



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

February 21, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support for St. Vincent Family Services

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of YMCA of Central Ohio, I am pleased to express our full support for St. Vincent Family Services (SVFS) for their proposal to expand social-emotional learning programs aimed at enhancing early childhood kindergarten readiness.

As the largest provider of child care in Central Ohio and statewide, the YMCA understands the critical need for social-emotional programming and supportive services for children and families. SVFS has long been a trusted leader in delivering evidence-based social-emotional learning services, with a specialized focus on trauma-informed care. For over 15 years, their Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation program has supported children ages 0-6 years across Franklin County, including those in Early Learning Centers and Head Start programs. Currently, SVFS provides consultation services to 35 Early Learning programs including several of our YMCA programs. Their trauma-informed approach to social-emotional skill development emphasizes safety, connection, and problem-solving, ensuring that services are rooted in high-quality, evidence-based models.

SVFS is highly experienced in collaborating with community partners to deliver effective social-emotional programming, particularly to early childhood and at-risk populations, all with the goal of supporting kindergarten readiness. Their longstanding partnership with our YMCA programs, which spans over 15 years, has been a testament to their commitment to providing prevention and early intervention services for children and youth in need of social-emotional and behavioral health support.

We greatly appreciate SVFS's recognition of the growing need for social-emotional learning and skill-building for our youngest community members. We wholeheartedly support their efforts to expand their capacity and serve even more children and families who will benefit from these essential services.

Sincerely,

Becky Ciminillo
Senior Vice President of Youth Development
YMCA of Central Ohio