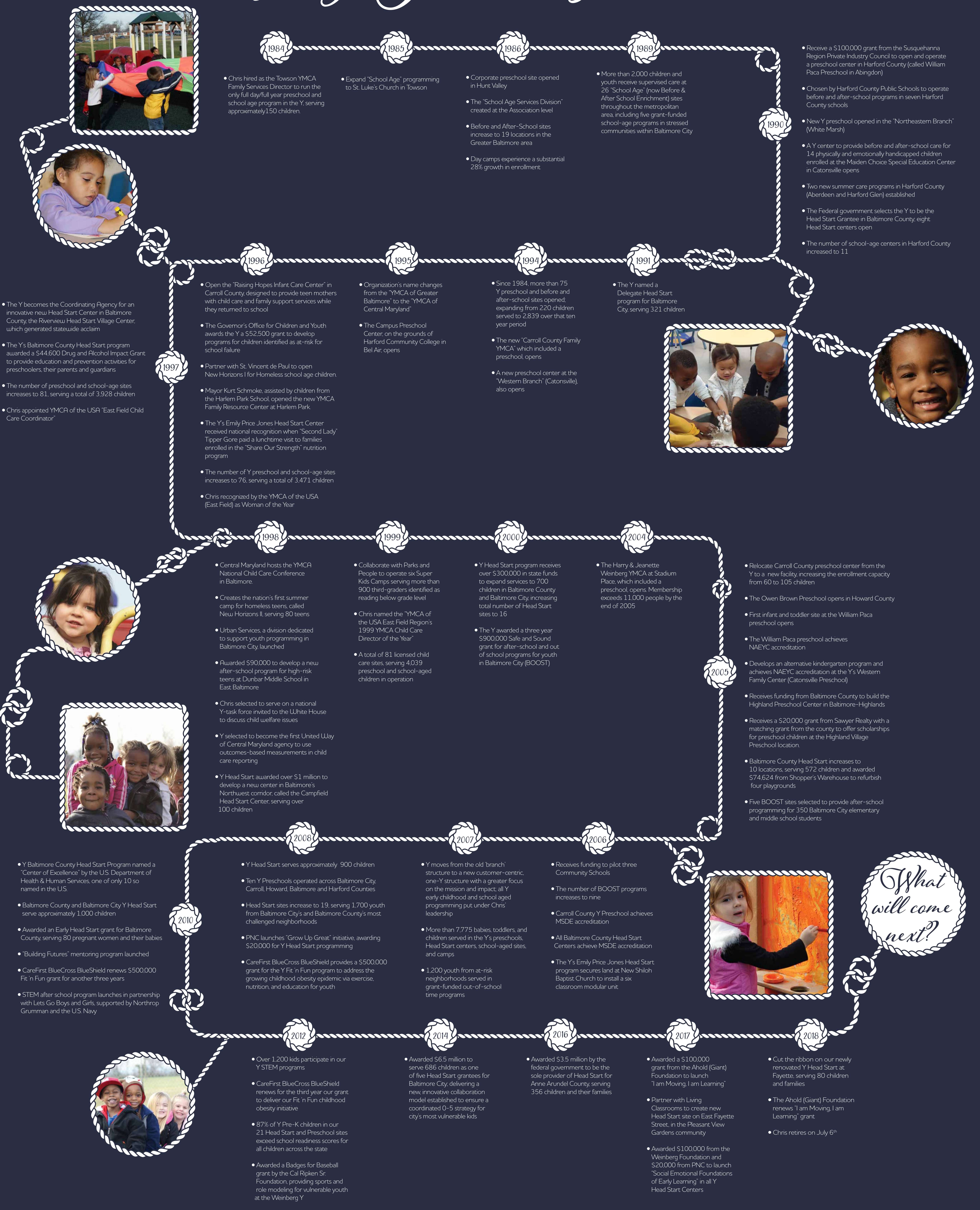


# An Amazing Journey

CHARTING 33 PURPOSEFUL AND IMPACTFUL YEARS OF DEDICATION TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AT THE Y.



1984

- Chris hired as the Towson YMCA Family Services Director to run the only full day/full year preschool and school age program in the Y, serving approximately 150 children.

1985

- Expand "School Age" programming to St. Luke's Church in Towson

1986

- Corporate preschool site opened in Hunt Valley
- The "School Age Services Division" created at the Association level
- Before and After-School sites increase to 19 locations in the Greater Baltimore area
- Day camps experience a substantial 28% growth in enrollment

1989

- More than 2,000 children and youth receive supervised care at 26 "School Age" (now Before & After School Enrichment) sites throughout the metropolitan area, including five grant-funded school-age programs in stressed communities within Baltimore City

1990

- Receive a \$100,000 grant from the Susquehanna Region Private Industry Council to open and operate a preschool center in Harford County (called William Paca Preschool in Abingdon)
- Chosen by Harford County Public Schools to operate before and after-school programs in seven Harford County schools
- New Y preschool opened in the "Northeastern Branch" (White Marsh)
- A Y center to provide before and after-school care for 14 physically and emotionally handicapped children enrolled at the Maiden Choice Special Education Center in Catonsville opens
- Two new summer care programs in Harford County (Aberdeen and Harford Glen) established
- The Federal government selects the Y to be the Head Start Grantee in Baltimore County, eight Head Start centers open
- The number of school-age centers in Harford County increased to 11

1996

- Open the "Raising Hopes Infant Care Center" in Carroll County, designed to provide teen mothers with child care and family support services while they returned to school
- The Governor's Office for Children and Youth awards the Y a \$52,500 grant to develop programs for children identified as at-risk for school failure

1995

- Organization's name changes from the "YMCA of Greater Baltimore" to the "YMCA of Central Maryland"
- The Campus Preschool Center, on the grounds of Harford Community College in Bel Air, opens

1994

- Since 1984, more than 75 Y preschool and before and after-school sites opened, expanding from 220 children served to 2,839 over that ten year period

1991

- The Y named a Delegate Head Start program for Baltimore City, serving 321 children

- The Y becomes the Coordinating Agency for an innovative new Head Start Center in Baltimore County, the Riverview Head Start Village Center, which generated statewide acclaim
- The Y's Baltimore County Head Start program awarded a \$44,600 Drug and Alcohol Impact Grant to provide education and prevention activities for preschoolers, their parents and guardians
- The number of preschool and school-age sites increases to 81, serving a total of 3,928 children
- Chris appointed YMCA of the USA "East Field Child Care Coordinator"

1997

- Partner with St. Vincent de Paul to open New Horizons I for Homeless school age children
- Mayor Kurt Schmoke, assisted by children from the Harlem Park School, opened the new YMCA Family Resource Center at Harlem Park
- The Y's Emily Price Jones Head Start Center received national recognition when "Second Lady" Tipper Gore paid a lunchtime visit to families enrolled in the "Share Our Strength" nutrition program
- The number of Y preschool and school-age sites increases to 76, serving a total of 3,471 children
- Chris recognized by the YMCA of the USA (East Field) as Woman of the Year

1998

- Central Maryland hosts the YMCA National Child Care Conference in Baltimore
- Creates the nation's first summer camp for homeless teens, called New Horizons II, serving 80 teens
- Urban Services, a division dedicated to support youth programming in Baltimore City, launched
- Awarded \$90,000 to develop a new after-school program for high-risk teens at Dunbar Middle School in East Baltimore

1999

- Collaborate with Parks and People to operate six Super Kids Camps serving more than 900 third-graders identified as reading below grade level
- Chris named the "YMCA of the USA East Field Region's 1999 YMCA Child Care Director of the Year"
- A total of 81 licensed child care sites, serving 4,039 preschool and school-aged children in operation

2000

- Y Head Start program receives over \$300,000 in state funds to expand services to 700 children in Baltimore County and Baltimore City, increasing total number of Head Start sites to 16
- The Y awarded a three year \$900,000 Safe and Sound grant for after-school and out of school programs for youth in Baltimore City (BOOST)

2004

- The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg YMCA at Stadium Place, which included a preschool, opens. Membership exceeds 11,000 people by the end of 2005

- Relocate Carroll County preschool center from the Y to a new facility, increasing the enrollment capacity from 60 to 105 children
- The Owen Brown Preschool opens in Howard County
- First infant and toddler site at the William Paca preschool opens
- The William Paca preschool achieves NAEYC accreditation
- Develops an alternative kindergarten program and achieves NAEYC accreditation at the Y's Western Family Center (Catonsville Preschool)
- Receives funding from Baltimore County to build the Highland Preschool Center in Baltimore-Highlands
- Receives a \$20,000 grant from Sawyer Realty with a matching grant from the county to offer scholarships for preschool children at the Highland Village Preschool location
- Baltimore County Head Start increases to 10 locations, serving 572 children and awarded \$74,624 from Shopper's Warehouse to refurbish four playgrounds
- Five BOOST sites selected to provide after-school programming for 350 Baltimore City elementary and middle school students

2008

- Chris selected to serve on a national Y-task force invited to the White House to discuss child welfare issues
- Y selected to become the first United Way of Central Maryland agency to use outcomes-based measurements in child care reporting
- Y Head Start awarded over \$1 million to develop a new center in Baltimore's Northwest corridor, called the Campfield Head Start Center, serving over 100 children

2007

- Y moves from the old "branch" structure to a new customer-centric, one-Y structure with a greater focus on the mission and impact; all Y early childhood and school aged programming put under Chris leadership
- More than 7,775 babies, toddlers, and children served in the Y's preschools, Head Start centers, school-aged sites, and camps
- 1,200 youth from at-risk neighborhoods served in grant-funded out-of-school time programs

2006

- Receives funding to pilot three Community Schools
- The number of BOOST programs increases to nine
- Carroll County Y Preschool achieves MSDE accreditation
- All Baltimore County Head Start Centers achieve MSDE accreditation
- The Y's Emily Price Jones Head Start program secures land at New Shiloh Baptist Church to install a six classroom modular unit

2010

- Y Baltimore County Head Start Program named a "Center of Excellence" by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, one of only 10 so named in the US
- Baltimore County and Baltimore City Y Head Start serve approximately 1,000 children
- Awarded an Early Head Start grant for Baltimore County, serving 80 pregnant women and their babies
- "Building Futures" mentoring program launched
- CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield renews \$500,000 Fit 'n Fun grant for another three years
- STEM after school program launches in partnership with Let's Go Boys and Girls, supported by Northrop Grumman and the US Navy

- Y Head Start serves approximately 900 children
- Ten Y Preschools operated across Baltimore City, Carroll, Howard, Baltimore and Harford Counties
- Head Start sites increase to 19, serving 1,700 youth from Baltimore City's and Baltimore County's most challenged neighborhoods
- PNC launches "Grow Up Great" initiative, awarding \$20,000 for Y Head Start programming
- CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield provides a \$500,000 grant for the Y Fit 'n Fun program to address the growing childhood obesity epidemic via exercise, nutrition, and education for youth

2009

- Collaborate with Parks and People to operate six Super Kids Camps serving more than 900 third-graders identified as reading below grade level
- Chris named the "YMCA of the USA East Field Region's 1999 YMCA Child Care Director of the Year"
- A total of 81 licensed child care sites, serving 4,039 preschool and school-aged children in operation



What will come next?

2012

- Over 1,200 kids participate in our Y STEM programs
- CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield renews for the third year our grant to deliver our Fit 'n Fun childhood obesity initiative
- 87% of Y Pre-K children in our 21 Head Start and Preschool sites exceed school readiness scores for all children across the state
- Awarded a Badges for Baseball grant by the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, providing sports and role modeling for vulnerable youth at the Weinberg Y

2014

- Awarded \$6.5 million to serve 686 children as one of five Head Start grantees for Baltimore City, delivering a new innovative collaboration model established to ensure a coordinated 0-5 strategy for city's most vulnerable kids

2016

- Awarded \$3.5 million by the federal government to be the sole provider of Head Start for Anne Arundel County, serving 356 children and their families

2017

- Awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Ahold (Giant) Foundation to launch "I am Moving, I am Learning"
- Partner with Living Classrooms to create new Head Start site on East Fayette Street, in the Pleasant View Gardens community
- Awarded \$100,000 from the Weinberg Foundation and \$20,000 from PNC to launch "Social Emotional Foundations of Early Learning" in all Y Head Start Centers

2018

- Cut the ribbon on our newly renovated Y Head Start at Fayette, serving 80 children and families
- The Ahold (Giant) Foundation renews "I am Moving, I am Learning" grant
- Chris retires on July 6<sup>th</sup>

A TRIBUTE TO CHRIS ADER-SOTO; A LEADER WHOSE VISION, DEDICATION AND COMPASSION IS FELT IN EVERY SINGLE DETERMINED, THOUGHTFUL AND INTENTIONAL INCH OF GROWTH FOR OUR CHILDREN, THEIR FAMILIES AND FOR OUR COMMUNITY.