Reflecting on a Successful 2019
Thank you for being part of it!

PLC - More than Meets the Eye
As we reflect on our success, let us first reflect on who we are. The PLC family extends far beyond the women and men on staff. Yes, we are nearly 100 dedicated professionals who list Progressive Life Center as employer, but that’s just part of it. More broadly, we are a network of individuals and organizations devoted to the well-being of children and families within our communities. We are compassionate and generous donors who understand the value of investing in people. We are loving foster and kinship parents, contributing to the success of vulnerable children and adolescents. We are families, working hard to become better - together. We are teens, navigating difficult situations and the wise and insightful adults who are helping along the way. We are faith leaders, learning the signs of domestic violence as to better serve our congregants. We are local, state and federal legislative leaders working to ensure opportunity for all. If you are reading this, chances are - you are PLC! We’re glad to have you on our side!

❄️ We wish you and yours, the happiest of holidays and a bright 2020! ❄️

Home for the Holidays: Working together to achieve more
Your family is suddenly homeless. The school year is about to begin and your six children don’t have beds to call their own. You need to go to work, but it is impossible to focus on anything knowing that you and your family are in such precarious limbo. Earlier this year, Tiana, her fiancé Lisa, and their combined six children, ages 3 to 10, lost their apartment. Crashing on friends' and families’ couches, often being separated, nearly paralyzed with worry and in need of help, Tiana and Lisa turned to Montgomery County (Md.) Health and Human Services where they were referred to PLC’s Family Connections. Erin, one of Family Connections’ knowledgeable case managers, got busy helping to turn the family’s ‘overwhelmed’ into ‘empowered.’ She began

In 2019, PLC’s Family Connections has helped nearly 50 families improve relationship, connect with community and become more independent.

A New Tradition: Staff and families marked their success with a pre-Thanksgiving celebration. Our generous staff reached into their own pockets to ensure everyone left with a gift!

Help keep our mission moving with a year-end gift at ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/donate
Overcoming: A Compassionate Girl Finds Her Way

PLC’s Adolescent Clubhouse opened in 2013 as an after-school option for Baltimore youth, ages 12 to 17, who were referred by the City after entering the juvenile justice system with drug or alcohol related charges. It has since grown to host other at-risk kids, and continues to focus on motivating youth to evaluate their lives, consider changes, and succeed in making those changes. Life-skills training, self-esteem building and personal improvement are woven through daily enrichment activities ranging from homework completion and meal prep to karaoke and basketball.

Jasmine* was referred to the Clubhouse in early 2016, a painfully shy 15-year-old who wouldn’t make eye contact and suffered from low self-esteem. She was helping raise her younger brother and care for a mother who has physical disabilities and a history of addiction. For several years, Jasmine attended the Clubhouse two to three times per week while staff supported her evolution to a confident young woman. The Clubhouse helped provide certainty and stability when she often faced chaos in her life. She learned to focus on that which she could control, while coping better with that which she could not. Despite moving more than 10 times during high school, she graduated this past spring! She has developed healthy relationships with peers, and for the past few years has worked part- to full-time in support of her family and herself. She’s still helping her family, but today Jasmine is fully independent and enrolled in the nursing program at Baltimore City Community College. We all agree there is no stopping her now. She is paving the way for her brother’s success too, providing him with parent-like guidance and supporting his enrollment in the Clubhouse.

Celebrate Foster Care Heroes

Ms. Betty Reid, far left pictured with her sister, was among the celebrated guests at PLC Philadelphia’s Foster Care Appreciation earlier this year. "I love children and my heart goes out to all children in need. I know I can be a strong advocate for them,” says Ms. Reid who over the years, has fostered more than 40 children with love and compassion. Many children enjoyed the event too, with face painting, games and a delicious meal.

Home for the Holidays continued...

by guiding Tiana and Lisa through the apartment search/application process, a seemingly simple tasks that can become crushing in a crisis. They determined a budget, and Family Connections helped by subsidizing application fees. Erin encouraged the couple as they worked past several rejections, until the family of eight was soon back together and moving into their new home. Erin connected the family to a variety of community resources, including A Wider Circle for help with furnishings. In a few short months, a family in crisis became a family celebrating a marriage! It’s now official between Tiana and Lisa, and they continue to work as a team raising their blended family. When Tiana is out of the home Monday through Friday, working double shifts at two jobs, Lisa cares for the children. Weekends are for family! A time when the moms can parent together, and the entire family can relax, have fun, and bond. Family Connections has helped facilitate good communication not only within the family, but also with the school attended by three of the children. This has led to the development of Individualized Education Plans for each, ensuring their academic and emotional needs are met throughout the school day. As the family leaves Family Connections, they are equipped with the skills and community connections to help them thrive.

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September 9th was a great day at The Country Club at Woodmore with PLC’s 13th Annual Charity Golf Classic.

**Proceeds support the 2020 opening of PLC’s ACE Center**

ACE is dedicated to transforming the lives of foster kids in Prince George’s County, Md., and placing them on a path to post-secondary success!

Learn more at ProgressiveLifeCenter.org/ACE

PLC Board Chair Diana Banks (2nd from left), Board Member Dr. Juliet Francis (3rd from left), and President/CEO Dr. Laurence Jackson (center) along with staff and volunteers, worked together to make it a memorable day.

PLC Board Member Lamar Barnes (far left) with his BW Capital Advisors Sponsor Team. More pictures at Facebook/PLCwithYou

In 2019, PLC opened a new office in York, Pennsylvania where we are strengthening families through our Homebuilders program!

PLC Board Member and Event Chair Adam Ostrach (2nd from right) with his Capital One Title Sponsor Team.

PLC Board Member Dr. James Ray (far left) with his BW Capital Advisors Sponsor Team.

Our friends at Rho Chapter Philadelphia partnered with Forman Mills and two local iHeartRadio stations to collect 321 coats for PLC and children throughout Philadelphia!

PLC Board Member Mr. James Ray (far left) with his team.

Thank you Rho Chapter Philadelphia!

Count me in! I am with PLC in helping vulnerable children and families.

Please accept my gift of:  □ $200  □ $100  □ $75  □ $50  □ $25  □ Other __________

YOUR NAME(S)  EMAIL ADDRESS

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CITY  STATE  ZIP

CREDIT CARD NUMBER  EXP DATE  CSC (# ON BACK)  CARD HOLDER’S SIGNATURE

(Optional) Please accept my gift □ In Honor of  OR  □ In Memory of: ________________________________

Send notification of my gift to:  NAME  EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS

Please mail your completed form to PLC Development, 1704 17th St NE, Washington, DC 20002.

If paying by check, please make payable to Progressive Life Center, Inc. Thank you for helping us help others!
Celebrating A Life Well Lived

Friends, family, colleagues, students and PLC staff and alumni celebrated the life of our esteemed founder, Dr. Frederick Phillips, deeply respected, and sorely missed. A joyous Friday evening of recollection, fellowship, music and dance was followed Saturday by an inspirational educational conference with workshops and keynotes by leaders in Africentric Psychology. The First Annual Dr. Frederick B. Phillips Legacy conference at Bowie State University on September 27 and 28, delivered good times, reunion, and even continuing education credits! Stay tuned for our 2020 dates and details.

1) PLC President/CEO Dr. Laurence Jackson, Maisha Davis, and Dr. Henry Gregory; 2) Dr. Jasmine Phillips Meertins and PLC Chief Clinical Officer Dr. Tracy Garrett; and 3) PLC Chief Financial Officer Kofi Boteng (3rd from right) and Iness Phillips (second from right) with family and friends.