

GENESIS CENTER

WHERE THE WILL TO ACHIEVE
MEETS THE SKILL TO SUCCEED



Letter from Our President and Board Chair



2024 was an exciting year for Genesis Center. We opened a restaurant! After years of fundraising, planning, and construction, our dedicated staff, board, and culinary team got the doors open at Culinary Hub of Providence (CHOP) at 211 Washington Street. Our ribbon-cutting celebration in October brought together many important people who believed in this project, and now the real work begins—showcasing the talents of our culinary arts students and preparing them for careers in the restaurant industry.

This year also saw Genesis Center put a renewed emphasis on digital education and modernizing our digital infrastructure. Through targeted investments, we were able to build our lending library and outfit every classroom with laptop carts and Smart Screens to complement lesson plans. In the coming years, all training needs to include robust digital education in order to prepare students for 21st Century jobs and help them access systems of American prosperity. At the same time, Genesis Center modernized our website to better reflect the amazing work happening every day—please visit www.gencenter.org and see for yourself.

Genesis now offers more class times, levels, and modalities than ever before. English language classes run mornings, afternoons, evenings, and now on Saturdays to reach as many eager students as possible. Class offerings range from in-person to remote to hybrid and hy-flex and serve learners from basic to advanced levels. As the demand for these services has increased, Genesis has worked hard to make our classes accessible to all.

Serving over 1200 students every year with a staff of 72 employees and over 60 volunteers, there is so much happening at Genesis Center and so many lives being changed. This is important work and we are proud to share just a small portion of it with you in the pages ahead.

With Gratitude,

Shannon Carroll, Genesis Center President and CEO

Dean Martins, Genesis Center Board Chair

Genesis Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the highest quality education, job training and support services to people of diverse cultures so that they may achieve economic independence and participate fully in society.



Board of Directors FY23-24

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Early Learning Center (ELC)



Early Childhood Education is one of the most challenging sectors of our economy and a work support for tens of thousands of Rhode Island families. Birth to three years old are the most critical years in a child's development, and access to high-quality education is predictive of educational and financial success. Investing in child care is investing in today's economy and all our futures.

ELC staff engage in extensive professional development to maintain a 5-Star BrightStars rating. This year 11 staff members worked on obtaining credentials including Associate's degrees and Bachelor's degrees in Early Childhood Education.

Genesis Center's 5-Star BrightStars Rated Early Learning Center serves **75 children every year** in 4 classrooms, ranging from infant to Pre-Kindergarten.

Student Spotlight: Sarah and Alma



Sarah Goncalves enrolled in Genesis Center's Medical Assistant training in 2023. At the same time, she was able to secure a spot in the Early Learning Center's Early Head Start program for her daughter Alma. While Sarah was training to be a Medical Assistant upstairs, her daughter was getting high quality care, developing language skills in English and Spanish, and also allowing Sarah to access extra help before class and additional counseling in the afternoon. "Every single staff person at Genesis has been so helpful and supportive", Sarah said. "Me and my daughter have benefited from so many resources and programs". When Sarah was hired full-time as a Medical Assistant at Breakwater Primary Care, her daughter was able to stay in the ELC where she is thriving. "Genesis has done so much for both of us, I'm glad the relationship isn't over yet."

Every single staff person at Genesis has been so helpful and supportive. Me and my daughter have benefitted from so many resources and programs.

—Sarah Goncalves



English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

ESOL is the largest program at Genesis Center. Classes span 5 levels of instruction ranging from Beginner to ESOL for Healthcare Careers. Classes run mornings, afternoons, evenings, and even now on Saturdays. All classes incorporate digital skills, career readiness, and financial literacy to prepare students for work, school, and civic life.

Students and teachers from all over the world come together every day to work hard, learn from each other, and improve their lives and their communities. We are proud of the unity and strength demonstrated by the Genesis Center community.

710 ESOL students from 49 countries

Top 5 locations of origin for GC students are Dominican Republic, Haiti, Guatemala, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela



Citizenship Preparation

Genesis Center has a long history of helping individuals pursue their U.S. Citizenship and prepare for the Citizenship examination. In 2024, Genesis was awarded an additional Citizenship Innovation grant from The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to design a class to help break down barriers faced by Legal Permanent Residents in their naturalization process.

Over the last year, we helped 40 of our students become new citizens, creating even more opportunities for themselves and their families.



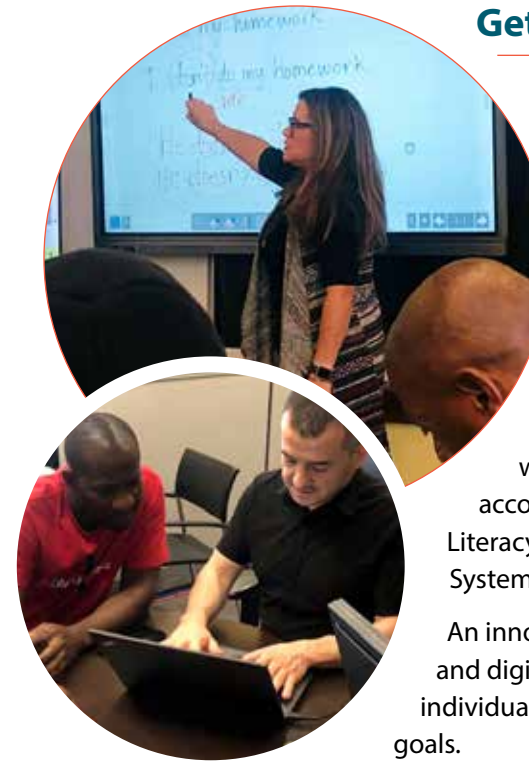
Getting Our Students Connected

Without digital skills, you can't fully participate in society.

This year, through the support of Rhode Island Department of Education, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and Citizens Bank Foundation, Genesis Center made a generational investment in our digital infrastructure. Classrooms are now equipped with laptop carts and Smart Boards to integrate appropriate digital skills into Genesis Center classes. These critical upgrades allow Genesis to serve more students through remote, hybrid, and hy-flex class options.

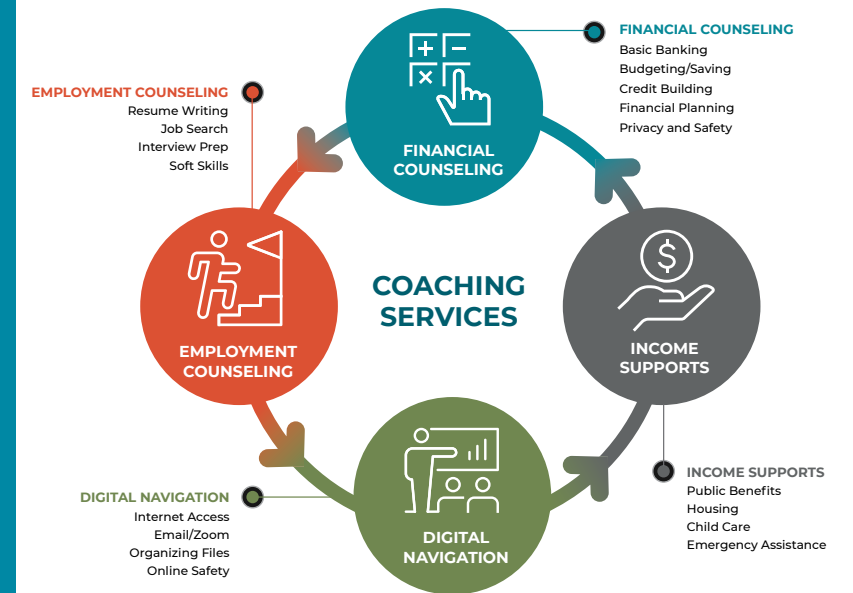
Genesis Center now employs a full-time Digital Navigator to assist students with their technology needs, such as mastering Zoom and creating email accounts. In addition, the Navigator has helped 77 students obtain Northstar Digital Literacy certificates in the past year on topics like Internet Basics, Windows Operating Systems, and Telehealth.

An innovative model combining income supports, financial coaching, career coaching, and digital navigation, our Financial Opportunity Center® team works with over 300 individuals every year to stabilize their household finances and work toward individual goals.



FOC by the numbers in 2024

- 330 free tax returns filed through our VITA site (\$810,550 in total refunds)
- 158 students borrowed a laptop or HotSpot to extend learning opportunities
- 171 people received credit counseling with a Financial Coach
- 10 people completed matched savings programs to purchase vehicles or start businesses



Our Keys To Success program has helped 50 individuals save for and purchase vehicles.

We work with financial institutions like BayCoast Bank and Coastal1 Credit Union to match individual's savings and avoid predatory financing products.

Workforce Development

Good jobs are vitally important for individuals and families to get ahead. Genesis Center's Bridges to Career Opportunity program combines industry-specific training, stackable credentials, and internships with comprehensive counseling services to create true financial empowerment for our students. Our programs benefit from strong partnerships with dedicated employers like Providence Community Health Centers, Brown University Health, Horizon Pharmacy, CVS Health, and The Cedars.

More than 200 individuals enrolled in workforce training programs in the past year.

- 4 Healthcare pathways— Medical Assistant, Dental Assistant, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Pharmacy Technician
- Culinary Arts
- Early Childhood Education



- 75% of program graduates are employed 6 months after program completion.
- In 2024, we placed 140 individuals in jobs at an average starting wage of \$19.50/hr.

Student Spotlight: Cassidy Henry



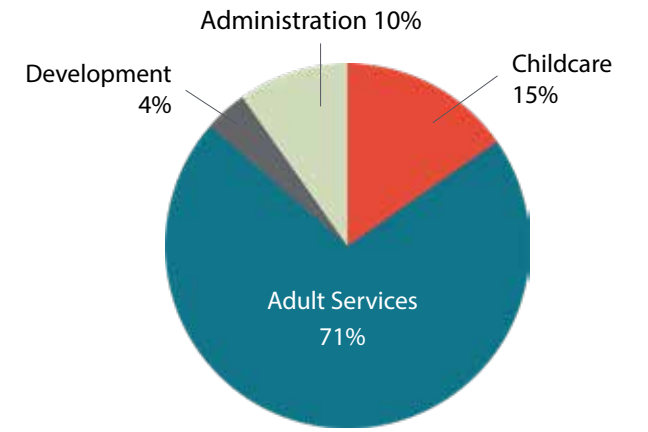
Cassidy moved to Providence from Haiti in 2022. While living with her family and working as a security guard, Cassidy started an ESOL for healthcare careers class with Genesis where she was exposed to medical terminology in addition to learning about different positions in the industry. Cassidy then began a CNA class at Genesis while working the overnight shift at her job. Cassidy worked with our Financial Opportunity Center® coaches to establish credit and start saving for a vehicle through the Keys to Success program. Cassidy graduated and eventually received her CNA license and secured a full-time job at Brown University Health starting at a rate well above minimum wage. Cassidy's commitment and drive are representative of so many of our students, and we know that she is just getting started! Cassidy says, "Because of Genesis Center, I know my future is bright and if I set my mind to it, I can overcome any obstacles. I am a Genesis student now and forever".

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—Cassidy Henry

FY23-24 Agency Budget

Other	\$ 361,875.00
DHS Childcare.....	\$ 200,000.00
Foundations	\$ 583,500.00
Government	\$ 2,837,796.00
Training Vouchers.....	\$ 167,000.00
Registration	\$ 5,000.00
Snack Bar	\$ 7,500.00
Development.....	\$ 75,000.00
Other grants	\$ 159,000.00
Admin	\$ 46,750.00
TOTAL.....	\$ 4,443,421.00



	Amount	%
Childcare	\$ 678,075	15%
Adult Services	\$ 3,157,121	71%
Development	\$ 171,900	4%
Administration	\$ 436,325	10%
Total	\$ 4,443,421	100%

Donors

The work of Genesis Center is made possible by the commitment and generosity of our funders and donors. We appreciate your continued support.

Alemy Mondestin	Dave Hinchin	Manuel DaRosa	Robert D. Wray Charitable Trust
Alex Lutch	Dean E. Martins	Margaret Rheinstein	Robert Trudeau
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Amy Riccitelli	Department of Transportation	Meg Apostolou	Samuel Obstfeld
Andrea Gauvin	Elizabeth Hanke	Melissa Emidy	Sandra Yates
Annoinette Briggs	Erin Carroll	Michael Raia	Shannon Carroll
Aquileidy Perez	Fabiola Gomez	Michelle Guererro	Sharon Conard Wells
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Bank Of America	Geraldo Marcelin	Monsurat Ottun	Suzanne Williams
Bank RI	Gina M. Vigliotti	Nancy Hicks	TACO and The White Family Foundation
Bethany Baker	Governor's Workforce Board	Ngina Johnson	TD Bank
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Centreville Bank	Juanita Sanchez Education	Peter Mancuso	Verisk Analytics
Cherilyn Dyer	Kayla Rosen	Philippa and Michael Straus	Voices of Xmas
Christopher Ackley	Kimberly Barrena	Providence Public Library	Webster Bank
Christopher Schlesinger	Lauren Waterson	Rachel Gaylord	William & Barbara Melone
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CVS Health Foundation	Lisa Guillette	Rhode Island Department of Education	
Daniel Healy	Livia Borgas	Rhode Island Foundation	
Dannie Ritchie	Local Initiatives Support Corporation		

Culinary Hub of Providence

This year, we opened our doors at Culinary Hub of Providence (CHOP). Located in the Providence Public Library at 211 Washington Street in Downtown Providence, CHOP is a full-service restaurant and training center for Genesis Center's culinary arts program. Several years in the making, Genesis Center is excited to have finally opened our doors and look forward to many special events and plenty of delicious food and drink. Most importantly, we are excited to see the progress of our culinary students as they learn at Genesis, train at CHOP, then launch into careers in the food and hospitality industry.



C · H · O · P

CULINARY HUB OF PROVIDENCE

CHOP is now open for dinner service and looking forward to expanding our programming to include cooking demonstrations, collaborations with industry partners, and special events that take full advantage of the restaurant's central location and inviting atmosphere.



Support Genesis Center Students Today!

When you donate to Genesis Center, you provide opportunities for hard working members of our community to advance in their education, train for high-quality jobs, and improve their lives and their families lives.

We can't do it without you—thank you for your generous donation!