

“Sunnyside is a unique and special childcare program. The teachers are wonderful and create a very calm, loving, and intentional learning environment for all the children.”

**Dear Sunnyside Friends,**

When we look back at Sunnyside’s year, we are heartened by how vibrant the institution is in the midst of our fourth decade! So much of our success comes from the longstanding friendships of people like you. We want to share with you some highlights and ask again for your support.

First off, we’ve been so amazingly recognized this past year. Sunnyside is one of ten exemplary programs in the country chosen by the NAEYC Engaging Diverse Families Project. Sunnyside was chosen because our program has shown strong evidence of effectively engaging the diverse families it serves. Over the next months, Sunnyside will be featured in the NAEYC Journal: Young Children and in training materials to help other programs effectively engage families.

Next, Commissioner of Early Education and Care for the State of Massachusetts, Dr. Sherry Killins, visited Sunnyside; she was interested in seeing our program in action after the NAEYC award was given. She met with children, staff, members of the board and Dr. Susan Etheredge as we highlighted our successes and challenges in providing a high-quality early education program.

We’ve had incredible fundraisers and community events, raising \$12,000 and we were able to give more than \$17,000 away in direct financial aid and subsidy matches. Our community included children of 49% minority status and 53% Smith affiliation.

We ventured on field trips and hosted amazing guests including animals from the zoo and Mister G singing with us. We had some former Sunnyside students come to volunteer with us. We’ve learned all the things toddlers and preschoolers learn, from getting outerwear on and washing hands to riding bikes, drawing, writing some letters, and exploring all sorts of things both inside and outside. And two of our teachers—Betsy and Wolfsong—earned their Bachelor’s degrees.

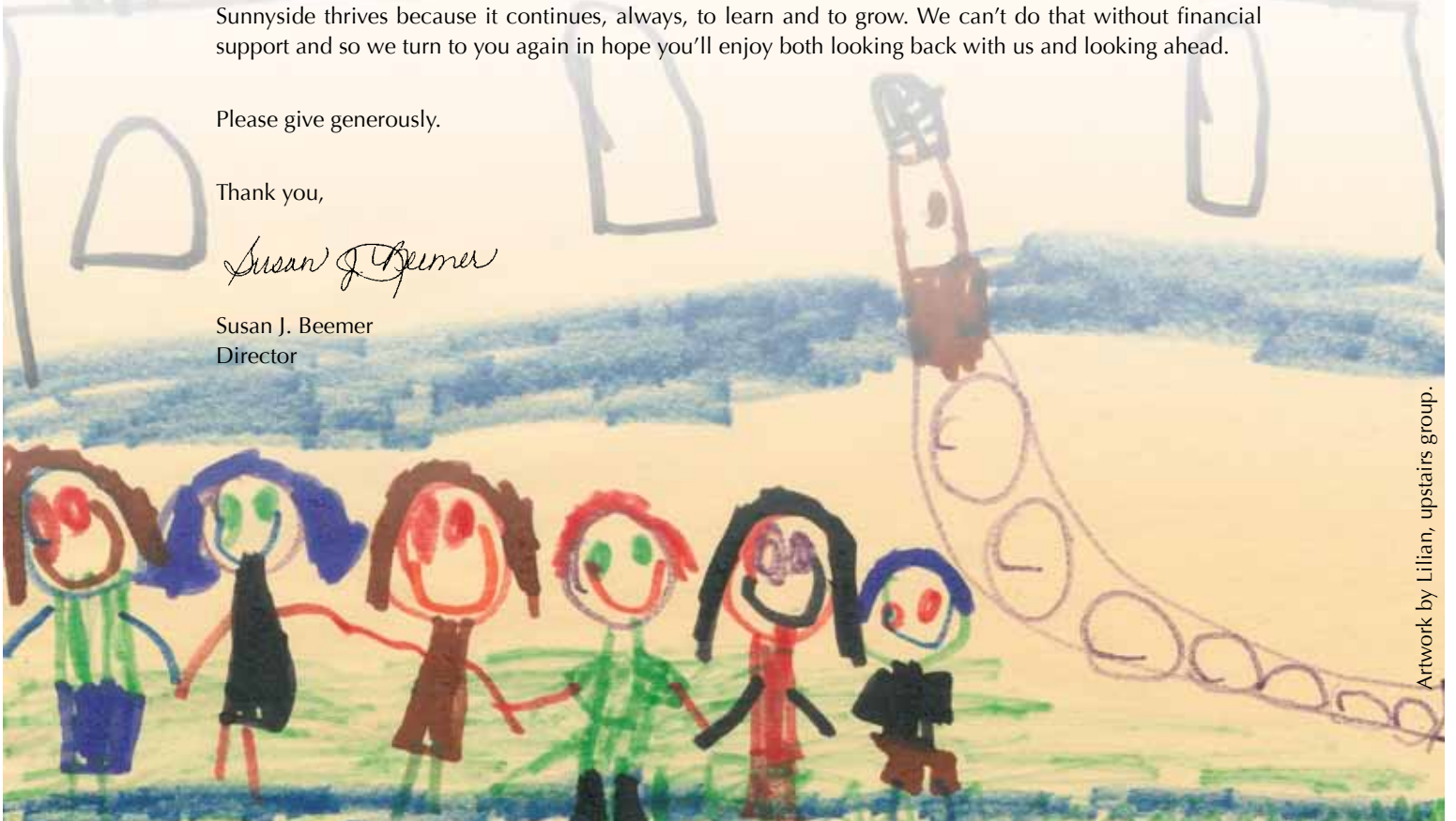
Sunnyside thrives because it continues, always, to learn and to grow. We can’t do that without financial support and so we turn to you again in hope you’ll enjoy both looking back with us and looking ahead.

Please give generously.

Thank you,



Susan J. Beemer  
Director



Artwork by Lilian, upstairs group.