



Meet Our New President & CEO, Diana Banks

Dear Friends,

I am honored by my appointment as Progressive Life Center's President and Chief Executive Officer. As you read this, I recognize that you share my passion for community, and I look forward to connecting soon. Having served on the PLC board for seven years – most recently as chair – I begin my new position with a deep understanding of PLC's work, our mission, and our potential for greater impact. Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to greet most of our staff either in person or on one of our many virtual sessions, and I have witnessed a collective passion and energy.

My focus for the organization is clear. Enhance our brand within the markets we serve, examine the opportunity to expand our presence, dramatically increase the raising of unrestricted funds, and increase the size of our board of directors. To accomplish this, we must become better at telling our story.

We must point to our history of changing lives, talk about our year-over-year impact, and explain why our organization is critical to the viability of individuals, families, and communities. We must strengthen our storytelling by gathering insightful data that clearly emphasizes our impact. Data helps PLC manage risk, but it will also demonstrate our purpose and effectiveness.

With several PLC events on the horizon, I look forward to connecting in person and hearing your thoughts. Let's continue to work together, grow our efforts, and make transformative change in our communities.

This is the place, this is our time, this is our journey. Will you go with me?

With warm regards,

Diana Banks
President and Chief Executive Officer



On April 4th, Diana Banks assumed her role as Progressive Life Center's President and Chief Executive Officer.

“Diana's expertise in leadership and organizational development make her ideally suited to take the helm of PLC, particularly during this unprecedented period of workplace change. She has proposed an exciting vision for PLC's future, and I am confident that PLC will prosper and emerge as a leader in the child welfare and behavioral health industry.”

- Dr. Laurence Jackson, PLC President/CEO, 2008-2021

Hungry for Some IRL Connecting?

If you have missed meeting IRL (in-real-life), then we have a remedy for you! You don't need an ace swing to enjoy PLC's Golf Classic. Our NTU Conference isn't just for professionals. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more. We look forward to seeing you, twice!

Golf Classic for Kids!

September 19, 2022
The Country Club at Woodmoore
Mitchellville, Md.

ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/golf

(Top) Blake Prather, IT Director & Diana Banks, President & CEO;
(R) Dr. Tracy Garrett, Chief Clinical Officer & her father in 2021.

The 4th Annual
Dr. Frederick B. Phillips
NTU Conference

November 2022
IN-PERSON!

more information coming soon

NTU principles
NTU (pronounced 'into') PLC's Service Delivery Model
Learn more at ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/NTU

Harmony. Balance. Interconnectedness. Authenticity.

Celebrating National Foster Care Month

Join us in recognizing the important role that members from all parts of child welfare play in supporting children and youth in care. Three cheers to foster parents and siblings! Kudos to kinship caregivers! And heartfelt hugs to the public and private partners who recruit, train, license and provide continuing support and education to foster parents.

This is How PLC Staff Celebrates:

PLC DELAWARE

Hand-written thank you notes (that's just like them 😊)!
Gift cards for all foster parents!
Service Award Certificates!



PLC MARYLAND

Glamour in your tennies? Welcome to SNEAKER BALL! Children, youth and families celebrated at a premier party venue (provided in-kind). A Mini-Grant from the PLC Gives Employee Campaign has helped make it all possible.



PLC PHILLY

We've never met a kid who didn't shriek with excitement when they learned they're heading to Dave & Busters!



THANK YOU

Foster
Parents

Foster
Siblings

Social
Workers

Kinship
Caregivers

Nonprofits

Mentors

Volunteers

PLC DC Flexes its Administrative Muscle for Safer Streets

In our Nation's Capital, through a relationship that began in 2009, PLC serves as the administrative partner for DC's Department of Youth Rehabilitative Services (DYRS). In this role, PLC coordinates a continuum of nearly fifteen community-based service providers offering a range of services to court-involved youth and their families. Our "care coordination pathway" streamlines each youth's treatment, engaging caregivers and natural supports such as mentors, and delivering a variety of pro-social out-of-school-time activities. PLC ensures that each youth and their family achieve personal goals and milestones through participation in a wide range of programs that emphasize individual strengths and accountability, skill development, family involvement and community support. Youth favorites include barbering, music production, and computer/technology skill development.



New in 2022

Building Blocks DC, an initiative of the mayor, focuses on the small number of individuals responsible for a significant percentage of the city's gun violence. The Building Blocks DC initiative is a collaboration with DYRS, the Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP) and PLC which serves as a grant administrator. As such, for the winter grant competition, PLC received nearly 100 grant applications. We identified 20 providers and have overseen their innovative programming toward the reduction of gun violence. This competition was the first of three that are happening this year. The second competition is currently in the review process and will identify another 20 grant recipients. The final competition will begin in June to identify 35 providers for summer programming. Providers include a mix of small organizations and individuals offering creative engagement projects. These include community days, training in de-escalation tactics, providing counseling to those who have been directly impacted by gun violence, and delivering workforce readiness skill building to youth and young adults.

With our Building Blocks DC success, PLC was selected as grant administrator for Safer, Stronger DC, a citywide public safety effort of the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE). The effort addresses violence while also supporting families dealing with the grief and trauma caused by violence. For Safer, Stronger DC, PLC accepted applications from providers of violence interruption services and supports, and case management services. Applications are currently under review, and when this good work begins, we look forward to sharing more.



Here are a few examples of how PLC's employee donations are making a big impact!



Earned Recognition

A graduation gift to celebrate a DC teen's transformation.

You can help PLC employees meet more needs of the families we serve. Contribute to our Summer Camp for All Campaign...

because, together, we make change.

We just kicked off our second annual PLC Gives Employee Giving Campaign, and we are optimistic! With last year's campaign, PLC employees donated nearly \$5,000 and funded seven mini-grants to improve the lives of the children and youth we serve. PLC Gives is just another example of how PLC staff goes above and beyond to ensure opportunity and hope for our families.



Engaging Activities for Clubhouse Youth

Baltimore's after school Clubhouse offers an outlet for expression, creativity and collaboration with a new music studio funded by PLC employees through PLC Gives.



Holiday Cheer

Often overlooked Delaware foster youth in residential treatment, received personalized gifts.



Igniting Curiosity

Books and learning games for Pennsylvania toddlers in foster care, provided timely stimulation and a love for learning.

Let's Make Summer Memories for Deserving Children and Teens

For many poor kids, summer vacation is no vacation. More than their more affluent peers, children without financial resources lack access to books, technology, nutrition, exercise, and other enrichment activities. Poor children are more likely to experience loss of learning, and with less access to nutritious food, they are more likely to gain unwanted weight. Caregivers struggle to afford expensive childcare, so poor children often do not receive the oversight they deserve. But you can make a difference in the life of an underserved child in your own community.

A National Center for Education Statistics Report reveals

Poor Children are 5 Times Less Likely to Attend Summer Camp.



Contribute to PLC's Summer Camp for All Fund, and help more PLC families access enrichment programs and camps.



☒ **Count me in! I am with PLC in helping make summer memories.**

ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/donate

Please accept my gift: ☐ \$250 (the cost of many 1-week camps) ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ Another amount _____



YOUR NAME(S) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____

EXP DATE _____

CSC (# ON BACK) _____

CARD HOLDER'S SIGNATURE _____

Please mail completed form to PLC Development, 1704 17th St NE, Washington, DC 20002, checks payable to Progressive Life Center.

Every Child Deserves a Champion

Is fostering a child or teen right for me?

So you have room in your heart and your home, but what other questions should you be asking yourself?

PLC has compiled some great resources on our foster care webpage (ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/FC) to help you better understand what foster parenting involves - and if it's right for you! Here are some highlights from the questionnaires and quizzes we've compiled:

- ➡ **Do you feel you have more to give?**
- ➡ **Do you want to share your experiences and good fortune?**
- ➡ **We know you must be kind and loving, but can you be firm?**
- ➡ **Are you patient and do you enjoy a challenge?**
- ➡ **Do you have room in your schedule?**
- ➡ **Do you have a strong support system?**

If you can answer "yes!" to these questions, you just might make a great foster parent! Email us at info@plcntu.org to learn more. Or complete the online interest form for our Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware foster parent programs which can be found at ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/FC. We can work directly with you in many mid-Atlantic locations, or refer you to another provider who serves your community.

PLC HAS CHILDREN &
TEENS WAITING FOR
FOSTER PARENTS IN:

Greater Philadelphia
Prince George's County
& Baltimore, MD
Throughout Delaware

Can you help?



Every Child Deserves a Champion



1704 17th Street, NE | Washington, DC 20002
Serving DC, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware
ProgressiveLifeCenter.org

