



MARTIN LUTHER  
KING CENTER

grow.  
learn.  
play.

IMPACT  
REPORT  
2021



***“Our mission and values continue to be our north star as we navigate through this pandemic. We are excited to adapt and evolve in order to remain a relevant resource for our Quad Cities.”***



**Jerry**  
JERRY JONES,  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR

## MISSION

Inspire greatness in the Quad Cities through community-building, education and service

## VISION

A thriving, beloved community rooted in justice, equity and respect for one another

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Strengthen our brand and message
- Diversify funding
- Bolster the quality and outcomes of our programs
- Create a welcoming 5-star facility

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Remote Learning Care continued in the first half of 2021, Summer Day Camp resumed in June and July, and After-School Program resumed in August. All of our youth programs are currently at maximum capacity, with long waiting lists.

**203**  
**YOUTH SERVED**

“Before the pandemic, my son Sincere was an honor student. Unfortunately, he really struggled with remote learning. I’d come home from work in the evening, and my usually-happy boy would be frustrated and discouraged.

**I signed him up for Remote Learning Care, and *noticed a difference in him right away.***

By the end of the term, his grades had improved from 46% to 85%! The King Center has had my back. I don’t know what I would have done without them!”



# FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER

Our three social workers go into homes, schools, and community settings to meet with people in need of support, in order to keep families together safely. They provide counseling, case management, crisis intervention, parent coaching, and much more.

1,120 CHILDREN SERVED  
355 FAMILIES



*“Each and every day, the MLK Center is changing lives, from our seniors to our kiddos. I love the feeling that my dollars are making a real impact in the future of our community.”*

*Heidi*

HEIDI HUISKAMP-COLLINS,  
MAJOR DONOR

*“When I came to the King Center, **they paid attention to ME.** My grades got better because of that. I felt bigger.”*

*Betty + Sincere*



*“The King Center teaches me respect, and to be good when no one is looking. They also teach me that if someone else thinks I can’t do something, I should say, “Watch me do it!”*

*JaDaiveis*

# PREVENTION EDUCATION

Our three Prevention Specialists provide classroom-based education to prevent substance use and pregnancy in the Rock Island/Milan School District.

These lessons emphasize social-emotional learning and other life skills – which are more essential than ever.

1,618

SIXTH, SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADERS



# EVENTS & RECOGNITION



Memorial Service & Awards honoring Dr Martin Luther King Jr

**300**  
VOLUNTEERS



In February and March, when vaccines were still scarce, we teamed up with the Rock Island County Health Department to provide vaccination clinics for ACTIVE Club members, who were among the most high-risk at that time.

**3,500**  
THANKSGIVING  
MEALS SERVED

**2,500**  
ATTENDED  
FAMILY FUN DAY



Two staff members were named Rock Island Citizens of the Year

## VOLUNTEER-LED PROGRAMS

- Metropolitan Youth Program
- ACTIVE Club
- Rock Island Boxing Club



20-year-old Rock Island Boxing Club member Vershaun Lee won a national championship and earned a spot on the USA Boxing Team.

**Vershaun**  
USA Boxing Team



**600**  
KIDS RECEIVED  
CHRISTMAS GIFTS

## BOARD MEMBERS

- Tia Edwards (President)
- Michael Glanz (Vice Chair)
- Linda Barnes (Treasurer)
- Kayla Babers
- Aimee Bland
- Heidi Huiskamp-Collins
- Kenny Massey
- Ted Pappas Jr
- Dennis Pauley
- Moses Robinson Jr
- Dr Monica Smith



**Carlos**  
Prevention  
Manager,  
MLK Center



**Thurgood**  
Family  
Advocate,  
MLK Center



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