



The 2022 Mayor's Strategic Partnerships Initiative Award

DMAB Community Art Center

DON'T MISS A BEAT (DMAB)

QUALITY EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

Founded by Ulysses Owens, Jr., a multi-Grammy award winning artist, and his family, Don't Miss A Beat (DMAB) cultivates the minds of underserved BIPOC children through arts education and initiatives that foster character and leadership development, academic excellence, and community involvement. Their programs blend music, art, academic achievement, and civic engagement to inspire and enlighten socioeconomically disadvantaged children and teens in the Riverside, Brooklyn, and Woodstock communities who otherwise would not have access to opportunities to pursue arts education, advancement in academics, and quality social-emotional learning initiatives.

COMMUNITY GOALS

Goal 7: Quality Education

Goal 5: Equitable and Shared Prosperity



CHALLENGE

To enlighten and activate kids through musical theater production and community engagement and to serve as a bridge to a better life for underserved families.



INNOVATION

Exposure to the arts improves a child's lifelong outcomes. Arts education increases the likelihood of graduating from high school, attending and finishing college, and makes students more likely to register to vote. DMAB's experiential education programs immerse poverty-level youth in learning experiences with high caliber artists, cultivating key artistic skills and developing confidence. In October 2010, DMAB was selected by the City of Jacksonville to be "in residence" and provide programming for underserved youth year-round at the J.S. Johnson Community Center in Jacksonville. Since then, they've served over 5,000 youth and adults in the Jacksonville area and have expanded their services to the E.B. Ford Center at Woodstock Park. They have fully transformed this location into a community art campus that is composed of the DMAB Community Art Center and The Movement House, which serves as the first dance studio in our community.

PARTNERS

- Bank of America
- City of Jacksonville Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department
- Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville
- Douglas Anderson School of the Arts
- FL Department of Cultural Affairs
- FL State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ)
- Florida Blue
- Kids Hope Alliance
- LaVilla School of the Arts
- National Endowment for the Arts
- Players by the Sea
- Sulzbacher Center
- University of North Florida (UNF)
- VyStar Credit Union



JaxCareConnect

DUVAL SAFETY NET COLLABORATIVE

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

OVERVIEW

JaxCareConnect is an innovative initiative created by members of the Duval Safety Net Collaborative, which include Agape Family Health, Community Health Outreach, Mission House, Muslim American Social Services, Sulzbacher, Volunteers in Medicine, and We Care Jacksonville, Inc. (WeCareJax). The Duval Safety Net Collaborative developed JaxCareConnect as an initiative to systemize healthcare access for uninsured residents of Duval County, Florida, which is a major challenge in Jacksonville. The initiative supports Duval County's uninsured adults living at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level and helps neighbors secure primary care medical homes through the best fit for their individual needs, qualifying patients and routing them to the right safety net clinic based on location, work status, and/or income requirements. Since launching, the JaxCareConnect team has processed over 2,000 referrals from the community, with 50% of those referrals currently receiving program support or have been successfully served, bringing the pilot nearly halfway to goal of 2,000 patients. WeCareJax serves as the project's comprehensive fiscal agent on behalf of the Collaborative.

COMMUNITY GOAL

Goal 8: Health and Wellness

CHALLENGE

To ensure every resident of Duval County has access to high-quality, comprehensive healthcare – regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.



JAXCARECONNECT

INNOVATION

The Duval Safety Net Collaborative nonprofits have worked together as referral partners over the last two decades. In recent years, the need has arisen to strengthen and formalize the partnership to include a universal eligibility and intake system, navigation of public healthcare options, and individual case management for neighbors in need of access to healthcare. Rather than duplicating efforts at each partner site, this project leverages shared resources for true collective impact. JaxCareConnect's cross-sector partnerships and collaborative approach ensure each partner excels in their area of expertise without duplication or competition of services, streamlining the healthcare journey for our neighbors in need.

PARTNERS

- Agape Family Health
- Baptist Health
- City of Jacksonville
- Community Health Outreach
- Jessie Ball duPont Fund
- Mission House
- Muslim American Social Services
- Riverside Hospital Foundation
- Sulzbacher
- The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida
- Volunteers in Medicine
- WeCareJax





No Kid Hungry Birth to Five

EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF DUVAL

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

OVERVIEW

The Early Learning Coalition of Duval (ELC of Duval) contracts with more than 500 School Readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program (VPK) childcare providers in Duval County. Sixty-five of those providers are in the urban core and they serve more than 2,000 children living in poverty. In March 2021, the ELC of Duval was one of only eight organizations in Florida to be awarded a No Kid Hungry grant from Share our Strength, a national nonprofit. The purpose of this initiative was to provide vulnerable children from birth to five immediate access to healthy, nutritious food, educate families about healthy eating, and create awareness of federally funded food programs, WIC and SNAP.

COMMUNITY GOALS

Goal 9: Food Security and Nutrition

Goal 8: Health and Wellness



CHALLENGE

To address childhood hunger in Duval and the increased demand for food services in response to COVID-19



INNOVATION

The No Kid Hungry Birth to Five Initiative demonstrated how organizations can successfully deliver resources to hard-to-reach families. Targeting low-income families with young children living in Jacksonville's food deserts, the ELC of Duval created cross-sector partnerships with private childcare providers, the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), the Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that served more than 1,000 of Jacksonville's youngest children and their families. To reduce barriers to food access during the pandemic, these services were delivered to children and families in the areas in which they lived so they did not have to leave their neighborhoods for assistance.

PARTNERS

- All About God's Children
- Bright Futures Learning Center
- Buchman Early Learning Academy
- Florida Department of Health (FDOH)
- For Your Child Only Child Development Center
- Guardian Catholic School
- Joshua Christian Academy
- Kids Hope Alliance
- Northside Community Involvement
- Praise Is What We Do Early Learning Center
- Punkin Place Child Development Center
- Share Our Strength
- St. Thomas Child Development Center
- The Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Florida
- The Gateway to Heaven Christian Church
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Unique Academy of Excellence
- Victorious Learning Center