

# Building UP!

## Crossing the Finish Line



Together we can reach more local families.



## ABOUT US

Connections Early Years Family Centre is a non-profit agency that offers a variety of free services to support the healthy development of families with children 0-6 years old in Windsor-Essex County.

### Our Vision

A community of strong, connected families engaged in raising their young children (0 - 6 years) to reach their full potential.

### Our Mission

To provide support, resources, and individualized services to promote the early learning and healthy development of families and their young children (0 - 6 years).

## SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

### EarlyON Child & Family Centre

Supportive programming, including Come & Play sessions and parenting courses and groups that strengthen bonds and foster the well-being, engagement, and expression of parents, caregivers, and children 0 - 6 years of age.

### Be Back Soon Program

No-cost, unlicensed short-term child care for families with children 0-6 years of age living with low income to attend job interviews, training, medical, legal, social service, and counselling appointments.

### Talk 2 Me Preschool Speech and Language Program

Resources and programs for children with speech and language concerns from birth until school entry, working closely with parents and caregivers.

### Blind Low Vision Early Intervention Program

Services for children who are blind or have low vision and their families, including family support, intervention, and consultation services.

### Infant Hearing Program

Universal newborn hearing screening, high risk monitoring and services for children identified with a permanent hearing loss.

### Ontario Autism Program's Caregiver-Mediated Early Years Programs

Programs for parents with children 12-48 months registered in the OAP to learn therapeutic strategies and techniques from professionals in the areas of social communications and play.

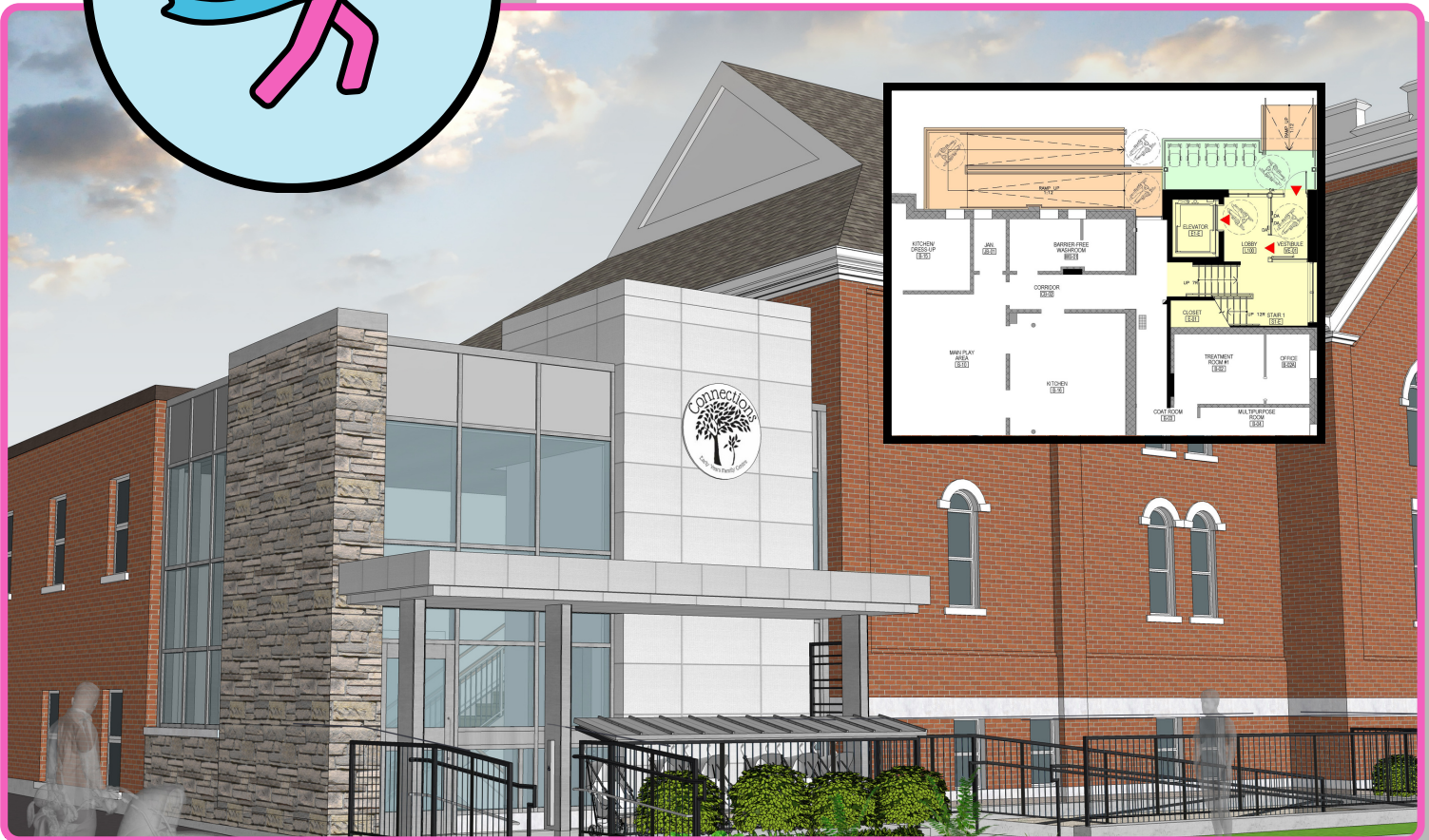


# Building UP! An Inclusive, Accessible, and Energy-Efficient Space for Families and Young Children



Our multi-phase renovation plan has guided us in completing these upgrades while ensuring we continue to deliver the same quality of service to families.

Building UP! is our fundraising campaign, which aims to improve building accessibility and capacity at Connections Early Years Family Centre to wrap up in 2024. We only need **\$100,000** to make Connections fully accessible!



# Building UP! Achievements

## Completed

- Outdoor learning space and accessible classroom
- Climate-resilient windows
- Accessible community kitchen
- Additional treatment and hearing screening rooms
- Increased amount of public washrooms
- Accessible office space
- S.T.E.M. playroom
- Multilingual signage
- Energy-efficient LED lighting
- Sensory play space for young children
- Accessible universal washrooms
- Virtual and in-person meeting room
- Multi-purpose room upgrades
- Insulation of exterior walls
- Accessible pathways and ramps



## The Finish Line

We still need help raising **\$100,000** to complete the final phase of our campaign, welcoming all families to a fully accessible Centre!

## Under Construction

- Elevator
- Accessible main entrance and lobby
- Ramps and doorways
- Barrier-free emergency exits
- Energy efficient building improvements





# Crossing the Finish Line

## How can you help us reach the finish line?

All donations, small and large, in-kind services, and equipment will help tremendously in achieving our goal!

**Donations to the Building UP! Campaign can be made...**

Online at [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org)



By cheque to our mailing address:

**Connections Early Years Family Centre**  
795 Giles Blvd. E.  
Windsor, ON N9A 4E5



## How will your donation be recognized?

All donations are gratefully accepted and recognized! We love to let the community know about the support we receive, and the way we do that is unique to each donor.

Our recognition activities range from name and logo placement on our website, e-newsletters, and social media posts to press releases, videos, event recognition, and naming rights.

For more information on our campaign and donor opportunities, please talk to a staff member or contact Executive Director Barb Brown at 519.252.9696 or [bbrown@connectwithus.ca](mailto:bbrown@connectwithus.ca).

## Building UP! to improve accessibility

1.6 million

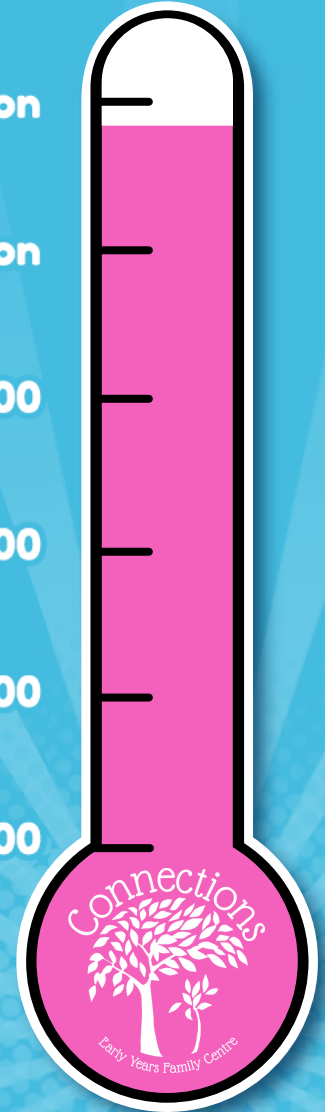
1 million

800,000

600,000

400,000

200,000



**\$100,000 more to go!**

Please donate at [www.connectwithus.ca](http://www.connectwithus.ca)





## STORIES FROM FAMILIES

We come every week for drop in and a few classes my son loves coming as often as possible. I could not imagine not having this place to come to. It gives me time to talk with other adults and my son time to interact with other children.

MY SPECIAL NEEDS SON ENJOYS COMING HERE! MY SON HAS BEEN ~~BE~~ COMING HERE TO DEVELOP HIS SOCIALIZATION SKILLS WITH ALL AGES. HE HAD BEEN STRUGGLING IN DAY CARES AND SCHOOLS SOCIALLY AND EMOTIONALLY. WHEN HE COMES HERE HE IS ACCEPTED AND CARED FOR, WHICH MAKES FOR A GREAT ENVIRONMENT TO LEARN. THE STAFF HERE ARE THE BEST AROUND! I HAVE THE STAFF AND CENTRE TO THANK FOR HOW MUCH HE HAS IMPROVED!

Connections has been very important for myself and my family, we have been coming here for 2 years for Mother Goose story time, open play times, etc. The programs have been incredibly valuable for my daughter.



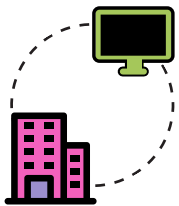


# 2022 At a Glance



# 18,038

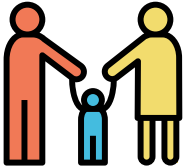
## Children & Adults Served



**7**  
PROGRAMS, INCLUDING  
IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL CARE



**87**  
PARTICIPANTS IN THE  
W.E.R.E.C.E. PROGRAM



**3,923**  
FAMILY VISITS TO THE  
EARLYON CENTRE



**90**  
PARENTS ATTENDED  
PARENTING GROUPS

**1,820**  
CHILDREN SERVED  
BY TALK 2 ME

**4,577**  
INFANT HEARING  
SCREENINGS

**20**  
CHILDREN SUPPORTED  
THROUGH  
BLIND-LOW VISION

**1,110**  
TIMES THAT PARENTS  
USED BE BACK SOON

Connections Early Years Family Centre  
795 Giles Blvd. E. Windsor, ON N9A 4E5  
519.252.9696 | info@connectwithus.ca  
connectwithus.ca

Charity Registration Number:  
10803 0396 RR0001



**STAY CONNECTED!**

@ConnectionsEYFC



 Connections  
Early Years Family Centre