

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

As we continue to listen and talk with people in the community about the implementation of our new Strategic Plan, we find a lot of interest. Here are answers to questions you may have. For further information, we refer you to the more detailed Update for Our Communities.

Q. What is the mission of Family Connections?

A. Family Connections engages families with young children to nurture social connections, enhance child development and improve school readiness.

Q. Who participated in developing Family Connections new strategic plan?

A. The plan had input from our board, staff, funders and professionals who deal with issues for nonprofit organizations such as ours. They focused on how to serve more families and secure a sustainable financial future for Family Connections.

Q. Why are you moving headquarters to the City of Cleveland?

A. Our goal is to expand our current footprint in Cleveland while continuing to serve the Heights. We are moving our administrative offices into Cleveland. Programming for Heights families will continue to be robust.

Q. What will your headquarters move mean for the Shaker Family Center?

A. We will remain at the Shaker Family Center until early 2021. We have provided more than a year's notice to the City of Shaker Heights and we are working with them to make any transition as smooth as possible. The support of the City of Shaker Heights has been very important to the success of Family Connections over the years.

Q. What's next for our Family Connections playrooms?

A. All of our playrooms will operate just as they do now through 2020.

Q. What are examples of other Family Connections programs?

A. We offer opportunities for families with children from birth through age six to develop school readiness skills, learn to play with a purpose with their children and to find support.

Q. What changes will occur after 2020?

A. Administrative headquarters will move to the City of Cleveland. Our four Heights playrooms will consolidate into two playrooms in our current library locations and will have additional drop-in times at each library.

- Q. What stays the same starting in 2021?
- A. Our library-based playrooms – Little Heights and Play & Learn Station -- will remain free for everyone. We will continue all collaborative work with school districts in Cleveland, Cleveland Heights-University Heights, East Cleveland, Maple Heights, Shaker Heights and Warrensville Heights.
- Q. And, what about SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids) and Family School Connection?
- A. No change for SPARK or Family School Connection. These flagship programs, focusing on school readiness, will continue.

The new strategic plan provides a roadmap as we serve more people with more programs in both current and new neighborhoods.

If you have questions or comments, our Executive Director -- Joanne Federman – is available to respond to those. Reach her at 216-921-2023 (Shaker Heights) or 216-321-0079 (Cleveland Heights). Joanne's email is jfederman@familyconnections1.org.