



# A PIPELINE OF PROMISE FROM PREK TO COLLEGE

# 2023

# HIGHLIGHTS



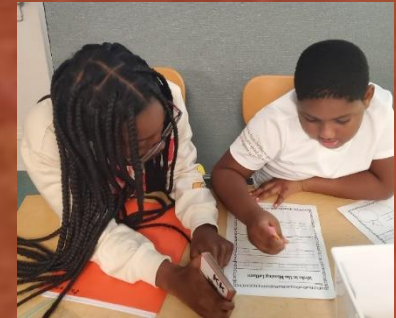
# CKC STAFF AND STUDENTS

CKC provides daily, year-round educational programming for approximately 70 children and youth living in the city of Coatesville – from PreK to college.

## BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL

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Our preschool provides full day Montessori style preschool with before and after care for **34 children**, ensuring they are kindergarten ready when they enter the Coatesville Area School District.



## I-RISE AFTER SCHOOL

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CKC's free afterschool programs operate four days a week, providing academic tutoring, entrepreneurial training, and enrichment opportunities for **35 Coatesville elementary through high school students**.



## SUMMER CAMPS

Our free six-week full day summer camps provide preschool, elementary, and middle school students with academic tutoring, daily fieldtrips, and leadership development opportunities through the summer months.





# STAFF

## LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION



Keith Wilburn

After 10 years of developing and leading CKC, in 2023 Keith resigned as Executive Director. We are grateful for his leadership and commitment to serving the community of Coatesville.



Christy Hansel  
Administrative Assistant



Steve Wilson  
Interim-Executive Director

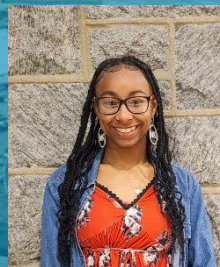
## BRIGHT BEGINNIGS PRESCHOOL



Cathy Lehr



Alma Bernal Ponce



McKenzie Thornton



Myia Hurst  
Director



Beth Lambert



LaQuesa  
Thompson-Fields



Holli Shilling

## I-RISE AFTER-SCHOOL



McKenzie  
Thornton



Kelly Guise  
Manager



Phyllis Ladrew  
Curriculum  
Specialist



Aniya Raison



Erica Thornton  
Director



LaQuesa  
Thompson-Fields



Summer  
Shelton



Giavanna  
Butcher



Taylor  
Pulliam



# CKC Preschool Celebrates Another Great Year!



CKC had another successful year of preschool programming for children and youth in the city of Coatesville.

On May 18th, CKC's Bright Beginnings Preschool celebrated the end of the school year with a graduation ceremony at Ash Park. Over 100 family members, friends and community members showed up to watch the over 30 preschool students sing, recite lessons, and receive their promotion and graduation certificates. The celebration also included a time to honor Patty Wiehler, who is retiring from her role as preschool director after 8 years.



The ceremony was followed by a cookout and buffet lunch and a time of fellowship. It was a beautiful day full of joyful students, teachers, and families.



# Summer of Success at CKC's Two Camps



CKC was once again able to provide children and youth in Coatesville with two six-week summer camps this summer that gave them opportunities to learn, explore, and play in safe and nurturing environments.

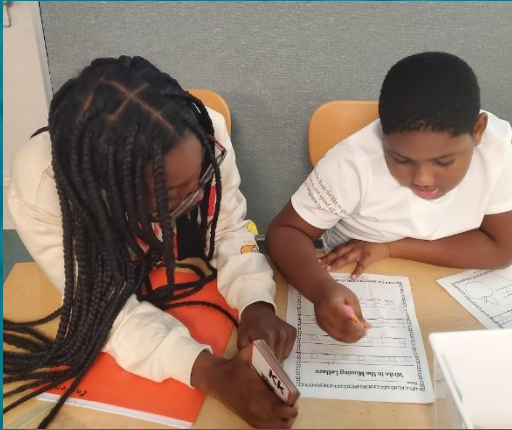
From June 26th to August 3rd, CKC ran its full-day preschool camp and its full-day elementary camp for children and youth from the Coatesville community.

The camps were no cost to the families and provided the campers with free breakfast and lunch, enrichment activities, local trips to parks and swimming pools, and full-day educational field trips.

To ensure that campers were continuing to improve their reading and math skills while away from school, there were also daily independent reading and tutoring times where students received one-to-one instruction from staff and volunteer tutors.

The camps also provided opportunities for leadership development of ten middle school students from Coatesville who worked as junior counselors, and five high school students who worked as assistant counselors supporting CKC's adult staff team.

# Coatesville Students Tutor the Next Generation



Your generous support provides academic enrichment to children and youth in Coatesville and enables them to get their first jobs. CKC is thrilled that for the first time, it has been able to hire students who have grown up attending its after-school programs and summer camps. Aniyah Raison, Marisa Hernandez, and Elyse Hansel all were employed as tutors this fall to help provide one-to-one tutoring with CKC's K-2nd grade program and 3rd-5th grade program. The hired students get academic support during the first hour, and then work for the next two hours helping students with their homework and teaching them reading and math skills so that they can be at grade level.



It has been amazing to see these students take all that they have learned and to give back to the community by supporting the younger generations coming up behind them. Under the supervision of the program managers, these students are not only teaching, but they are also being taught employment skills like timeliness, teamwork, following directions, and staying focused.

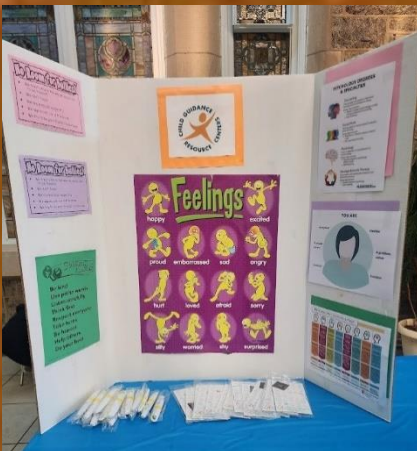
They are making CKC stronger, and in turn are learning skills that will help them in the future.



# Career Day for Students



CKC held career day where professionals in different fields were invited to the after-school programs to share about their jobs and answer student questions. All the participants were from the Coatesville community so that the students would be inspired by people who grew up in the same neighborhoods that they are growing up in.



Invited to the special program were an operations manager at St. Joseph's hospital in Reading, a therapist from Child Guidance Resource Centers, a photographer, and a professional chef. Each participant shared about the education that each job required, the steps they had to take to achieve success in their profession and the challenges that they had to overcome to reach their goals.



# I-Rise After-School Program Adds New Enrichment Classes



In addition to one-on-one tutoring, CKC's after-school programs also provide a variety of hands on learning opportunities to supplement the education that students receive at school. This year CKC introduced several new enrichment experiences to help students expand their knowledge base and grow in their love of learning.

One new program was a science lab for CKC's youngest after-school group, K-2nd graders. Aja Thompson, the former after-school director, returned to teach students a variety of scientific principles that included concepts in engineering, chemistry, biology, and astronomy. In the past, CKC has reserved these classes for the older students, but K-2nd graders loved the class, and each week were excited for what new experiences they would have.



Another new addition was a woodworking class for our middle school students. Tony Buck, a Coatesville resident, volunteered his time to teach students how to use a variety of tools, how to plan a project, and how to work together to build useful objects. Students' favorite projects were building bird houses and making jewelry boxes. Many of the students had never used tools before, so it was exciting to see them learn new skills and take pride in their creations.



# THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!

