



2024-2025

Annual Report

1416 NEBRASKA AVE.
TOLEDO, OHIO 43607
PH 419-241-6465
FAX 419-720-6995
thepaduacenter@gmail.com



Padua Center Board Members 2024-2025

Officers:

Dennis Jarrett, St. Martin de Porres, St. John High School—**President**
 Msgr. Michael Billian, St. Joseph Sylvania, Ohio - **Vice-President**
 Carty Finkbeiner, Community Activist— **Treasurer**
 Delise Simmons, Realtor - **Secretary**

Directors:

Mike Badik, Historic South Initiative, Chair of Personnel Committee
 Beverly Moore, St. Martin de Porres, Chair of Building Committee
 Kattie Bond Chair of Programming Committee
 Theresa M. Gabriel, Community Activist
 Art Jones, Community Activities/ St. Martin de Porres Parish
 Harvey Savage, Martin Luther King Kitchen for the Poor
 Chester Trail, Community Member
 Layan Ridi, Youth Member, Maumee Valley Country-Day School

Staff

Sister Virginia Welsh
Executive Director

Mrs. Teresa Allen
Director of NIA After
School Tutoring

Anita Prielipp
“Becoming Young Ladies”
Director

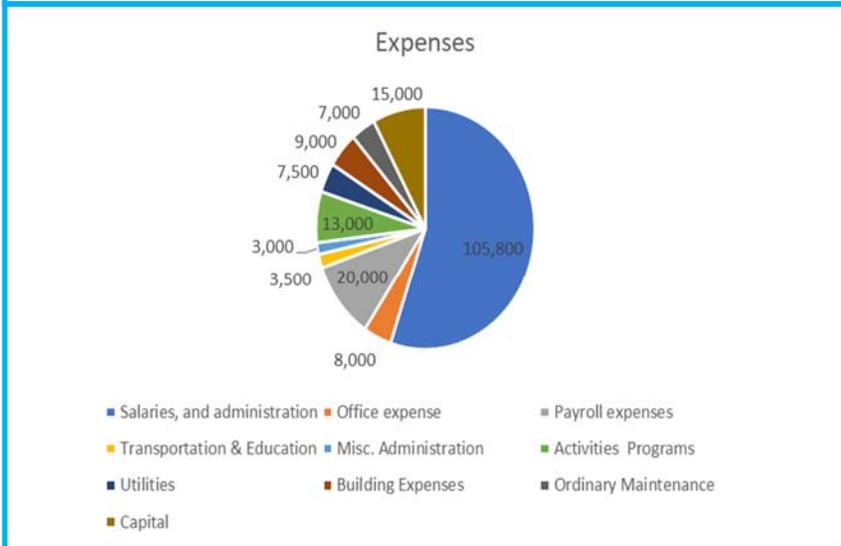
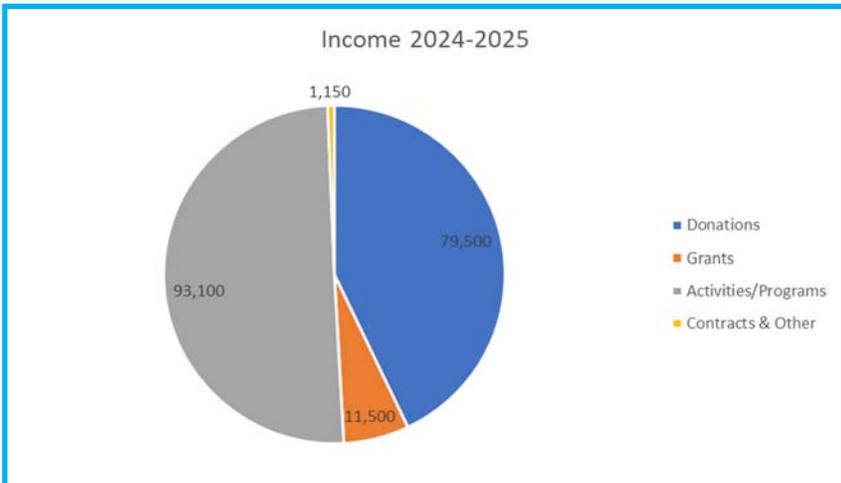
Mrs. Kim McFann
Administrative Assistant

Crystal Henderson
Environmental Services

Kasey Rupp-Scott
Gardner

Summer Camp Director
Isabel Abu-Absi

FINANCIAL REPORT 2024-2025



Income	
Donations	79,431
Grants	11,500
Activities/Programs	93,108
Contracted and other income	1143
Total	185,182

Expenses	
Salaries, and administration	77232
Office expense	4362
Payroll expenses	6295
Transportation & Education	2866
Misc. Administration	660
Activities Programs	12100
Utilities	5717
Building Expenses	9400
Ordinary Maintenance	992
Capital	6664
Total	135,218



Net Income 49,964

Gratitude to Msgr. Michael Billian

At the end of August 2025 Msgr. Michael Billian completed four terms on the Padua Center Board. This ends a long time commitment to the Padua Center and to the growth of programming and development.

After St. Anthony Parish closed in 2005, Msgr. Billian asked Sr. Ginny to begin The Padua Center. Actually it was Msgr. Billian who named the Center—The Padua Center- after St. Anthony of Padua Parish. The Center was begun on October 6, 2006. In January 2007 Msgr. Billian presided over the Dedication of the Center.



The Padua Center was transferred to St. Martin de Porres Parish in July 2008 and remained a ministry of the parish until 2018 when it was separately incorporated.

Through out the years Msgr. Billian has been a supporter of The Padua Center. He assisted as The Padua Center filed for its own 501(c)3 Non-Profit organization. He always provided games, toys and prizes for the children's games at the Chicken Fest. He also was more than generous with donating items for the "Peaces" of Art.

In 2018, when we thought that The Padua Center was going to be razed, Msgr. Billian helped the board navigate the way through the Diocesan interests and the concerns of The Padua Center. The Padua Center remained and continues to flourish.

In 2019 Msgr. Billian was the keynote speaker for our "Peaces" of Art Celebration. Awards and recognitions are numerous for Msgr. Billian. He served on the American Red Cross Board of Directors, the Monsignor Jerome E. Schmit Youth Foundation, and The Toledo Club.

He also served as Pastor and President of Central Catholic High School. During that time he was involved in the Cherry Bancroft Summit Corridors Coalition and in an expansion of the facilities at Central Catholic High School.



He served as Chancellor of The Diocese of Toledo, Moderator of the Curia and Episcopal Vicar for Administration. He also served as Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Corpus Christi and now St. Joseph Parish in Sylvania, Ohio.

Msgr. Billian served as Vice-President of the Padua Center Board from the time it was designated as a 501(c)3 Nonprofit organization in 2018 until now. As a Board Member he was always insightful, clear in planning and expedient in getting decisions made. Much of the growth and development of The Padua Center is credited to Msgr. Billian.

He will be greatly missed on The Padua Center Board, yet we are assured that he will continue to support the growth and development of The Padua Center.

Pictured here is Msgr. Billian presiding at the Dedication of The Padua Center on Feb. 8, 2007. From the beginning Msgr. Billian has been involved in the development of The Padua Center.



1416 Nebraska Ave.
Toledo, Ohio 43607
Phone: 419-241-6465
Fax: 419-720-6995
thepaduacenter@gmail.com

Mission Statement

The Padua Center
is a Christian community-based presence
reaching out by empowering people at
all stages of life
to achieve their maximum potential
through education, support,
and community involvement.

Your contributions on **Giving Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025**, will be a boost to our new playground initiative.

Padua Activities 2024-2025

Nia After School Tutoring

Under the direction of Mrs. Teresa Allen (Ms. TT) during the school year 2024-2025 The Padua Center helped ___ children. Most of those children regularly came four days a week. The students had help with homework, participated in various activities, heard inspiring speakers and had some play time.

“Becoming Young Ladies”

Under the direction of Anita Preilipp girls in the 4 to 6th grades participate in a special activity that helps them adjust to the challenges of growing up. “Becoming Young Ladies” meets during the regular Nia tutoring time and hence more young ladies can participate.

Padua Summer Party

A beautiful morning gave way to a rainy afternoon which shut down our 2025 summer picnic. In the summer of 2024 it was Way too HOT! Our 2025 party was Way too WET. Perhaps 2026 will be just right!



Bridgette and Kyina working on an art project for the “Peaces” of Art fundraiser.

Kwanzaa Park Neighbors

On the first Thursday of each month the Kwanzaa Park Neighbors meet. This meeting is also the Neighborhood Block Watch and features a report from the Police as well as a guest speaker. Often members of the City Council attend the meetings and give important information to the participants. The speakers offer insights, news, and entertainment! Not a meeting to be missed!

“Peaces” of Art

Our signature fundraiser is “Peaces” of Art which features art work created by the Padua students, an auction of that art work and a chance for the Padua students to proudly display their creations.



Guests were enjoying the salad station at the recent “Peaces” of Art Program.



MORE CHANGES FOR THE PADUA CENTER DURING ST. ANTHONY RENOVATION

It was in the Spring of 2018 that bricks began to fall from St. Anthony Church. The Diocese of Toledo decided that they would raze the church because there was no plan to re-activate a Catholic Parish in the church. In the discussion to raze the Church it was also decided to raze The Padua Center because of the difficulty of keeping The Padua Center safe during the demolishing of the Church.

Sr. Virginia Welsh, Executive Director, Dennis Jarrett, President of the Board and several other Board Members, including Former Mayor Carty Finkbeiner met several times with Bishop Thomas and the Company hired for the demolition to seek an alternate solution. Eventually it was decided that the church could be razed and the Padua Center would remain, although all programming had to be held in an alternate location during the demolition. Summer Camp 2018 was held at St. Martin de Porres Parish.

When the decision was reached to not raze the church but to give St. Anthony Church to the Landbank for another use all the property owned by the Diocese of Toledo, including the Padua Center building, parking lot and Ujima Park and Garden were given to the Landbank who in turn gave to The Padua Center (now its own 501(c)3 Corporation) the Padua Center building, half of the parking lot and the Ujima Park and Garden. The Landbank retained the Church and the playground area.

With the renovation of St. Anthony Church the property the playground is on has returned to The Landbank and will be used as part of the renovation project. Can you help to re-build the playground?

Relocating our Playable Fitness Ground

I will be glad to help with the re-located and new playground for The Padua Center.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Swinging to new heights | _____ \$1,000 |
| Just monkeying around | _____ \$500 |
| Sliding into home | _____ \$250 |
| Just for the Fun of it | _____ \$100 |
| General Support for The Padua Center | _____ |
| Total enclosed | _____ |



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ email _____

We are dreaming of a new playground



Christian Johnson was one of the first children to enjoy our new slide when it was installed by Duane Buck and John Hartigan.

Volunteers from St. John XXIII parish have removed the slide and will hopefully be able to re-install it in the new playground area.

The Landbank has some property nearby that they will deed to The Padua Center for a new playground, but new equipment will need to be purchased. Playground equipment is very costly.

Also, the chicken coop is located on property that the Landbank owns. Our chickens have gone to Tiffin, Ohio—The Franciscan Earth Literacy Center.

Our present Chicken Coop, built by adjudicated youth, has a unique design and lots of room for the children to visit their feathered friends. At the writing of this report it is still undecided about building a new coop.

With this Annual report we are initiating a new fundraiser for a new playground for The Padua Center. We are still investigating the total cost for a new playground. Volunteers are in the process of removing the slide with the hope that it can be re-installed in the new playground. The other pieces of the playground will not be able to be removed.

Once again The Padua Center counts on the generosity of our donors to help us meet the next challenge that faces us. Grants and other funding sources will be investigated.

It is hoped that when the St. Anthony Community Center is complete the Padua Center can utilize the restrooms for the children. It is also anticipated that

some of the Padua Center Programs can be held at the New Community Center.



Holding the chickens is always at the center of the children's time in the playground.



Mission Statement

The Padua Center, is a Christian community-based presence reaching out by empowering people at all stages of life to achieve their maximum potential through education, support, and community involvement.

The Padua Center was founded on Oct. 6, 2006. We are preparing to celebrate 20 years of service and community involvement and thousands of children who have been part of this dynamic center.

Please return to: The Padua Center, 1416 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43607
For information on The Padua Center visit www.paduacenter.org