



***In September we opened our doors to more children.***

December 2017

**Thank you—*that's the first thing I want to do.***

Thank you for believing in the Parent-Infant Center and in the life-changing work that we do.

**In 2017, individuals like you opened our door to more children, giving them the chance to learn at PIC.** With our recent expansion, we enrolled 32 more children last September, 20 of whom are here free of charge.

But, expanding our footprint and welcoming new families this year is not the end of our journey—*it is only the beginning.*

**Today, I am asking you to [commit to these children](#), and the many others we will enroll at PIC.**

I want to tell you about one of the families who joined PIC in September.

Kasim's parents are originally from Ethiopia and moved to Philadelphia when he was an infant. His parents both work full time and together they earn a modest income. They qualify for Pennsylvania's state-funded preschool initiative, which gives them the chance to send Kasim to a program like PIC.

Kasim's mom put his name on our waiting list in May of 2015, six months before he turned three, the age when children qualify for our PreK Counts state-funded preschool program.

Unfortunately, we did not have space for Kasim the year he was three. Our waiting list for families with state funding was long, and we continually had more applications than capacity.

**Last September, I had the chance to send out 20 more acceptance letters than I had the year before. One of those letters was for Kasim.**

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At PIC, we are on a mission to build a community that is rich in cultural *and* economic diversity—*a place where all families feel welcome, and children learn to respect difference and more importantly see the similarities among us all.*

But this work is not easy, and certainly not without high cost! It costs a LOT more to give a child high quality early learning experiences than the government is prepared to pay.

**In fact, we are only reimbursed for about half of what it really costs to care for every child whose family receives state subsidy.**

Your gift today at any level—\$50, \$75, \$100 or whatever you can comfortably afford—will help make up the difference between the amount the state reimburses PIC for each child and what it truly takes to provide the level of care we give.

**Today the stakes are high! Our children are only young learners once.** They don't have time to wait for reimbursement rates to rise.

Your support will help us keep our doors open to families like Kasim's.

Thank you and best wishes for a holiday season filled with family and friends.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie L. Green".

Debbie Green  
Executive Director

PS: Give more children the rich learning inspired by a diverse community of families. [Donate online](https://parentinfantcenter.org) at [parentinfantcenter.org](https://parentinfantcenter.org) today or return the enclosed envelope with your donation.