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Santa Maria Community Services Expands Impact with \$30,000 Grant from Greater Cincinnati Foundation for its Promoting Our Preschoolers Program

CINCINNATI, OH – Santa Maria Community Services, Inc. is pleased to announce that it received a \$30,000 grant from Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) for its Promoting Our Preschoolers (POP) program. POP aims to address academic inequity in kindergartens within the Price Hill community by tackling the disparities in education access faced by individuals of color and those from low socioeconomic backgrounds.

POP is a comprehensive program that equips children with the skills and support necessary for a successful transition to kindergarten and continued academic achievement. It provides home-based services to families with preschool-aged children, emphasizing early child development. The program offers a range of services, including regular home visits, 'parents as teachers' curriculum, resources and support for parenting, education, preschool experiences, and kindergarten readiness. Additionally, parents and caregivers participate in group meetings and activities, developmental screenings for their child's physical, language, and thinking skills, and receive advocacy and referrals. The program also fosters positive relationships between families and their child's healthcare provider.

"We extend our sincere gratitude to Greater Cincinnati Foundation for their steadfast support of the Promoting Our Preschoolers program," said H.A. Musser, Jr., President and CEO of Santa Maria Community Services. "This generous grant will enable Santa Maria to ensure that every child attains educational success in kindergarten and beyond."

With this grant from Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Santa Maria Community Services will be able to expand the reach and impact of the POP program, providing even more families in Price Hill with the vital resources and tools they need for their child's educational journey.

Santa Maria Community Services is committed to leveling the playing field and creating equitable educational opportunities for all children. The collaboration with Greater Cincinnati Foundation marks an important milestone in its ongoing efforts to bridge the gap in academic success and empower families in the Price Hill community.

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About Greater Cincinnati Foundation

As the region's leading community foundation, Greater Cincinnati Foundation connects people with purpose in an eight-county region in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. GCF is leading the charge toward a more vibrant and equitable Greater Cincinnati for everyone – now, and for generations to come.

About Santa Maria Community Services, Inc.

Santa Maria Community Services, Inc. is an independent, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization originally founded by the Sisters of Charity in 1897 and place-based in Cincinnati Ohio's Price Hill community. Santa Maria provides more than 2,500 individuals with educational tools and resources to build strong families, promote healthy residents, and foster neighborhood revitalization. Our Price Hill Family Centers provide a welcoming environment and the coaching, support, and flexibility to assist families to achieve their identified goals toward stabilization and self-sufficiency. Our mission is to be a catalyst and advocate for Greater Price Hill families to attain their educational, financial, and health goals. Our vision is for Greater Price Hill to be a vibrant, thriving, and self-sustaining community. Learn more at SantaMaria-Cincy.org.