

St. Lucy Child Development Center

1224 Aycock St.

Houma, LA



MOTHER TERESA
WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE

Organization Background

- St. Lucy CDC was established in 1968 as a child development center.
- A program of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.
- St. Lucy CDC serves children 1 to 5 years of age.
- Area of service includes families from Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes
- Each year St. Lucy CDC serves about 73 children with a daily capacity now of 52 children. St. Lucy is known as the cradle of African American education and leadership in Terrebonne Parish.
- Parents of graduates are surveyed annually and always report that their children are succeeding in elementary school based on their foundation at St. Lucy CDC.



Mission of Nonprofit

- The Mission of St. Lucy Child Development Center is to provide a developmentally appropriate, affordable, early childhood educational experience. St. Lucy promotes self-confidence, self esteem and self-discipline in a Type III licensed program.

Fundraising Objectives

- St. Lucy does not have fundraisers. We charge a weekly tuition that is kept affordable through the funds we receive from the United Way of South Louisiana for scholarships.
- St. Lucy receives other grants and donations as well.
- St. Lucy is also eligible for funding through the Catholic Charities Endowment, when available. We also receive funds from the Child Care Assistance Program to pay tuition for families who receive child-care assistance from the state.

Request for Funds from Women's Giving Circle

- Our greatest need is for shade for our playground area so that our children and staff can be more comfortable, especially during the summer months. Once we return to school from this Pandemic, I am more than certain that our little ones will not want to stay inside as they have been for the last 30 days or more.
- The cost of the shades ranges from \$5,000 to \$10,000, not including the cost of installation. We would also use the funds to update our physical education equipment so that the children can have developmentally appropriate toys to help develop their gross and fine motor skills.
- Yes, we would use the funds we receive from the Women's Giving Circle in conjunction with other funds that we hope to receive to help us with this project



Organization Future Growth Goals

- St. Lucy CDC is currently working on achieving a 4-Star rating of Excellence through the Louisiana Department of Education. St. Lucy will continue to strive to serve the community by improving the quality of the program we offer, by continuing with professional growth and development for our teachers and ensuring that we are implementing a Tier 1 curriculum that is approved through the Louisiana Department of Education.

Testimonial of a family/individual impacted by your organization

At St. Lucy, just by the nature of what we do, we know that our actions impact the lives of not only the child in our care, but the entire family. This was much more evident when one of our parents experienced a major health crisis. This year, we learned that it is in those moments that the care we give each day can help the family ten-fold.

In 2017, we supported a St. Lucy family after the mother; “Ms. Toya” was diagnosed with breast cancer. This experience was especially heart-breaking because Ms. Toya lost your mother to breast cancer 16 months earlier. As Ms. Toya struggled through her illness, she felt that she was re-living everything she went through with her mom. Ms. Toya’s son, Ryan, started attending St. Lucy CDC in August of 2016. The St. Lucy staff knew of Ms. Toya and Ryan’s situation and we would offer Ms. Toya support by encouraging her in her fight and assuring her that Ryan was in good hands. But little did we know how much our care for Ryan gave Ms. Toya the strength and peace of mind that she needed. Ms. Toya shared with us that she is truly thankful for everything St. Lucy did not only for her child but for herself as well. Ms. Toya shared her list of things she felt grateful to St. Lucy for: -Potty-training Ryan in one month -The teachers took time with Ryan - Ryan learned to share and interact with the other kids, which was very important because he was the only child at home, with older siblings ages 16 and 18 - The good communication by the teachers and director -Wonderful activities that were held throughout the school year to include the families -Overall support that truly helped while going through chemo - Ms. Danielle worked with me with my payments to pay once a month , at the end of the month because I was out of work due to my illness. This really helped me. I don’t know what I would have done if Ryan was not allowed to attend St. Lucy. Ms. Toya finished her treatments at the end of June and in September she received that she was cancer free.

