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United Inner City Services Announces New Pre-K Education Location in Midtown Kansas City
First Expansion in 52-Year History to Serve Additional Audiences at Metro Center

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (July 31, 2019) – To counter the growing need for quality early childhood education in Kansas City and to improve the lives of local families, United Inner City Services (UICS) is proud to announce the organization’s expansion to a second location at the Metro Center facility at 3827 Troost.



“This opportunity to serve more families and young students is one that can change the narrative for a generation of lives,” said UICS CEO Deidre Anderson. “In a city where only 34% of four-year-olds are enrolled in a quality pre-K program, UICS will meet a need that transcends economics and social structure.”

The site, formally named “UICS Metro Child and Family Development Center”, is located at one of the busiest public transit locations in the Kansas City metropolitan area (39th and Troost). This multi-use transit center/pre-K structure addresses transportation and child care as core tenets to a family’s success. In partnership with the facility owner, the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA), Metro Center will open its doors in mid-August for the upcoming 2019-20 school year, subject to licensing approvals.

Metro Center will provide education to 124 students at capacity, ranging in ages from six weeks to five years old. Within a two-mile radius of its location, there are 3,900 children under the age of five. Its curriculum will mirror the successes at UICS’ flagship facility, St. Mark Child and Family Development Center (St. Mark Center), long recognized as an industry leader in early childhood education, family outreach, and providing an arts-based learning experience that promotes social and emotional development. UICS’ arts curriculum stimulates healthy brain development, inspires creativity, and encourages collaboration. Credentialed early childhood education teachers will lead each of the eight classrooms, along with staffing a family advocate to address wrap-around needs and a Student Support Specialist focusing on trauma-informed care.

“UICS continues the Metro Center vision that was put in place during my time as Mayor, of serving Kansas City’s needs by addressing factors that often prevent families from reaching their full potential,” said Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II. “This facility was designed to provide hope and tangible services to families of all walks of life. UICS’ work at St. Mark Center has been a beacon of light for decades, and I am confident that their focus in the Midtown community will achieve similar successful results.”

Building Bridges, Inspiring Minds, Impacting Futures

United Inner City Services® (UICS) is a multi-service agency focusing on early childhood education and family development. Founded in 1967 and headquartered in Kansas City, MO’s 12th Street Corridor, UICS is home of St. Mark Child and Family Development Center and Metro Child and Family Development Center, and recognized as one of the area’s leading early childhood centers of learning. Serving more than 150 students annually along with their families, UICS provides an arts-infused curriculum that focuses on positive socio-emotional development along with preparation for a successful entry into the elementary education experience. The organization’s mission is “building bridges, inspiring minds, and impacting futures,” and maintains healthy partnerships with many regional organizations for the betterment of our community. For more information, visit uicskc.org or find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and/or [Instagram](#).