

# MVDCDC Kings Highway Head Start



## Ohio's 3rd Congressional District

For families in many communities across Ohio, finding affordable childcare and early learning facilities for their children is a challenge. This can be especially problematic, as research continues to show that the first few years of a child's life determine the trajectory of their cognitive, emotional and interpersonal futures.

In Clark, Madison and Montgomery Counties in Ohio, the Miami Valley Childhood Development Centers (MVDCDC) work hard to provide children access to these services, with their Head Start programs. Their overall goal is to prepare children, ages zero to five years, to be successful students when they enter kindergarten.

MVDCDC was in great need to purchase, update and improve one of their facilities, which is located in an old Catholic School. This facility, Kings Highway, needed two boilers replaced in order to provide better services year-round—one boiler was almost 60 years old. The Head Start also needed to update its classrooms to provide a safe, clean and happy environment for children including diaper changing rooms and size-appropriate restrooms.

Using New Markets Tax Credits funding from Finance Fund, MVDCDC purchased the previously leased building, replaced their outdated boilers and greatly enhanced the interior and exterior of the building. Classrooms were restructured to make room for future services for infants and toddlers. Parents with children in multiple age groups enjoy this, as they no longer need to make several trips to different childcare locations.

The MVDCDC team at Kings Highway also expanded its parking lot to 80,000 square feet, making parent drop-off safer and more convenient. Landscaping surrounding the building was improved, as numerous overgrown plants were removed, preventing crime and vandalism near the childcare facility.

Today, more than 225 children are enrolled at the MVDCDC Kings Highway Head Start, with a capacity of 240 students. Each one of these children represents a future learner, healthy family member and positive member of society.

### Finance Fund provided:

\$1.05 million in New Markets Tax Credits funding toward the renovation, which was accompanied by a \$429,000 federal grant

