



Director's Statement

January, 2011



Where do you go for help when you're a single mother without the math or reading skills to help your second grader with her homework, or a kid living with an invalid grandmother who sometimes locks you out of the house? Or an immigrant father working three jobs and your son is getting straight F's in first grade because he doesn't speak a word of English?

In countless cases just like this over the past 49 years, over three generations, the answer has been the Sue Duncan Children's Center.

The Center is just that—a center of learning, of respect, where you and your family can count on support. We do everything we can do to help whoever walks in the door: we cherish, we nurture, we feed; we listen, we counsel, we support; we teach, we discipline, we play; we laugh and cry, and we teach some more.

We don't solve people's problems for them; we help them to solve their problems themselves. We are a bridge between the affluent who have so much to give and those struggling so hard to meet basic needs; between the highly educated who have so much to teach and the under-educated so hungry to learn; between those who are inspired to help and those desperate for hope.



We work with dozens of families, teaching academic and computer skills as well as financial literacy, art, music, drama, meditation, and most importantly, respect and how to tell right from wrong. We tutor at every level from pre-K to college. Our teacher-to-child ratio is typically under one to four, and we serve around 100 healthy meals a day. We provide a network to counselors, social workers, and medical clinics; schools, colleges, and universities; landlords, and banks; police and prison guards; summer camps, food pantries and homeless shelters.

The Sue Duncan Children's Center is closing in on its fiftieth anniversary and we're doing more than ever. We broke attendance records this year and we want to grow. We have more children, more staff, more services, more partnerships and we're building more bridges between those who want to help and those who want to improve.

We'd like to do even more. We want to help more children and families and at the same time deepen our impact on each. We want to hire more staff and offer more services. We want to form more partnerships and find more paths to advantage for the disadvantaged.

And with your help, we will!

Owen Duncan

Executive Director

The Sue Duncan Children's Center