



UCP of Greater Cleveland  
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# Embracing Children. Empowering Adults.

## CHARLOTTE'S STORY

When you say "Hi" to 4-and-a-half-year-old Charlotte as she's coming in for therapy, you will be greeted by a big smile and an enthusiastic wave. However, this was not always the case.

When Charlotte began receiving therapy services at LeafBridge in May 2017, she had to first overcome emotional issues. The beginning years of her life were full of medical trauma that profoundly affected her. She was afraid of the therapists, and she and her mom were uncomfortable being separated from one another. They spent a great deal of time building trust with the therapists, eventually getting to the point where Charlotte now sometimes forgets to say goodbye to her mom because she's so excited to see Miss Cathy and her other therapists!

Charlotte, like many children who receive services at LeafBridge, has a complex medical history. She was hospitalized in cardiac intensive care at Boston Children's Hospital for the majority of her first two years of life due to complications from a severe congenital heart defect. This led to further medical issues including end stage renal failure, intestinal failure and chronic lung disease. Charlotte's medical history set the stage for a host of developmental problems, including medical conditions that led to difficulty walking, talking and eating.

At LeafBridge, Charlotte receives individualized occupational, physical and speech-language therapies. She has participated in our STEPS to Independence intensive therapy program, which has brought about incredible results. When Charlotte started therapy, she was able to sit independently, but could not move out of that sitting position to reach for toys or anything else she wanted. Her team has concentrated their efforts on Charlotte's mobility, and in October, Charlotte began crawling!

She is also busy working on expressive communication by using her words (which are starting to emerge), sign language and a communication device.

This past August, Charlotte also began attending the LeafBridge Day Program. Instead of attending preschool in her local school district, Charlotte comes to LeafBridge four days a week to receive services from a team made up of a preschool teacher, instructional aides and therapists. She is currently working on shapes, puzzles and coloring. She is "exploding with progress" and is very eager to learn.

Everyone at LeafBridge is excited to see what milestone Charlotte will reach next. The sky is truly the limit for this marvelous little girl.

UCP of Greater Cleveland's Two Centers of Excellence,  
LeafBridge for children and OakLeaf for adults:



FIND UCP OF GREATER CLEVELAND AT:



WWW.UCPCLEVELAND.ORG | 216.791.8363

When shopping on Amazon this holiday season, remember to use AmazonSmile so that .5% of your purchase amount will be donated to the charity of your choice. To donate to UCP of Greater Cleveland, simply sign into [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select **United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Cleveland, Inc.** as your charitable organization of choice.



# Embracing Children. Empowering Adults.

Dear Donors,

When you donate your hard-earned dollars to a nonprofit agency, do you wonder how much of it is directed to the services for those who need them and benefit from them? Do you wonder about the quality and the results of those services? Do you wonder how effectively and efficiently those services are offered and managed?

UCP of Greater Cleveland spends 87 cents of every donated dollar on direct services offered to children and adults with disabilities. Their lives are changed for the better and, in many cases, results surpass our expectations and theirs. The staff members' compassion, expertise and integrity as well as their individualized services in considering the unique needs of each and every person served lead to outstanding results for more than 1300 individuals and their families every year.

My leadership team and I create an environment where staff members and those they serve can thrive. We strive to hire the best and then recognize the expertise and contributions of each employee by stepping back, giving them the tools they need, and allowing them to do their jobs. They are expected to perform with integrity, excellence and compassion. It is our mantra to be fully responsive and supportive to our staff who are expected to offer the highest of quality services.

Since our founding in 1950, we have been fiscally responsible. We balance our budget each year with a small draw on our endowment. We are continually seeking and starting services that have potential to increase revenue and become self-sustaining. We continue to increase our number of grant proposals with a 90% success rate. We keep a close eye on all expenses. I can assure you that we responsibly steward every gift received.

We have approximately \$75,000 more to raise in individual donations to meet our 2018 fundraising goal. Can you help us to reach it? We would appreciate your consideration of a gift. Every donation, regardless of size, truly makes a difference.



I am fully accountable for the spending of your gift. Please call me at 216-453-4951 or write me at [totter@ucpcleveland.org](mailto:totter@ucpcleveland.org) with any questions you may have. I thank those of you who have gifted us in the past and ask that those who have not in 2018 consider a gift to allow us to continue to serve so many in need.

Sincerely,  
**Trish Otter**  
 President & CEO

## \$75,000 TO GO!



**2018 FUNDRAISING GOAL**

### IN 2018 YOUR GIFTS HAVE SUPPORTED...

**75+ YOUTH**  
 served in the Assistive  
 Technology Mobility Clinic

**200+ CHILDREN**  
 participated in traditional and  
 intensive physical, occupational  
 and speech therapies

**120 ADULTS**  
 placed into jobs

**47 HIGH SCHOOLERS**  
 participated in summer jobs/internships

**143 COMMUNITY OUTINGS**  
 for OakLeaf homes

# Ohio Arts Council – OakLeaf Art and Music Therapy

UCP of Greater Cleveland's OakLeaf Adult Day Services Program recently received a grant from the Ohio Arts Council to support our Community Integration Arts Programming for adults with disabilities. This state agency funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally and economically.

"Thanks to the Ohio governor and legislature's prioritization of arts funding in the state budget, the Ohio Arts Council continues to invest in Ohio's creative economy," said Donna S. Collins, Executive Director of the Ohio Arts Council. "With awards to programs such as UCP of Greater Cleveland's OakLeaf Arts Program, Ohio's arts sector will engage our citizens, undertake innovative projects and lead our state to a bright, shared future."

Ohio Arts Council funding has allowed 125 of UCP's adults with significant disabilities to participate in year-round art and music therapy on-site and in the community. As a result, we have been able to increase the frequency of these sessions. These programs take place in partnership with the Art Therapy Studio and The Music Settlement, both of which have experience working with individuals with disabilities. Activities help those we serve acquire, retain or improve their maximum level of functioning, including sensory, social and adaptive skills.

UCP of Greater Cleveland is appreciative of the support of the Ohio Arts Council and looks forward to continued expansion of our OakLeaf arts programming, specifically as it relates to community integration.



A painting by Tyrone, one of our clients who has benefited from Art Therapy Services.

### FEATURED AGENCY PARTNER

We are proud to announce that Arconic Foundation has joined our agency's growing list of Project SEARCH donors. This one-year career readiness internship and job placement program serves high school seniors with disabilities who have completed their coursework, but need a transitional period to gain job and life skills training, and assistance to identify, secure and retain employment. According to Arconic's Manager of Government Affairs Cary Dell, "Project SEARCH, with its emphasis on the whole person as well as skills development and internships, shares the same values as Arconic Foundation in its mission to enable underrepresented and underserved groups acquire meaningful and long-lasting career opportunities."

Additionally, Dell commented "It is exciting to learn how high school students respond when they receive supportive resources they need to help make their personal visions a reality." Project SEARCH promotes workplace immersion and facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration and on-the-job training. Students spend their final year of high school at the host business engaged in the internship experience. During the program's last few months, emphasis is placed on refining skills, achieving the participant's chosen career goal and securing employment.

Arconic Foundation is an independently endowed foundation with assets of approximately \$320 million and is the charitable arm of Arconic Inc. - which works in close partnership with customers to solve complex engineering challenges to transform the way we fly, drive, build and power. Arconic became a global leader in multi-material, precision-engineered products and solutions for high-growth markets, following its separation from Alcoa's bauxite, alumina and aluminum products units. This innovative global leader continues to build on over a century of innovation.

### NEW DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

UCP of Greater Cleveland has a new Director of Development! Dr. David Welshhans holds a PhD in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, as well as degrees in English and Philosophy from John Carroll University. David has worked in non-profit development for 16 years, most recently at the Cleveland Institute of Music and The Cleveland Orchestra.

David says that he is both "excited and honored" to be leading UCP's development efforts: "Since joining the agency in October, I have witnessed some of the life-transforming services that we provide children and adults with disabilities. I'm eager to advance our mission as we build revenue for the organization's many unique programs and expand its presence in the community."

David can be reached at [216.453.4969](tel:216.453.4969) or by email at [dwelshhans@ucpcleveland.org](mailto:dwelshhans@ucpcleveland.org). He looks forward to meeting all in the community who so generously support UCP of Greater Cleveland.