

Cincinnati Children's Connects

A Newsletter for our Neighbors in AVONDALE

This is Cincinnati Children's quarterly newsletter to highlight our partnerships, upcoming events, opportunities and ways to get involved.

Issue 15, May 2021



L to R: Crews dismantle the greenhouse at Cincinnati Children's College Hill location. Dr. Jaren Finney, Rockdale Principal, points to where the greenhouse and Urban Learning Garden will reside. Inside the greenhouse during years at the College Hill location.

Greenhouse Donation Creating Opportunities for Avondale Students

No one wanted to see it happen. A perfectly good greenhouse goes to the landfill. But that's exactly what was planned to help make way for Cincinnati Children's College Hill expansion project — until Maggie Adams had the idea to call the Cincinnati Zoo.

"It turns out the zoo had just the perfect project and the timing couldn't have been better," said Adams, grounds technician at College Hill.

Plans are underway for the 2021 Reds Community Makeover in Avondale. One of the more remarkable features of this year's Community Makeover is the Cincinnati Zoo's Urban Learning Garden at Rockdale Academy. The nearly one-acre project includes an amphitheater, gardens, trails and a greenhouse. The same greenhouse that has stood on the property at Cincinnati Children's College Hill location for the past seven years. It has been utilized as a nurturing part of patient therapy.

Crews dismantled the structure in mid-April and it will be reconstructed at the Rockdale Academy site in time for the Reds Community Makeover Day on July 29.

"Just to know the greenhouse is going to continue its lifecycle in such a meaningful way — gives us at College Hill a very good feeling," said Greg Renzenbrink, College Hill business director. "We're sad to see it go, but it's great to know that it will be helping another set of kids in a different way and in a potentially transformational way."

COVID-19 Your Top Questions Answered by Dr. Robert Frenck, Vaccine Researcher and Infectious Disease Expert

1. When will vaccines become available for children? Currently, children age 16 and above are able to receive the Pfizer vaccine. I think by early to mid-May the age will drop to 12 years old. It MAY be possible that the EUA is further lowered to age 5 years by September. But, I think a more likely timeframe is late 2021 or early 2022.

2. Why do we need to vaccinate kids? There are two reasons: The first is to directly protect the child. Over 300 children in the US have died from COVID-19, over 14,000 have been hospitalized and over 3 million have been infected. The second reason is to

Rockdale students will experience agriculture, horticulture, ecology, and biology — up-close and hands-on in a living laboratory and curriculum. "The outdoor learning space and especially the greenhouse is going to provide a unique enrichment opportunity for our students and help bring our vision as a global conservation school to life," said Dr. Jaren Finney, Principal at Rockdale Academy.

An added benefit, the gardens at Rockdale will not only support school curriculum, but also provide fresh food and nutritional skills to the community." Our students will have the chance to plant flower beds, fruits and vegetables. We also want to sell what we grow to the community. And then there are all sorts of other lessons students can learn about finances and economics."



"We're building productive citizens, and we're planting those seeds now. Who knows how or where they can grow? Maybe our students will be inspired to study science or horticulture as a result of this early exposure."

For now, Finney and the team at Rockdale are just glad to have been picked to be the first Urban Outdoor Learning Garden in Cincinnati. "We feel blessed to have this opportunity for our students. It's reassuring to know that there is significant support from our neighborhood partners like Cincinnati Children's and the Cincinnati Zoo," said Finney.

"This is going to be a signature project for our zoo and because of that, our commitment to this project is indefinite. "This is a forever thing," said Mark Fisher, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden.

With endless opportunities, the urban learning garden and greenhouse is sure to nourish, educate, and inspire students for years to come.



Reds Community Makeover Day

When: Thursday, July 29

Where: Six sites in Avondale including: Rockdale Academy, South Avondale Elementary, Boys and Girls Club, Crest Smiles Dental Clinic, Blair and Rockdale/Harvey Ballfields and Laron Park.

Who: The Reds, P&G, Cincinnati Children's, the Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati Public Schools and a host of Avondale community partners.

For more information or questions email communityrelations@cchmc.org or call (513) 636-9327.



"It doesn't really hurt. It kind of tickled," said Amirah, a 7-year-old first grader. Amirah received the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at Cincinnati Children's as part of a vaccine trial.

try and prevent spread. COVID-19 is a respiratory virus, and we know children can be very high spreaders of respiratory viruses.

3. Are the vaccines safe? The vaccines have shown a very good safety profile. Many people have few to no side effects. The more common side effects are pain at the injection site, headache, fatigue and body aches. Symptoms usually start about 24 hours after vaccination and last about 24-48 hours.

4. Do we still need to wear masks after vaccination? For now, yes. We hope we can relax that restriction by the end of the summer.

Critical Care Building on Track for Fall Opening



Features include:

- State of the art emergency department, urgent care and pharmacy
- Dedicated space for medical care of mental health patients
- Spaces that facilitate excellent care, reduce stress, promote healing and inspire hope.
- Community greenspace

Critical Care Building Creates New Job Opportunities

- Dietetic Technician
- Patient Care Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Security Officer
- Respiratory Therapist

In addition to these opportunities, there are open positions that span across several job families including: administrative/clinical, clinical/non-nursing, customer service, management, maintenance/facilities, etc.

To search and apply to specific job opportunities, please visit the Cincinnati Children's career website: jobs.cincinnatichildrens.org



To stay connected and learn more about our culture and work environment follow us on social media at facebook.com/workingatcincinnatichildrens

Helping Our Neighbors, Living Our Values



Cincinnati Children's takes great pride in the partnership we have with Avondale neighbors. In the last five years, our investment has paid off in projects where community benefit is evident. Here are the highlights:

- Eliminating Avondale's status as a food desert with the Avondale grocery store opening this fall | **8,000 residents impacted/year**
- Increased affordable and mixed-income housing and removed blight from the community | **120+ housing units/serving 400 residents**
- Developed Hirsch Walking Trail featuring light art for safe walking | **3,000 residents benefiting/year**
- Expanded child care centers and play spaces for children to support safety and learning | **300+ children impacted/year**
- Initiated the Largest Reds Community Makeover in program history featuring renovations to six Avondale locations | **2,000 children impacted**
- Provided computers and Wi-Fi to children in Avondale and other CPS schools | **10,000 students impacted during COVID-19**
- Provided career training and opportunities for Avondale and Uptown residents through Career Insights, UWDI, RWB programs | **100+ hires**

What do Avondale residents have to say about the five-year investment and Cincinnati Children's commitment to community?

"Community leaders now have a seat at the table as we work with Cincinnati Children's to impact children, health, employment and so many in the community. The impact we've made on children will pay dividends long after we are gone... we are shaping little lives." — **Henry Brown, Avondale Resident**

"Cincinnati Children's is a reliable, unifying partner and advocate that brings people together. Cincinnati Children's has created a table where we all use our collective strengths and power for the benefit of children and the community." — **Michael Allison, Principal, South Avondale Elementary School**



To view the Avondale Partnership and Investment video visit: youtu.be/9TeeHekqG-U

We want your ideas!

Are there stories you would like to see in this newsletter? Please let us know! Call **513-636-9327** or email communityrelations@cchmc.org

