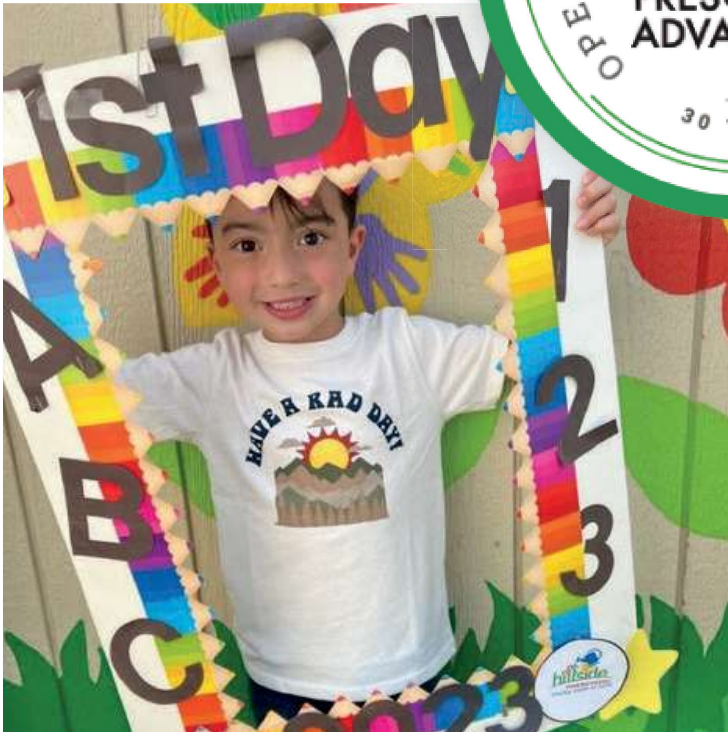




Annual Impact 2024 - 2025

Celebrating 30 Years

THIRTY YEARS, ONE MISSION

Things around us may change. The crisis we face in any given year might be different and new. Yet our mission remains the same.

It was a simple idea. A mom and dad saw their child growing, learning, and making friends with other children. Their young 3-year-old blossomed in a program designed to meet the unique needs of his curious and expanding mind. They knew they were fortunate. They could afford preschool tuition for their son, while other families who lived right around the corner could not. They believed that every child deserves the chance to begin Kindergarten with the skills needed to learn and thrive and so, they chose to act on that belief by **opening the doors of preschool, one child at a time.**

Jill Lasser and Stuart Lasser founded Preschool Advantage (then, Project Acorn) 30 years ago. Jill and a small committee of volunteers created an application for families. The founding Board refined the mission to **focus on funding preschool, not daycare.** They agreed PA would fund tuition for the students who came from households who earned too much income to qualify for Headstart but not enough to make ends meet. Six high quality preschools partnered with Jill and Stuart in this mission. Stuart and Jill reached out to neighbors, friends and business colleagues who understood the value of investing in their neighbors and in their children. The first students PA funded were from hard-working families, struggling to meet the educational needs of their children.

These parents worked:

- in repair shops
- as housekeepers
- as truck drivers

They were:

- married couples
- single parents
- a young widow





OUR PARTNER PRESCHOOLS



All Saints Academy

Children On the Green

Deep Roots Preschool

East Hanover Child Care Center

El Primer Paso

F.M. Kirby Children's Center

Gentle Shepherd Christian Preschool

Hillside Preschool

Inspire Kids Learning Center

Jefferson Child Care & Education Center

Joyful Noise Nursery School

Kids Connect Early Learning Center

Little Lambs Preschool

Long Hill Montessori School

Madison Montessori School

Morris Plains Cooperative Play School

Mountain Lakes Country Day School

Mount Olive Child Care & Learning Center

Presbyterian Church Nursery School

Rainbow Montessori School

School of St. Elizabeth

St. John's Nursery School

Sunshine Preschool & Infant Care

The Children's Circle at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

The Dogwood School of Chester

The Frances & Herbert Brody Preschool

at Temple B'Nai Or

The Preschool Place & Kindergarten

The Treehouse Child Care Center

The Westmont Montessori School

Union Hill Church Preschool

ARE...



high-quality, age-appropriate, curriculum-based



guided by qualified academic leaders and teaching staff



connected to families who need our support



the source of data on funded students for tracking studies



30 YEARS OF

1995

6 Partner Preschools
in Morris County



1st Child Funded

1st Golf Invitational

1997

50th Student Funded

2000

100th Student Funded

2nd Independent Office
Elm Street, Morristown

2009

1st Turning
Leaves Gala

500th Child Funded

2011



Organizational Name Change
Project → Preschool
Acorn → Advantage



1st Family Fun Day

2018

1st Pasta for Preschool
Peck School Fundraiser

2019



1,000th Child Funded

2022

Digitization
of
Applications

30th Anniversary

2025

OPENING THE DOORS OF PRESCHOOL

OFFICERS

Bette Simmons

Board President

Matt Mirett

1st Vice President

Lauren Diemar

2nd Vice President

Josh Mackoff

Treasurer

Gail Reuther

Secretary

Ray Hawkins

Immediate Past President

TRUSTEES

Kyle Colwell

Mary Jo Guida

Denise Lanza

Jim McLaughlin

Judith Pierce

Justin Poplawski

Michelle Roers

Wendy Sanford

Maria Vinci Savettiere

Andrew Schneider

Carolyn Simpson

Pam Sullivan

FOUNDERS

Jill Lasser

Stuart Lasser

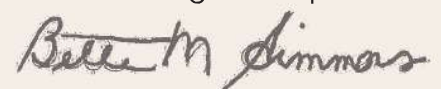
MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

According to Merriam-Webster dictionary, “impact” is defined as “having a powerful effect on someone or something.” With this year’s Annual Impact Report, we strive to highlight the positive effect Preschool Advantage has had over the past 30 years. Remaining steadfast to our mission of providing funds so those in need can send their 3 and 4-year old children to quality preschool, we have been able to impact the lives of 1500 children and their families. This has allowed these children to start their educational journeys at an early age while reducing the financial burden their families would face by covering the cost of preschool themselves.

Along with the wonderful generosity of so many donors, foundations, and grantors, none of this would have been possible without the support and guidance of so many volunteers. Whether reading applications, visiting and evaluating partner preschools, coordinating and attending various fundraising events, working with staff in guiding the organization, or promoting Preschool Advantage in the community events, the time, talent, and treasure our volunteers have provided hugely impacted the lives of so many. These individuals thoroughly understand the value of their work, helping families who otherwise would not be able to offer their children a strong educational start. **With this annual report, we are proud to share the impact of so many tireless volunteers.**

However, our work is not done. We recognize that with today’s challenging times, young families will need our support more than ever. The Preschool Advantage staff, trustees, volunteers, and donors will continue their work to make an impact in the lives of those in need, knowing full well that an early education for all children leads to a strong, healthy, and well-prepared citizenry.

Together, let’s continue making an impact!



OPENING DOORS...

Our Individual Donors

Jen & Marvin Aaron	John Cohen	Celeste Gandolfo
Cathy & Graham Ackerman	John Cokines	Patty & Martin Ganek
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Leslie Adler	Barbara & Steven Colin	Robin & Gary Gibson
Isabell Adler	Emily & Kyle Colwell	Bertille & Leon Glass
Nancy Lynne Alessio	Joe Contey	Caroline Godfrey
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Robert & Polly Amkraut	Isabel & Cort Corbin	Steven Gordon
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Michele & Buff Blanchard	Lauren & Thomas Diemar	Marcia & Peter Hunter
Mary & Clifford Blanchard	Karen Dispenziere	Kristin & John Hyland
Andrew Bluestone	Jean Dorr	Dolores Ives
Holly & Larry Blumenstyk	Jack Driscoll	Heidy & Day Ivy
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Elizabeth Boocock Matlack	Assemblywoman Dunn	James Jacobus
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Mary & Robert Bush	Catherine & Stuart Feenstra	Chris Keneally
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Celine & Teo Carrion	Amanda Fink	Adrienne & S. Dillard Kirby
Nicolas Carrion	Fisch Family Fund	Evelyn & Peter Kissel
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Rona & Mark Cohen	Jeanne & John Galbraith	Polly & Ron Lacey
	Jennifer & Daniel Gallagher	Karen Lajterman



**YOUR TIME.
YOUR HEART.
OUR IMPACT.**

