

Noble Learning Center opens in Caldwell



The Noble Learning Center recently celebrated its move into the former National Guard Armory building, at the intersection of State Routes 821 and 78, in Caldwell.

Fund's strong focus on the improvement of child-care and early learning facilities made us an ideal partner to help the Noble Learning Center achieve its goals. Using four different Finance Fund resources (a New Markets Loan, a Planning Grant, a Linked Deposit Loan and an Ohio Quality Improvement Fund Grant) as well as funds from multiple investors, the Noble Learning Center purchased a former National Guard Armory building and completed major renovations to turn the space into a safe learning environment. The funding also helped provide furniture, equipment and supplies for the Center.

The Noble Learning Center is a tangible example of the progress that can be achieved through innovative financing products and creative partnerships. As demands on the low-income labor force continue to increase, the availability of quality child care becomes more and more important.

To address this critical issue, Finance Fund is currently researching a concept to provide resources specifically dedicated to the creation of developmentally appropriate quality early care and education facilities.

The Early Learning Facilities Program (ELF) will aim to connect licensed child-care providers (either home-based or center-based and located in low-income communities) to specific financial resources for renovate appropriate spaces.

For more information about the Finance Fund and its resources for community development and small business, call (614) 221-1114 or visit www.financefund.org.

children, combined with unique community partnerships and innovative financing tools from Finance Fund, ensured a successful project. Today, the children of Noble, Monroe, Guernsey and Washington counties have a safe, quality environment in which to learn, develop and achieve.

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CALDWELL -- On a recent Friday afternoon, residents of Noble County gathered alongside partners, investors and supporters to celebrate the success of the Noble Learning Center and officially dedicate its new facility and permanent home.

The Noble Learning Center is the only licensed child-care facility in Noble County. It provides a variety of services and programs for infants, preschool and school-age children within Noble, Monroe, Guernsey and Washington counties. Since 1979 the Center had occupied a number of temporary sites, none of which was ideally suited for child-care and early learning. LaShona DeVold, the Center's director, knew that a permanent, use-appropriate facility was essential for the Center's continued existence, but it wasn't until a Finance Fund postcard crossed her desk that she discovered a way to make the Center's dreams a reality.

The Ohio Community Development Finance Fund is a statewide nonprofit intermediary that connects local community development organizations and small businesses with needed funding in the form of grants, loans and nontraditional financial products. Finance