

Building a Stronger Future at The Franklin





Our Mission

Ensure school readiness, empower families, and build strong futures.



In 1989, Giraffe Laugh opened our doors as a non-profit, drop-in childcare center providing respite for low-income families. Over the years, we have continued to expand to meet the need for quality, affordable childcare and increased preschool opportunities in the Treasure Valley community. Today, Giraffe Laugh proudly serves over 170 children annually by ensuring school readiness, empowering families, and building strong futures at each of our centers. This number will soon increase by 80 children with the addition of a new child care center.

Caring & Preparing

Children who are prepared with the social and reading skills critical to their success in kindergarten are significantly more likely to finish high school, go on to college, become gainfully employed, and break the cycle of poverty for their families — in short, *safe, well-cared-for and well-educated children grow up to be healthy citizens*. By ensuring school readiness and empowering our families, Giraffe Laugh graduates are prepared to build a strong future.



ENSURING SCHOOL READINESS

Nearly half of all Idaho children are unprepared when they enter kindergarten. Every child deserves a secure, comfortable childhood, as well as access to quality programs that strengthen and empower them while ensuring school readiness.

- Birth to Early Childhood Centers
- Preschool Program
- Summer School Program



EMPOWERING FAMILIES

Parents and guardians are the most important people in a child's life. When we enroll a child, we enroll a family and empower them through connection, education, and support.



BUILDING STRONG FUTURES

The foundation for growth and development is proper nutrition. In an effort to diminish food insecurity, we offer a food pantry wherever our families are, ensuring they have regular access to an abundance of high-quality nourishment.



Our Programs' Impact

The first 5 years of a child's life is the most important time and will determine how the next 80 unfold. When a child is born, their brain is about 25% developed. By age 5, that number increases to 90%. Not only is every child worthy of access to an enriched environment in and away from the home — it is critical for them to thrive.

We believe every child, regardless of their family's income, deserves quality programs that prepare them for kindergarten and the world beyond. Affordable childcare programs also make it easier for parents to find and keep stable jobs, giving the entire family an opportunity to improve their financial independence.

AT GIRAFFE LAUGH...

A low student-to-teacher ratio ensures each child's individual needs are met.

Three healthy meals are provided each day, and each location has an on-site food pantry.

Scholarships are available, enabling more equitable access to childcare and early education for all Idaho families.

Well-educated, compassionate teachers follow a proven curriculum.



99%

of our preschool graduates are ready for kindergarten.

20%

more children who attend a quality early learning program graduate from high school.

52%

of our families receive scholarship assistance.

Our Vision

With the closure of over 300 centers in Idaho during the Pandemic, the workforce was impacted greatly. The Workforce Development Child Care Grant program was approved by the Idaho Legislature to address Idaho's child care crisis.

Giraffe Laugh was awarded \$1.1 million to construct a new center at the corner of Franklin and Orchard. The center will be adjacent to a 210 housing unit with 90% of the units considered affordable housing. This will allow us to serve 80 more children and families who can work, play and live in their own neighborhood and who needs us most.





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I know how important access to safe, affordable childcare is to working parents, which is why I am so excited to celebrate the approval of a new childcare facility at The Franklin, a soon to be opened mixed-use development on Franklin and Orchard. An amazing, local childcare provider, Giraffe Laugh, will run the facility to provide care for up to 80 kiddos. This will be one of the largest childcare facilities in our city, serving infants up to pre-K.

As a parent, making sure your kids are in safe hands is on the forefront of your mind. I remember the role dependable care provided while raising my own two children. We are working hard to ensure safe, affordable childcare is available because reliable childcare creates greater opportunity for every Boise family.

— Mayor Lauren McLean, City of Boise

Thriving childcare for a thriving Idaho

Giraffe Laugh envisions a future in which every child can thrive. We want to continue our mission while expanding to more low-access areas and taking our teaching capabilities to the next level with best-in-class tools and training.

We aim to...

1. Increase reading readiness, helping more Idaho children prepare to enter kindergarten.
2. Provide equitable access to children from low-income to middle-income families.
3. Build a stronger workforce and a community of healthy, happy citizens.

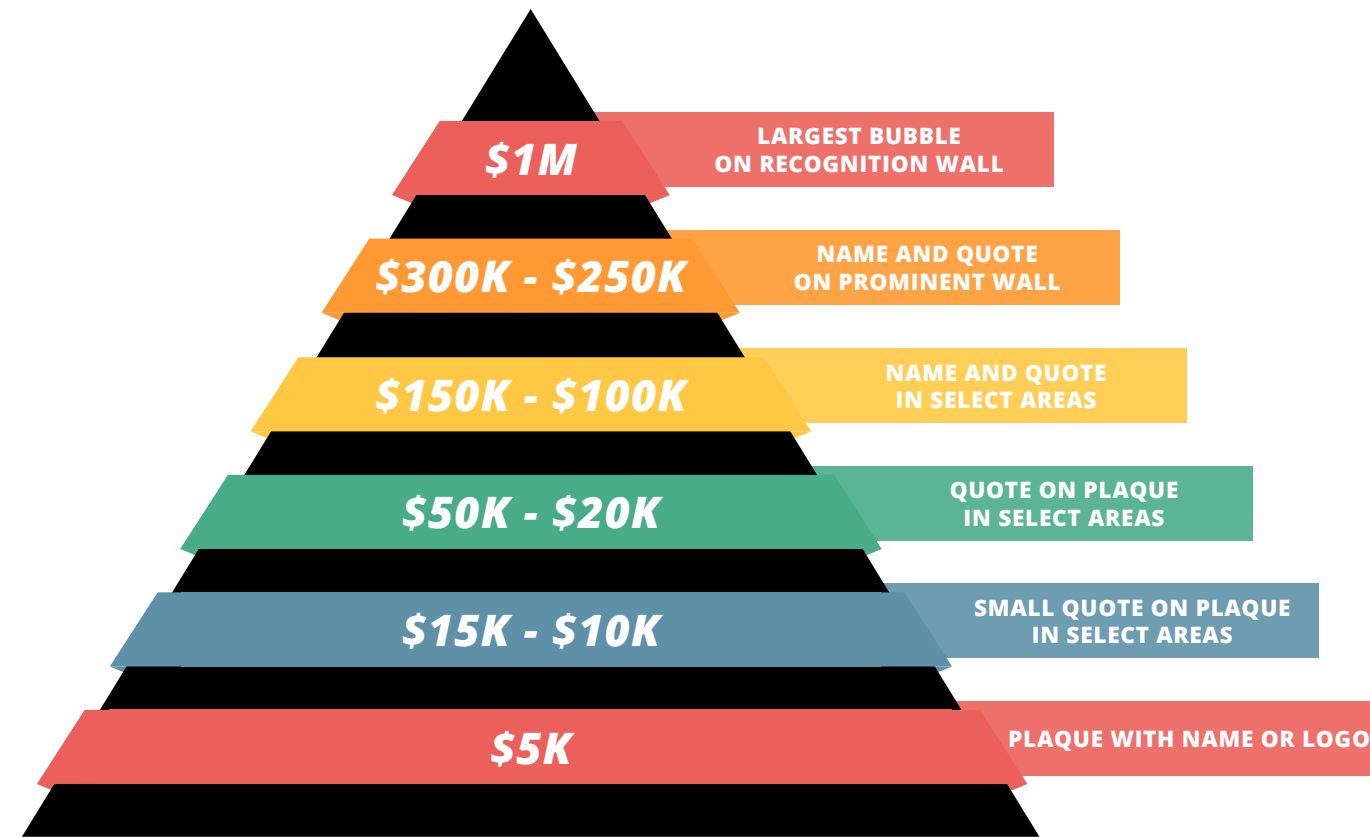




Providing care and education to 80 additional children means bright futures for children who live nearby as well as the ability to strengthen more families. It also means strengthening our employer partners' ability to hire. The Workforce Development Child Care Grant asks us to partner with employers who struggle to hire employees with young children. Our partners are Future Public School, The Riverside Hotel, Telic and St. Luke's.

Building Stronger Futures at The Franklin

In order to expand our impact to serve 80 new children with the least access to quality care, we need to raise a total of \$2.4 million. At every donation level, our generous supporters have a direct impact on the success of our students, their families, and ultimately, our community.



**All donations will be recognized on our bubble wall in the entryway.
Bubble size will correspond with gift size.**

Early Supporters

Anne Kunkel & Jason Pintler
Bank of Idaho
Briana & Patrick McLaughlin
Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health
Boise Cascade Company
Breanna & Kyle Brush
Dix Brown Memorial Fund
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Mike & Hannah Sharp
Mountain West Bank
Rocio & Enrique Rivera
Sara & Matt Harvey
Saucerman Construction
Stu & Molly Guenther
The Jeker Family Trust
Vanessa Lewis

Our Budget

Building Construction	\$1,900,000
Payroll for first 9-12 months	\$300,000
Scholarships for year 1	\$30,000
Equipment	\$150,000
Curriculum (Teaching Strategies Gold)	\$16,000
Teacher Training	\$23,000
	\$2,419,000
Committed Funds	\$1,723,958
Funding Gap	\$695,042

Click the link below to get
a virtual tour of the future
new Giraffe Laugh!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-D36ZIM6aUU&t=2s>



Invest in Idaho education and young
children in our community! Secure your
bubble on our recognition wall today.

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The future is in your hands.