Press Release December 23, 2022



Contact: Katie Kelly
PRE4CLE Executive Director
216-224-9554
Katie.kelly@escneo.org

PRE4CLE STATEMENT ON COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING FOR CLEVELAND EARLY LEARNING SPACES IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET

CLEVELAND, **OHIO** – PRE4CLE's statement after receiving \$1.29 million in the federal budget for its <u>Cleveland Early Learning Spaces</u> initiative. The initiative offers grants, technical assistance, and professional development to help early learning providers complete facility renovations that support the health, safety, learning, and development of young children.

"We are deeply grateful to Representative Shontel Brown (OH-11) for advocating on behalf of Cleveland's preschool children and providers. The \$1.36 million PRE4CLE will receive through the Community Project Funds in FY 23 Federal Budget will support renovations in up to six early learning sites throughout Cleveland, making those spaces more welcoming and enriching places to learn and grow," said Katie Kelly, PRE4CLE Executive Director. "This investment will support safer and more equitable learning environments for generations of children and early childhood educators in Cleveland."

"High-quality preschool programs, such as the ones supported by PRE4CLE, are critical to paving the way for the future success of our children. PRE4CLE's effort to provide our earliest learners with access to safe and high-quality facilities is a vital component of that pathway, and I am proud to secure funding for them," said Rep. Shontel Brown.

About PRE4CLE: PRE4CLE is a collective impact initiative working to expand access to all 3- and 4-year-olds in the city of Cleveland so that every child enters kindergarten ready to succeed. PRE4CLE connects families to high-quality public and private preschool programs; connects preschool providers to tools, resources, and key partners to increase their quality and serve more children; and provides strategic leadership and advocacy to accelerate the availability of high-quality preschool in Cleveland.

PRE4CLE was developed in 2014 to fulfill a core goal of Cleveland's Plan for Transforming Schools and is guided by The Cleveland Early Childhood Compact, a public-private leadership body.

For more information, visit www.PRE4CLE.org.