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A Thank You to The PNC Foundation

Santa Maria Community Services, Inc. is delighted to announce their receipt of a \$25,000 grant from The PNC Grow Up Great Foundation for their Promoting Our Preschoolers program.

This generous grant will help Santa Maria Community Services continue to support the growth and development of their POP program in Price Hill. The POP program is a family-focused kindergarten-readiness program that works collaboratively with families, schools, and the community and bases its work on home visitations. By building reading, language, and social skills, POP seeks to create a seamless transition into school for preschool-age children while ensuring that barriers to school readiness are removed.

Research shows that over 98% of families enrolled in Santa Maria's programs receive Medicaid and fewer than 30% of the parents in POP have a high school diploma. Therefore, these children tend to fall behind their peers in reading and literacy skills, which impacts their lives in every area of education throughout their school years and beyond.

"We are so pleased to receive another philanthropic grant from the PNC Foundation that will help the sustainability of this vital program," says H.A. Musser, President and CEO of Santa Maria Community Services. "This funding will continue to help Santa Maria improve the health, well-being, and development of the children we serve, particularly those from at-risk or disadvantaged backgrounds."

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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 3,000 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.

About PNC Foundation

The PNC Foundation's priority is to form partnerships with community-based nonprofit organizations in order to enhance educational opportunities, with an emphasis on early childhood education, and to



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promote the growth of communities through economic development initiatives. [PNC Grow Up Great](#) is their signature program. It is a \$500 million, multi-year, bilingual initiative that began in 2004 to help prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life. As part of this initiative, the PNC Foundation has earmarked funds for grants to nonprofit organizations that work to improve school readiness by providing support in areas such as: vocabulary development; social-emotional learning; math; science; and the arts. By focusing their support on high-quality early childhood education, they aim to positively impact school readiness and contribute to stronger, smarter and healthier children, families and communities. Learn more at [PNC.com](#)