered without the cadre of professional volunteers that support LLC in all facets of our program. We cannot express enough our appreciation and for all those who support this breakthrough work by their volunteer work, by their financial commitments, and by our very talented staff.



## ALECIA WEBB-EDGINGTON

### PRESIDENT

2018 was another year of growth and innovation for Life Learning Center. LLC Staff took significant actions to move accountability to the forefront of our daily interaction with Candidates, Members, volunteers, partners, and donors focusing on employment and education opportunities to support the Candidates and their families on their transformational journey.

Life Learning Center was one of 12 organizations selected by United Way of Greater Cincinnati (UWGC) to serve as a Family-Outcome Leader. This achievement accompanies several other notable occurrences: exponential volunteer growth, dedicated “pipe-lines” for Candidate referrals through formalized agreements with the Kentucky Department of Corrections, Kenton County Detention Center and Transitions as well as expanded evening programming. And, while it is premature to declare victory, we continue to make progress in our endeavors to support the “at-risk” population in our region. We are excited for the future and embrace the opportunities that await us.

# OUR MISSION

Life Learning Center delivers a holistic, integrated continuum of education and care to help “at-risk” citizens step up to their highest potential.

# OUR VISION

We are building a caring and serving community by helping people learn, secure and sustain a better way of living through gainful employment. The people we serve become healthier, happier and more productive individuals working to change their future for the better.

# OUR CORE VALUES

**CHANGE** occurs through intellectual determination and commitment to learn and develop social and emotional intelligence.

**SUSTAINABILITY** is achieved through job placement opportunities and mastering life skills for long-term success.

**DIGNITY** is redefined through personal growth, financial savings, value formation, and behavior change.

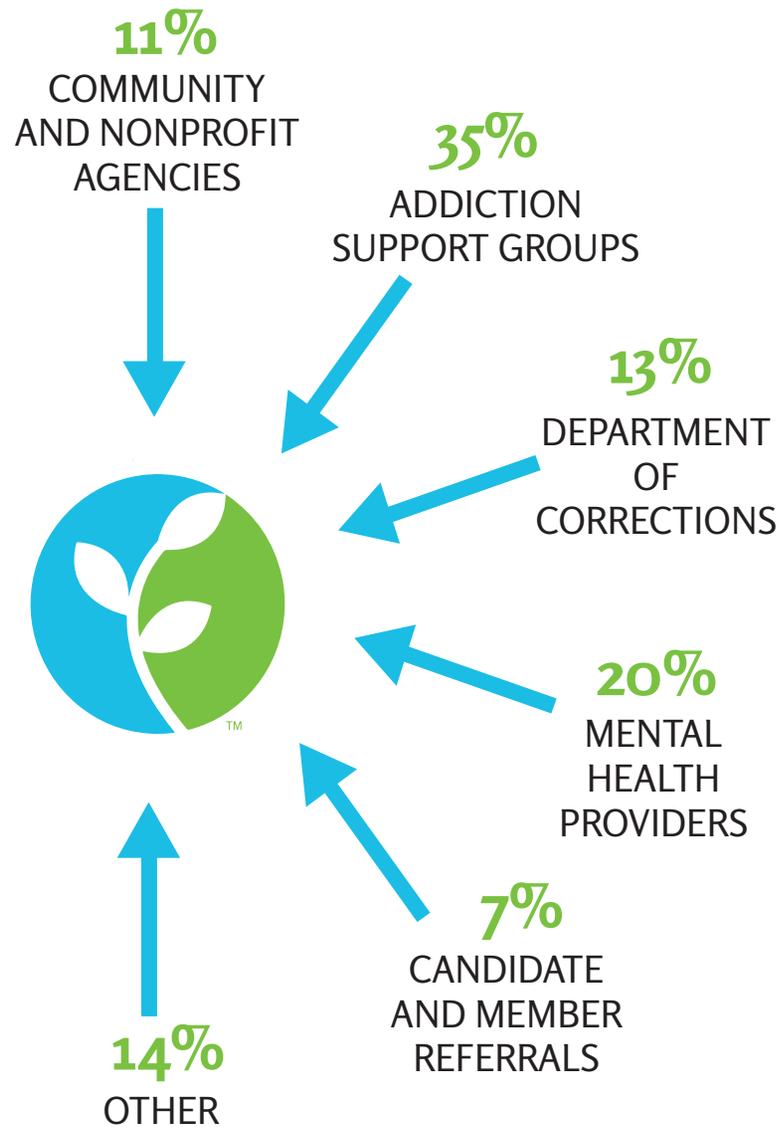
**CONTRIBUTIONS** are made by giving back their time and talents through service.



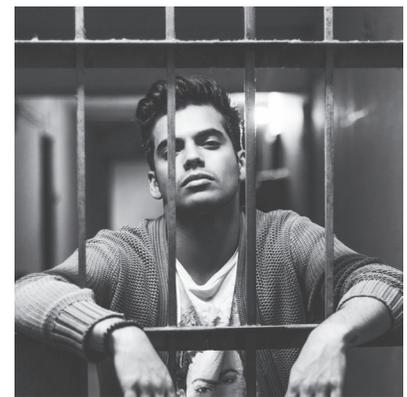
# The Bigger Picture: Our Community “At Risk”

Life Learning Center was formed out of the quest to deliver a more permanent – even transformational – solution within our traditional social services networks for individuals who are able and willing to seek a life of sustainability with dignity. The Center provides Candidates the necessary tools and resources to permanently break the cycle of situational or generational poverty.

To make terms simpler: we are not a rehabilitation center, nor a homeless shelter, nor a psychiatric hospital. Rather, Life Learning Center is the gateway to sustainable employment; creating a sector specific career pathway. The “at-risk” population the Center serves are individuals either unemployed or underemployed who require holistic life skills training to become productive members of society. Applicants find the Center through a variety of referral agencies\* and resources.



\*Referral Agencies



# Barrier Analysis at Applicant's Interview



68%

LACK

QUALIFICATIONS



84%

LACK  
RESUME



LACK A  
GED/ HIGH SCHOOL  
DEPLOMA

23%



31%

HAVE  
UNSTABLE HOUSING



21%

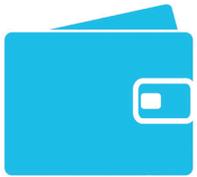
RECEIVE  
DISABILITY

VIA SSI OR SSDI

OF THOSE

66%

HAVE NO WORK  
HISTORY



47%

LACK A  
DRIVER'S LICENSE



70%

REQUIRE  
TRANSPORTATION  
ASSISTANCE



84%

LIVE BELOW 50% OF THE  
FEDERAL POVERTY  
LEVEL



57%

ARE  
SINGLE  
PARENTS



71%

HAVE A  
HISTORY OF  
SUBSTANCE  
ABUSE

47%

REPORT UNTREATED  
HEALTH  
ISSUES  
& LACK PREVENTATIVE  
HEALTHCARE



52%

HAVE A  
FELONY  
CONVICTION

68%

HAVE A  
CRIMINAL  
HISTORY



74%

REPORT  
MENTAL ILLNESS



41%

SUFFER A

PHYSICAL DISABILITY

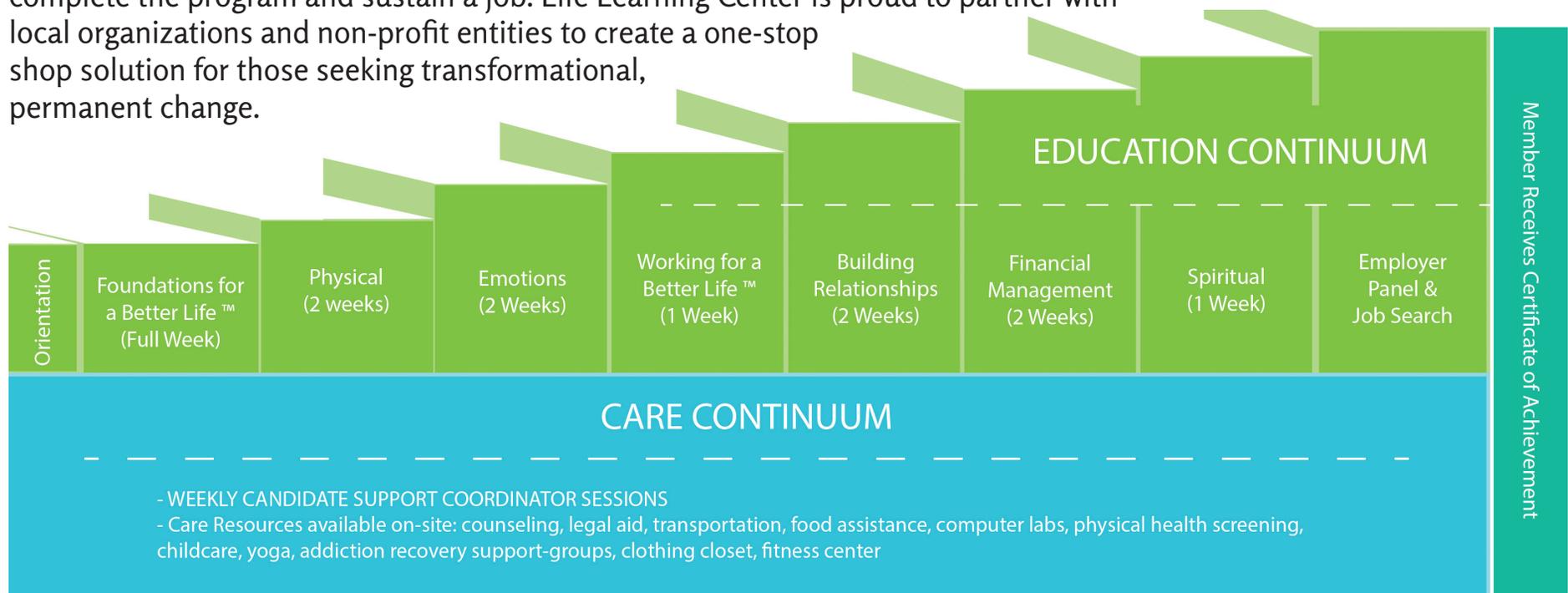
\*Data from November 2017 - October 2018

# Envision A Higher Purpose

Life Learning Center delivers an Education and Care Continuum to help identify and address barriers preventing Candidates from sustaining employment. When Candidates first begin Orientation, the staff encourages each participant to focus on one's past and present self while envisioning a better future. Once his or her personal barriers and goals are shared, Candidates participate in "Pillars of Growth" classes held once a week to learn how to overcome obstacles faced in every domain of life. While attending classes taught by volunteer faculty, Candidates learn life skills such as time management, healthy relationship boundaries, and budgeting.

Additionally, Candidates are assigned a Candidate Support Coordinator who serve as a mentor to provide additional job placement support throughout the program. Each week, Candidate Support Coordinators continue to hold the Candidate accountable by leveraging resources and job applications so the Candidate is able to secure employment based on his or her talents and needs.

At the same time, Candidates are also given the opportunity to utilize community resources necessary to successfully complete the program and sustain a job. Life Learning Center is proud to partner with local organizations and non-profit entities to create a one-stop shop solution for those seeking transformational, permanent change.



# Care Continuum

## Residential Partners



Recovery Support Group



Food, Clothing & Furniture



Workforce Development



Mental Health Counseling



Child Care



Housing



Probation & Parole



Nutrition Counseling



GED & Education



Insurance



Expungement & Legal Services



Volunteer Opportunities



Mental Health Services



Insurance & Senior Services

Self-Matters

Addiction Recovery Support



Health Insurance



Yoga



Dental Care



Tattoo Removal



Physical Health Screening

## Community Partners

Action Ministries

Aetna

Alcoholics Anonymous

BB&T

Beacon of Hope

Center For Great Neighborhoods

Chapter 9

Children's Home of Northern Kentucky

City Gospel Mission

City of Covington

Dress for Success

Easter Seals Serving Greater Cincinnati

Elsa Heisel Sule Foundation

Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky

Family Nurturing Center

First Step Home

Gateway Community & Technical College

Health Point Family Care

Henry Hosea House

Holmes High School

HOPE Ministries

Horizon Community Funds of Northern Kentucky

Housing and Urban Development

Housing Authority of Covington

Joseph House

Kenton County Adult Education Center

Kenton County Detention Center

Kentucky Career Center

Kentucky Department of Corrections

La Soupe

Lens Crafters

Lincoln Grant Scholar House

Ludlow High School

Madison Ave Christian Church

Madonna House

Master Provisions

NaviGo

New Foundation

Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission

Northern Kentucky Intervention Team

Northern Kentucky Youth Advocacy Board

NorthKey Community Care

Probation & Parole District # 7

Reser Bicycle Outfitters

Reset Ministries

Rose Garden Mission

Safety Net Alliance

Signet Screening

St. Elizabeth Healthcare

St. Vincent de Paul of Northern Kentucky

Sun Behavioral Health

Ten Ten

Transitions, Inc.

United Ministries

United Way of Greater Cincinnati

University of Kentucky Extension Office

Welcome House of Northern Kentucky

Well-Suited

White Whale Tattoo

Women's Crisis Center

# 2018 Program Impact

435

APPLICANTS  
SERVED

159

CANDIDATES  
ENROLLED

482

CANDIDATES'  
FAMILY  
MEMBERS SERVED

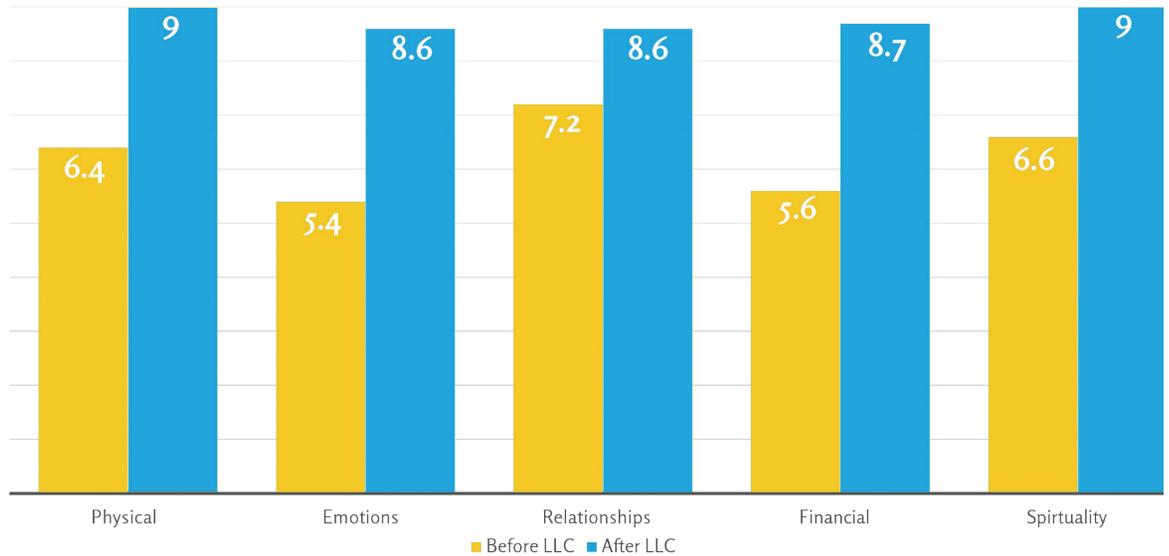
63

CANDIDATES  
COMMENCED\*

95

CANDIDATES  
EMPLOYED

## Candidate Outcomes: Before & After Life Learning Center



LLC Candidates participate in a series of assessments to measure conceptualization and application across the five pillars of life through utilization of a 1-10 self-ranking scale.

# 2018 Employment Outcomes

87%

ENTERED PROGRAM  
UNEMPLOYED



100%

EMPLOYED OR ENROLLED IN  
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION  
AT COMMENCEMENT

84%

EMPLOYED & COMPLETED  
WORK WEEK  
(THROUGH WEEK 6)

81%

RETAINED EMPLOYMENT  
FOR 6 MONTHS



63%

RETAINED EMPLOYMENT  
FOR 12 MONTHS



# Just Ask Our Members



## Saba

“After losing both my mother and brother in Cleveland, I moved to Cincinnati in hopes of finding a better life. I was lucky enough to find a job that made ends meet, only to be laid off. I spent months utilizing local resources to get myself back on my feet. One morning while suit shopping, a Dress for Success team member referred me to the Center, which recently launched an evening program for those like me who still had a part-time job.

My first day of orientation, LLC’s President shared that someone in the community, a stranger, invested \$5,000 in me to succeed. That’s when it really hit me. I was in complete awe and gratitude for what the Center was willing to do to support me.

I tell people all the time – the program at Life Learning Center does not compare to any community organization I’ve participated in. Holistic is an understatement – the program is a complete transformation. I learned how to comprehend personality traits to better my relationships with others. I lost 20 pounds thanks to the Diet Doc who taught me how to track my eating habits. I set up my very first bank account and can pull my own credit report. When I hit rock bottom, the Center helped me rediscover my dignity and passion for this community. I now serve as the Resource Specialist for Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority to help those like me reach self-sufficiency.”



## Jennifer

“I was caught up in a biker gang. I danced for a living, trying to make ends meet. One day, I let my emotions get the best of me and overdosed. It took six doses of Narcan to bring me back to life. From that point on I knew I had to change.

I lost custody of my son after giving birth in prison. I kept thinking a “real” job would fix my problems and make me a normal mother. My parole officer introduced me to Life Learning Center which I consider my saving grace. The staff had an answer for any problem or excuse I came up with. I learned more about myself in those 12 weeks at LLC than I did in the 48 weeks I was in prison. I now understand the harmful effects of drugs on my brain. I recognize and control the triggers to my emotional breakdowns. I feel like I am the mom my son deserves.

I now work at T-ROC Global as a Wireless Sales Specialist and was recently ranked #1 in our company’s leadership board within the sales department. I have the opportunity to host MATTR (Medically Assisted Treatment to Recovery Support Group) at Life Learning Center to help those struggling with substance abuse regain their dignity and contribute back to society. I tell my support group all the time you are not going to be handed a step by step manual for every choice you make in life. LLC gave me a toolbox of resources and trainings that will allow me to change my outcome in a positive, healthy way. I came here looking for a job and commenced with direction and purpose. I hope others take advantage of the opportunity too.”

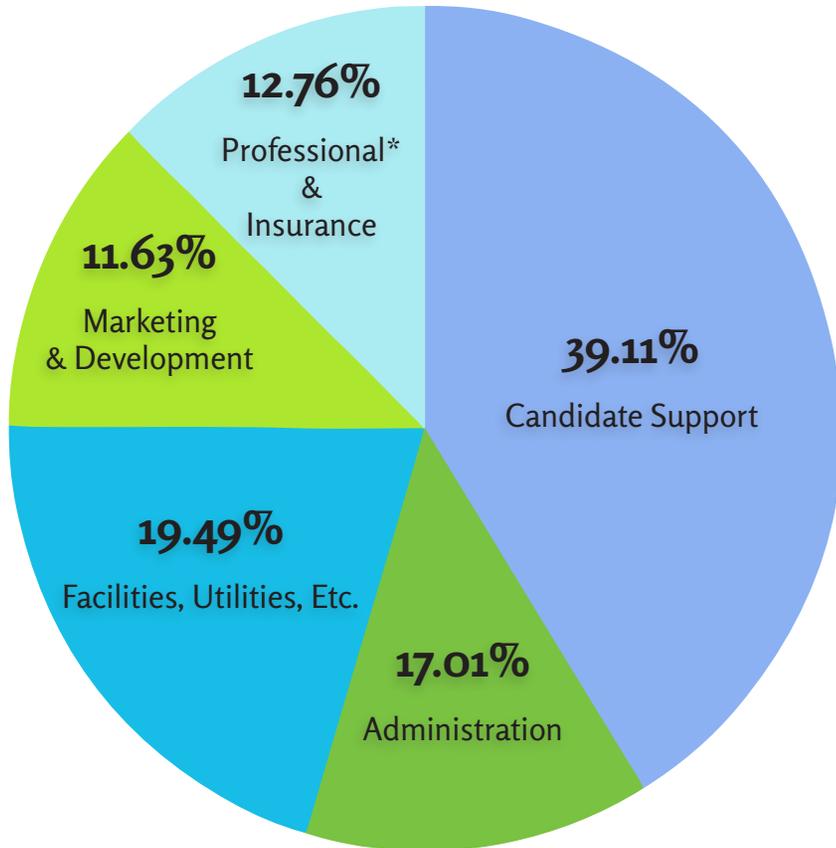


## Derek

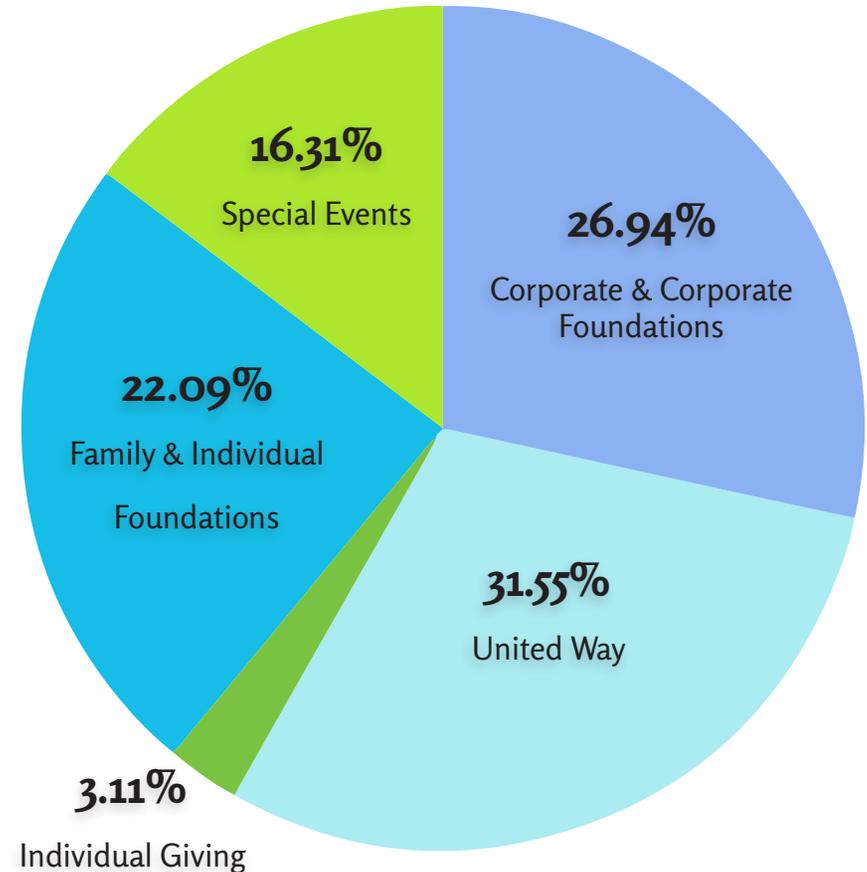
“My brother-in-law told me about Life Learning Center, and at first I thought it was too good to be true. Every staff member and faculty played a huge role in helping me realize my self-worth. By participating in the classes, my self-confidence has boosted tremendously. Before I enrolled into the program I was headed down a dark path in my life and lived pay check to pay check. Life Learning Center was the light that gave me hope and a sense of purpose. I learned how to address the tough questions and build my resume, which landed me a job I truly enjoy at Care Springs. My hope is to lead others to Life Learning Center’s light to help those struggling with addiction or depression find sustainability.”

# Financial Summary

## EXPENSES



## REVENUE



November 2017 - October 2018

ALL REVENUE COMES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR WITH NO PUBLIC FUNDING

\*CONTAINS NO SALARIES

# Ways to Give: Time

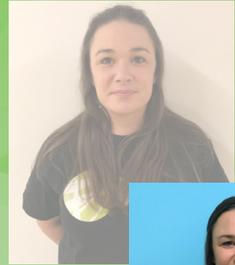


## VOLUNTEER

Life Learning Center is actively seeking individuals who hold a “PHD” in Life. Specifically, individuals with previous life experience to share their resiliency in facing and overcoming adversity. The Center strives to train successful individuals in our community to provide a leading example to our “at-risk” Candidates on how transformational change is achievable.

### Faculty

Volunteer faculty are responsible for the delivery of LLC curriculum; for conducting designed exercises, and administering Candidate evaluations. Day and evening classes are available.



### Candidate Support Coordinator

Candidate Support Coordinators conduct weekly one on one sessions with assigned Candidate to hold him or her accountable while offering job placement support throughout the 12-week program.

### Employer Panelist

Employer panelists participate in mock interviews and Q&A panels to discuss company culture, benefits, as well as potential job openings.

## REFER

To enroll, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- 18 Years or Older
- Pass Drug Screening
- Stable Living Arrangement
- Committed to Change & Gaining Employment
- 7th Grade Reading Comprehension Level



# Ways to Give: Treasures

## DONATE

**\$5,000**

underwrites the cost of one Candidate to complete the Center's education and care program, including training, personality assessment, class supplies, and meals on-site.

**\$1,000**

provides one cohort (up to 15 Candidates) the necessary tools for drug screens and background checks to ensure qualified applicants are accepted into the program.

**\$500**

underwrites the cost to print class material for one cohort, including: resumes, manuals, credit reports, faculty training guides, and classroom schedules.

**\$100**

provides bus vouchers for one Candidate to secure reliable transportation to and from Life Learning Center throughout the program.

**\$50**

underwrites eRecruitFit assessment test to further a Candidate's self-discovery process.

To donate, visit  
[www.lifelearningcenter.us/donate](http://www.lifelearningcenter.us/donate)

or

Mail check to: Life Learning Center  
20 West 18th Street, Covington, KY 41011

## IN-KIND WISHLIST



**HYGIENE PRODUCTS**



**WORK ATTIRE**



**BACKPACKS**



**COMPUTERS**



**CLASSROOM SUPPLIES**



**SOCKS AND SHOES**

# SNAPSHOT OF THE YEAR



Alecia Webb-Edgington received the 2018 Outstanding Woman of Northern Kentucky Award



Dr. Bob Burroughs led Volunteer Faculty orientation



Life Learning Center partnered with Kenton County Detention Center's Strong Start COR-12 program to provide opioid-addicted inmates access to medical treatment and comprehensive therapy



Launch of on-site clothing boutique offers professional attire to Candidates reentering the workforce



LLC's 2018 St. Patrick's Gala, honoring Chuck Scheper, and Inaugural after-party raised over \$275,000 in revenue



LLC partnered with Reser Bicycle Outfitters to provide transportation alternatives for Candidates



Breakfast, lunch, and dinner is served to Candidates in LLC's cafeteria



Candidates participated in Foundations for A Better Life™ Week, focusing on each other's past, present, and future outcomes



Business leaders served as volunteer employer panelists to discuss career advice and job openings available



144 Volunteer Faculty and Candidate Support Coordinators provided over 9,856 volunteer hours in support of our Candidates



Life Learning Center partnered with Transitions, Inc. to deliver evening programs, which accommodated recovering addicts who participated in daytime treatment



Beacon of Hope provided transportation for Candidates to attend classes and job interviews



Graduates of LLC become Members for life and continue to participate in seminar trainings and alumni dinners



LLC Member Angela received her Certificate of Achievement and celebrated commencement alongside her family



Deana Taylor, Vice President of Human Resources at 3CDC, joined LLC's Board of Directors



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