

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Family Scholar House and Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative
to Bring a Fresh Start for Head Start Families in Old Louisville and Beyond**

CEOs Cathe Dykstra and Jason Adkins announce partnership for a Head Start facility

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (March 4, 2026) -

Family Scholar House (FSH), a Louisville-based nonprofit with five campuses of affordable housing for student parents, is pleased to announce Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) as the new partner to provide early childhood education for FSH's on-site early childhood education center.

With the announcement that the University of Louisville is concluding its management of the Early Learning Campus program on June 30, 2026, FSH had the opportunity to recruit OVEC to provide Head Start/Early Head Start programming for FSH children and other low-income children in our Louisville community. OVEC intends for new services to begin at this location in August.

The three-story facility at FSH's Louisville Scholar House campus will provide early childhood education services for up to 118 children, ages six weeks to five years old. With an anticipated opening of August 2026, this new location will enroll families who qualify for Head Start/Early Head Start services. Criteria for the program include family income below the poverty level, disability diagnosis, foster care placement, homelessness, and other needs.

"We are deeply grateful to the University of Louisville for almost 18 years of partnership," said Cathe Dykstra, CEO, Family Scholar House. "This exciting new partnership with OVEC supports our goal of ensuring that our parents have affordable, accessible childcare for their children in an environment in which they can get a great start - a Head Start - on their own educational path."

"We are honored to join Family Scholar House in its efforts to empower families," said Jason Adkins. "The facility has a tradition of high-quality programming and remains one of the best

designed and maintained early childhood campuses in the region. Our goal is to sustain quality, while targeting services to families most in need.”

“This campus has long been the model for what it looks like to learn through play,” says Dr. Erika Nygard, OVEC Head Start Director. “Not every child has access to paint and paper and clay. We’re honored to continue this work in the Old Louisville community, for the children and families who need it most.”

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About Family Scholar House:

Family Scholar House is committed to ending the cycle of poverty and transforming our community by empowering families and youth to succeed in education and achieve life-long self-sufficiency. While FSH boasts a 48-state footprint for support service and workforce development initiatives, in Louisville, FSH provides low-income student parents and their children with five campuses of affordable housing and a comprehensive continuum of care tailored to the needs of families and their goals for the future. Locally, FSH participants have earned 949 degrees, with most entering healthcare careers on a path to self-sufficiency. Our community benefits when families succeed in the classroom, the workplace, and life.

About Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC):

The Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) is a regional consortium in Kentucky dedicated to serving school districts by providing a range of support services, professional development, and innovative educational programs. OVEC makes educators’ work more fulfilling and sustainable through intentional opportunities, resources, and relationships.

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