## 2017-2018

## **Annual Report**

**DELAWARE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT** 





## **ABOUT DCIU**

### OUR MISSION, VISION, AND GOALS

#### **MISSION**

The mission of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit, a regional educational service agency, is to provide leadership in the development and delivery of quality, cost-effective programs and services to school communities.

#### **BELIEFS**

We believe in our commitment to provide diverse and flexible educational programs and services within a safe environment by fostering the development of learning communities of integrity and excellence.

We pledge to promote forward thinking, creativity, partnerships, and to encourage positive change.

We will seek to maintain our entrepreneurial spirit while developing meaningful goals that indicate the success of our mission.

#### VISION

DCIU empowers partnerships that Drive, Create, Inspire, and Understand excellence in education.

DCIU:

**Drives** strategic forward movement.

**Creates** dynamic, innovative solutions.

**Inspires** limitless possibilities.

**Understands** challenges and aspirations.

#### STRATEGIC GOALS

**Financial Stewardship:** DCIU delivers exceptional bottom line value to its districts to address the financial pressures they face. We watch district and partner budgets like we watch our own. Our budgeting and financial practices are based on program and service needs, accounting integrity, and transparency within and outside of DCIU.

**Student-Centered Learning:** DCIU provides student-centered learning for students of all ages. DCIU models seamless, student-centered educational experiences from birth through adulthood in its niche areas of alternative, career and technical, early childhood, ESL, and special education. It also provides researched-based professional development activities including continuous professional education and university-based coursework.

**Market-Based Business Model:** DCIU is attuned to the current and future needs of districts and other customers. It operates using an enterprise, market-driven business model to achieve purposeful social and educational outcomes. Through the creation of an Innovation Fund, DCIU innovates and grows responsibly, functioning as an educational engine for Delaware County. We recognize staff for providing quality services at competitive pricing.

**Excellence in Service:** Everything we do is dedicated to exceeding expectations and building long-lasting, collaborative, and trusting relationships.

# MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

#### GREETINGS,

Greetings from the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU). We are pleased to present our 2017-2018 Annual Report to our community. This publication serves as just one of the many ways in which we share information with our community on how we are doing as an educational institution. We firmly believe an informed community is an essential ingredient to the long-term health of DCIU and our students.

Again, this year, we can confidently say that the numbers and examples contained within this report demonstrate successful progress toward our goals. While we are extremely proud of our results, education cannot and should not be defined by the numbers alone, as they are simply the outputs of the systems and processes we have in place to facilitate learning. What makes up the fabric of the DCIU, however, are the individualized learning opportunities that are supported by our faculty, support staff, administration, parents, and community members that lead to the student achievement and growth demonstrated only partially in this publication.

DCIU seeks to provide leadership in the development and delivery of quality, cost-effective programs and services to our community, as our mission states. We do this through striving toward our strategic goals of financial stewardship, student-centered learning, a market-based business model, and excellence in service. Achieving our goals brings us a step closer to achieving our vision. Proudly, the evidence contained within this report clearly illustrates we are meeting these objectives. More importantly, we look forward to the opportunity to serve our community's learners - from birth through adulthood - and to their continued growth and educational success.

We are proud of the steps we have taken to make DCIU an exceptionally innovative organization that prepares students to succeed in a future we can only imagine. We hope you see our vision and feel that same sense of pride as you review this year's achievements in our 2017-2018 Annual Report!

Sincerely,



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**Board President** 



Maria Edelberg, Ed.D.

Executive Director

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edward Cardow

President

Chichester School District

Harry J. McElwee
Vice President
Ridley School District

Charles Warren
Chester Upland
School District

**Tracey A. Karwoski**Garnet Valley
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Susan Mingey Haverford Township School District

**Edward Harris**Interboro School District

Barbara Harvey Marple Newtown School District

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Penn Delco School District

Patricia Booker Radnor Township School District

Jaclyn Clancy Rose Tree Media School District

Sheree Monroe Southeast Delco School District

**Chris DeSantis**Springfield School District

Monica Taylor
Upper Darby School District

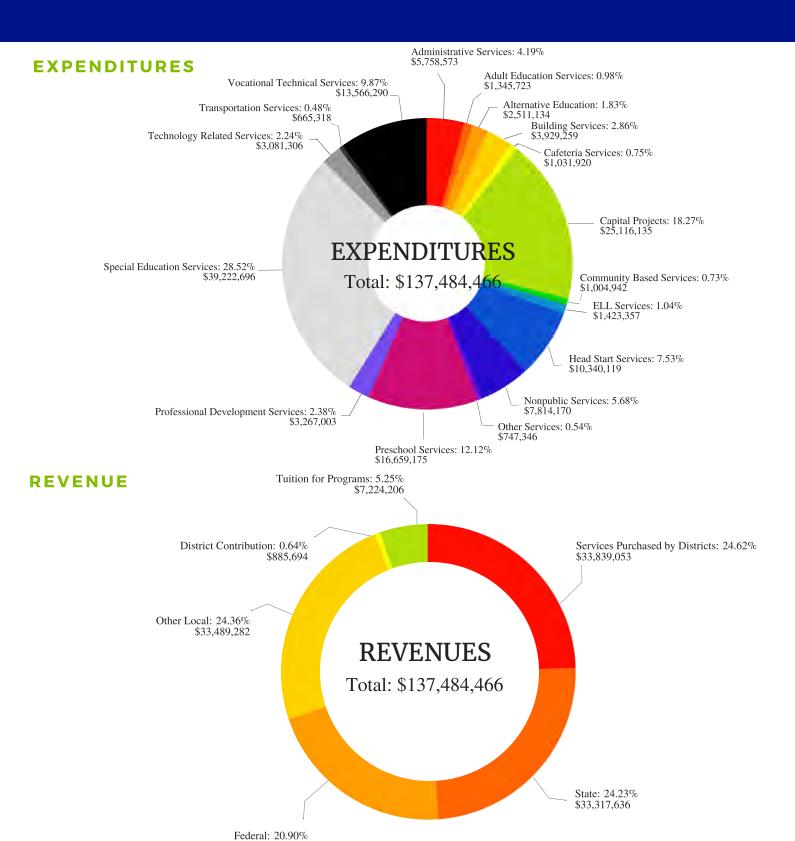
Kelly Wachtman Wallingford Swarthmore School District

Marion Fitti William Penn School District

## **FINANCE REPORT**

#### DCIU EXPENDITURES 2017-2018

\$28,728,595



### **DCIU BY THE NUMBERS**

SNAPSHOT OF STUDENTS SERVED AND GRANTS AWARDED

16,057

**Individuals Served** 



4,371
EARLY
CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION



5,398
STUDENT
SERVICES



1,000
CAREER AND
TECHNICAL
EDUCATION



5,288
ADULT
EDUCATION

\$1,734,124.34

**Grants Awarded** 



\$20,000

EARLY
CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION



\$26,495.56 STUDENT SERVICES



\$827,628.78
CAREER AND
TECHNICAL

**EDUCATION** 



\$860,000
ADULT
EDUCATION

**AND SERVICES** 

WHO WE SERVE: BREAKING DOWN THE NUMBERS



#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

- The **Family Center and Project ELECT** served 87 students and 37 Parents as Teachers families, while also providing 123 workshops for a total of 1,059 attendees
- Early Intervention (EI) served 1,853 students in over 200 schools while conducting 765 evaluations. This includes 486 children that were transitioned to Kindergarten.
- Early Head Start/Head Start (EHS/HS) served 1,286 students and added an additional 78 children in 2017-2018. Head Start transitioned 563 students to Kindergarten.

#### STUDENT SERVICES

- The Low Incidence Program served 135 students
- Emotional Support Programs served 175 students
- **OPTIONS** served 373 students across eight programs
- **Vision Support** served 156 students
- Hearing and Language provided intervention and support to 325 students including students in Philadelphia and New Jersey
- **Speech and Language** provided 1,838 with services and held 10 professional development workshops
- Remedial math and reading support were provided to 849 nonpublic school students
- English Language Development served 540 students and provided monitoring services to 61 students

### DELAWARE COUNTY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL (DCTS)

• Served approximately **1,000 students** from all 15 Delaware County School Districts and several private schools, at our Aston, Folcroft, Marple and TCA sites.

"The foundation that my son built with the team from Early Intervention has set him up for limitless success, thank you all so much for what you do for our children!!!"

Parent of student in Early Intervention

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: MANAGING FINANCES AND FINDING COST SAVINGS FOR DISTRICTS



### FISCAL INTEGRITY - SAVING OUR DISTRICTS MONEY

The Business Office helped to create responsible 2017-2018 budgets for DCIU and DCTS, which were presented and approved by all member districts. DCIU, DCTS, and Delaware County Vocational Technical School Authority (DCVTSA) all received a "clean audit" this past year. The successful management, preparation and presentation of over \$130 million in more than 60 programs and services is a huge undertaking for DCIU.

DCIU responsibly managed financial and operations services for DCIU and DCTS as well as services for district pass through funds.

#### The Delaware County Public Schools Healthcare Trust

reappointed Tom Brown, Chief Financial and Operations
Operations, as the Finance Manager for the Trust. Mallie LLP
provided the audit and had no findings, providing a "clean audit" of
Trust operations. Trust members anticipate approximately \$7
million in cost avoidance through the Trust operations. Current
reserves equal \$51 million. The DCIU through the financial services
provided to the Trust will recognize \$200,000 in revenue.

Joint Purchasing: Annual savings for DCIU and member districts is around \$2.5 million, net of annual fuel cost avoidance. Savings cover countywide purchasing for fuel, gas, school, office, and custodial supplies.

"Please express my thanks to your staff for all the work they do supporting students. Working with students with complex disabilities is rewarding, but also very difficult. It was apparent that everyone around the table was interested in seeing J.C. succeed to the best of his ability."

- School District Staff

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: FINDING ADDITIONAL REVENUES THROUGH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS TO BETTER SERVE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

#### **PROGRAM GRANTS 2017-18**

Early Intervention implemented the requirements for a \$20,000 Results Grants from the Bureau of Early Learning

The Low Incidence Program earned \$13,460.48 in grants while Emotional Support Programs secured an additional \$2,000 in grants for materials and equipment

OPTIONS programs received an impressive grant and contract sum of \$122,257.08

Vision Support secured a \$3,500 grant for the DCIU Low Vision Clinic while Hearing and Language also received grants in the sum of \$5,353.08 from the Delaware County Education Foundation

Pupil Services within nonpublic schools received a \$2,000 grant to conduct PLC trainings for school psychologists and counselors

English Language Development received a **\$5,000** grant for the English Language Resource Fair

**\$5,000** Safe Schools grants at both the Aston and Folcroft DCTS campuses to implement long-term action plans for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

**\$14,112.20** Educators in the Workplace Grant for eight Career and Technical Education support teachers to gain an understanding of the academic, social, and employability skills necessary for success in the workforce and develop a Work Ethic Rubric for consistent grading in all CTE programs.

**\$9,549.58** Education Foundation Grants for the Medical Careers program to acquire a Laederal Airway Management Trainer (\$2,233.89) and for laboratory microscopes for the Biomedical Technology and Laboratory Sciences program (\$7,315.69).



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: FINDING ADDITIONAL REVENUES THROUGH GRANTS AND CONTRACTS TO BETTER SERVE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES



#### PROGRAM GRANTS 2017-18

PDE (PA Department of Education) Competitive Equipment Grant in the amount of \$18,750 was received. This grant supports technical schools with eight or more PDE approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in updating or purchasing new equipment used in the training of students.

PDE Supplemental Equipment Grant for \$18,217 was received to purchase equipment for the classroom that meets industry standards. These funds were used to purchase equipment for the purpose of training students (hands-on use of the equipment).

Carl D. Perkins federal grant was received in the amount of \$757,000 to help enhance the academic and career and technical skills of CTE students.

#### **PROFESSIONAL LEARNING GRANTS**

\$500,000 Early Grades Instructional Leadership (EGIL) Grant: From continued funding from a 2016-17 EGIL grant, Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Learning (CIPL) was able to bring seven nationally recognized speakers and work collaboratively with several first0year principles throughout the county to provide them with mentorship from well-respected, knowledgeable former principles and district leaders. The grant also supported the full funding of substitute teachers for two districts so two aspiring administrators could complete a principal internship.

The Delaware County Education Foundation was awarded a grant for \$7,500 from the TD Charitable Foundation for Teacher Resource Center improvements.

#### **FUNDRAISING MONIES RECEIVED**

At the annual Walk4Hearing event in October 2017, Team DCIU and the Alliance contribution raised \$3,788.40. These donations are used to help offset costs, particularly in the are of equipment for students with hearing loss.

The Delaware County Education Foundation Golf Outing netted about \$25,000 in profit to support grants for classroom teachers for innovative educational programs.

# CREATE AND CULTIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

OUR PEOPLE ARE OUR PURPOSE: CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITIES

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

DCIU supports educators and community members as we are all partners in student success. Administration and staff participate in a wide range of community organizations, boards, committees, and events, including but not limited to:

- Delaware County Veterans Day Parade Committee
- Delaware County Food Drive
- Governor's STEM Challenge
- United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey Local Board
- Delaware County Heroin Task Force
- Mental Health/Intellectual Advisory Board
- Special Education Advisory Panel
- Chief School Administrators Committee
- Delaware County Children's Cabinet and Coalition
- Child Death Review Team
- Interagency Coordinating Council
- Delaware County Trauma Alliance
- Right to Education Task Force
- Transition Council
- Delaware County Chamber of Commerce Government Relations Committee
- Delaware County Hero Bowl Committee
- Wawa Autism Field Day

#### **EXPANDING OUR REACH**

DCIU is committed to the well-being of the entire community and realizes that in order to fulfill our mission we must establish and maintain partnerships. Through these relationships, our programs have been exposed to countless opportunities, allowing for the growth of our organization and our partners. This past school year we developed or expanded partnerships with the following, just to name a few:

- Pennsylvania Department of Education through Teaching, Learning, and Innovation
- Delaware County Healthcare Trust
- Library System
- Early Head Start Children's Garden



# CREATE AND CULTIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

OUR PEOPLE ARE OUR PURPOSE: CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITIES

## FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PARTNERSHIPS

The Family Center and Project ELECT connects families additional services including: Pathways, Cradles to Crayons, Women, Infants, Children (WIC), Early learning Resource Center, the Department of Health and Human Services, and Head Start/Early Head Start. Programs offered include Always Sisters, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, Moms' Group and monthly evening programs.

The Philadelphia Union and Allstate Insurance sponsored an **Anti-Bullying Campaign** in local schools in October 2017. Middle school students from Pennington Education Center were invited to Visit the Talen Energy Stadium to participate in fun activities focused on showing kindness and respect for others. Students also received a tour of the stadium.

**OPTIONS partnered with SEPTA** to process over 100 reduced fare cards directly at DCIU in Morton rather than families having to travel individually to Philadelphia.

#### EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Nineteen students were employed in the community across 15 different work sites through Enhanced Employment.

Partnership with Surrey Services: Staff with the community living and learning apartment program initiated a partnership with Surrey Services in Media for students to do small jobs and join in seasonal social activities with the elderly.

**Pre-Employment Training Services:** Contracted with OVR to provide pre-employment training services, including assessment, job shadowing, job development, job coaching, and work readiness classes in participating school districts.

## SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH

Legislative and Community Services (LCS) coordinated the annual **Veterans Day Essay Contest** for Delaware County middle school students. Winning students received certificates and cash prizes and read their essays at the annual parade in Media.

Head Start and Early Head Start partnered with **Delaware**County Community College, Philadelphia Hospital,
and Healthcare District 1199C Training and
Upgrading Fund to offer apprenticeships and enable staff
to use on-the-job hours to meet the requirements in
working toward an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood
Education.

Speech and Language Pathologists made the **Providence Animal Shelter in Media** the focus of their Community outreach project for the Spring of 2018.

On February 23, 2018, DCTS held a **Stakeholders Breakfast** for stakeholders with representatives from all 15 Delaware County school districts to discuss initiatives and partnerships available with DCTS.

## INSPIRING GROWTH THROUGH A COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT AND

THROUGH A COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION DCIU STRIVES FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, ALWAYS ADAPTING TO CHANGE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS.

#### NEW DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED

In 2017-2018, the department of Teaching, Learning, and Innovation formed with the purpose of providing leadership in the development and expansion of innovative best practices, strategic leadership and direction on a variety of educational initiatives.

#### First-year accomplishments include:

- Intergovernmental Agreement for Computer Science: DCIU is the recipient of an Intergovernmental Agreement from PDE to provide computer science professional learning for the eastern half of Pennsylvania. TLI received over \$300,000 to develop a computer science toolkit and train 400 or more educators in K-5 Computer Science Fundamentals and 50 or more educators in Computer Science Discoveries during the 2018-2019 school year.
- Code.org Partnership: In 2017-2018, approximately 1,300
  Pennsylvania educators participated in computer science
  professional learning through TLI's partnership with
  Code.org.
- Project Based Learning (PBL) Kits: TLI received \$60,000 from Boeing to support the development of PBL Kits for grades K-8 to be added to the STEM Lending Library, in addition to funds to continue lending services at no cost to local districts.
- Resources: DCIU secured a number of contracts to provide educators in the region access to unique opportunities for professional learning and discounted pricing for products and services, including:
  - Wonder Workshop
  - TeacherGaming
  - GameSalad
  - Makey Makey
  - Loco Robo



## **INSPIRING GROWTH**

THROUGH A COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION DCIU STRIVES FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, ALWAYS ADAPTING TO CHANGE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS.

#### **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

In DCIU's continuing efforts to not only provide cuttingedge programs to prepare students for a 21st century job market, but also to provide the best services possible in the best environment possible, DCIU embarked upon a major construction project at the **DCTS Aston Building**.

#### **Building improvements include:**

- Improved security systems;
- Improvement and expansion of meeting facilities;
- Technology and building upgrades
- State-of-the-art learning facility

#### The renovated Aston facility houses:

- Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Early Childhood Education (ECE)
- Special Education

#### Timeline:

- Broke ground: Summer of 2017
- Early Childhood Education and Student Services brand new building wings: 2018-19 school year
- Career and Technical wing renovations: 2019-2020 school year

#### **REVAMPING HUMAN RESOURCES**

The 2017-2018 school year was a time of transformation for the DCIU Human Resources Department. The department was restructured to create a model with internal and external customer service in mind. The position of Assistant Human Resources Director was created, and two Human Resource Specialists now support specific programs from soup to nuts. Some of the HR functions that had been decentralized are now being more supported by HR staff so that supervisors can focus on program needs. The HR department also improved efficiencies by implementing new software solutions to expedite new hire paperwork processing, as well as increase the number of online professional development trainings for staffs. In addition to the reorganization and implementation of new software, DCIU onboarded 154 new staff members throughout the 17-18 school year.













## **INSPIRING GROWTH**

THROUGH A COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION DCIU STRIVES FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, ALWAYS ADAPTING TO CHANGE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS.

### MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS

DCIU Professional Development Specialists **supported 56 schools in nine districts,** DCIU Special Programs, two charter systems, and nine nonpublic schools in their implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS). An additional nine schools have signed on for the 2018-2019 school year.

Early Intervention created an **online intake system** that allows parents and guardians to complete online intake from a tablet, phone, or computer at any time, anywhere

The Low Incidence Program staff used data informed decision making to support student growth and independence. Additionally, they implemented the **Milo robot** in the secondary education program. The robot walks, talks, and moves as it teaches pro-social behaviors.

Emotional Support Program teachers increased their use of **Aimsweb Reading-Curriculum Based** 

**Measurement (R-CBM)** benchmark scores to monitor progress in reading. Benchmarking was done on grade level three times.

#### **Assistive Technology Communications Plan:**

Assistive Technology Communications Plans were developed for students with complex communication needs. The Communication Plan is part of the students' IEPs.

#### **Language Acquisition through Motor Planning**

Workshop: Using a therapy approach based on neurological and motor learning principles, SLPs learned how to support individuals who are nonverbal with a method of independently expressing themselves with a voice output AAC device.

Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI2): The nonpublic program collaborated with DCIU staff from Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning and school psychologists to implement RTI2 at Saint Bernadette School in Drexel Hill. Through this partnership, a data-driven model of instruction was introduced to the second grade classroom with support from DCIU.

The English Language Development program implemented a new and updated **English Language Development Program Progress Report** to demonstrate student progress and growth towards English proficiency aligned with WIDA standards.

The **Information and Technology** office successfully completed a variety of projects including:

- Radnor and Ridley Libraries structured cabling plant installation
- WAN infrastructure upgrade to 10GB
- G-Suite Integration
- Created an IT strategic plan
- Implemented Electronic Leave Requests
- Implemented data governance procedures in state reporting to qualify DCIU staff for Teacher Loan Forgiveness

# UNDERSTANDING NEEDS AND LEADERSHIP

PIONEERING EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND PROVIDING PROGRAMS, RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHING AND INNOVATIVE LEARNING

#### **READY TO LEARN**

DCIU Early Intervention and Head Start programs transitioned over 1000 students from Preschool to Kindergarten. The transition process includes individual meetings with the families and school districts for each child being transitioned. This is major undertaking, and even though it isn't required to do, DCIU believes this service to our districts further demonstrates our commitment to making sure children are leaving our programs ready to learn at their home schools. Through the efforts of these educators, students will be prepared and ahead of the curve as they begin their elementary education.

**Child Development Associate Classes** (CDA) were offered to families to help them earn a credential and possibly work with the organization as an Instructional Assistant. 32 parents received their CDA this year.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning (CIPL) provided more **Act 45 opportunities** than ever before to educational leaders in Delaware County. More than **545 courses, meetings and workshops** were offered. CIPL also built new courses that have been approved by PDE for the 2018-2019 year.

Cooking Program: Students in the school-age emotional support program gained experience and skills in the kitchen through implementation of a cooking program. Classes had scheduled times to work in the kitchen; during this time they created snacks or small meals to enjoy at school. Students were also able to earn one-on-one time in the kitchen as a reward, where they could make special treats, such as birthday cupcakes or cookies to enjoy at lunch.



# UNDERSTANDING NEEDS AND LEADERSHIP

PIONEERING EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND PROVIDING PROGRAMS, RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHING AND INNOVATIVE LEARNING

#### **RESOURCES**

**DCIU Low Vision Clinic:** The DCIU Low Vision Clinic is held in collaboration with Salus University approximately eight times each year. One of its main functions is to educate parents about their children's eye condition(s), associated functional implications and potential remediation strategies. Students have the opportunity to explore a variety of low vision devices for both near and distance visual tasks for greater access to school and their community.

Transitioning to new changes in the Braille code: DCIU Vision Support staff continue to attend meetings and workshops to become proficient in the new changes in the Braille code, specifically the Unified English Braille Code.

**Quality Programs for Visually Impaired** (*QPVI*): The Vision Program continues to participate in QPVI, a national initiative. Topics relating to QVPI are discussed with the goal of making DCIU's Vision Program state of the art and improving quality of services for all children served.

English Language Resource Fair: Hosted its first English Learner Resource Fair to provide opportunities for students and their families to access local community resources. 18 vendors and approximately 80 participants attended the event. Additionally, English Language Development also offered various professional development programs to consortium and non-consortium members including administrators, classroom teachers, and ELD teachers regarding best practices for supporting English Learners in school communities.

Low Incidence Program Resource Fair: More than 30 agencies attended the Marple Education Center's Austism Awareness Month Resource Fair. The agencies provided information and resources for individuals aged 3-21 diagnosed with Austism Spectrum Disorders.



"I was invited to surprise the kids at the Delaware County Intermediate Unit English Language Learning Family Fund Day in Morton, PA. [It was] such a blessing to be part of this event. [...] The group at DCIU works in such a caring way to reach the children and it shows in their smiles. Great, great work."

Delco Spider Man about the DCIU
English Language Development program

# UNDERSTANDING NEEDS AND LEADERSHIP

PIONEERING EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND PROVIDING PROGRAMS, RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHING AND INNOVATIVE LEARNING

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The DCTS Culinary Arts students received \$263,648 in scholarships through the Careers through Culinary Arts Program.

#### PROGRESS, SUCCESS & HANDS-ON LEARNING

**Rate of Improvement:** For the first time in program history, students in grades K-7 in our nonpublic programs met or surpassed the rate of improvement score on the AIMSweb assessment in all areas tested for literacy.

**Tracking Progress:** The Hearing and Language program participates in GRADE testing to track progress in literacy skill development. The median improvement was 18 points this year.

**TCA Graduation:** Six seniors graduated from TCA in 2018. A seventh student earned a posthumous certificate from TCA and a High School diploma from Upper Darby High School. These students may not have experienced graduation day at all had it not been for this program.

**100%** Compliance: Early Head Start and Head Start received notification from the Office of Head Start that the Focus Area 2 findings report for the review conducted between May 14, 2018 and May 18, 2018 found the programs for both the Early Head Start/ Head Start and the Child Care Partnership Grant in compliance in all areas.

**Culinary Program:** The Culinary students gained practical experience by preparing dinner six times throughout the year for the DCIU Board of Directors meetings.

TCA Basketball: The TCA boys' basketball team finished in second place in the alternative league basketball playoffs. The team worked very hard all season and Mike Davis was honored as Coach of the Year at the start of the championship game. That these students, who have experienced some challenges get to play a team sport, let alone see success is quite an accomplishment.

Community Outreach Project: In November 2017, five TCA students volunteered at the St. Katherine's food cupboard in Chester. Students unloaded trucks, sorted food, swept floors, hung clothes on hangers and took measurements for shelving needs. Mr. Manocchio and the carpentry students then built shelves to be used in the cupboard to help with food storage.



