



## MID-YEAR UPDATE – FISCAL 2023

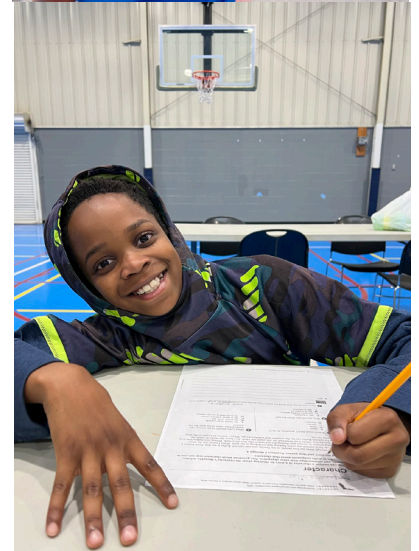
Where does the time go? We cannot believe we launched Newtown Connection in the middle of a pandemic, and now we are halfway through our third year in operation.

Our philanthropic venture was founded upon three key pillars, **sports, health, and education**. We initially began with baseball but over the past year we have become more focused on the education and wellness side of our program. As with most ventures of this kind, we measure outcomes via key statistics where we can quantify our progress and more importantly the progress of the children we serve. While numbers are important, the joy it brings to see these children develop their athletic prowess, make strides in educational improvement, all coupled with courtesy and manners is truly fulfilling. If we could measure 'Smiles' then those numbers would certainly rank the highest!

Exiting the pandemic has allowed us the opportunity to grow the number of children we serve through our partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota and DeSoto Counties (BGCSDC). At our inception we had 60 children participating in our program, by this summer we will have up to 140 children.

While this growth is a source of pride, it is not our core focus. Our focus is to provide a quality program that focuses on the wellbeing of the entire individual and thus provides enrichment opportunities beyond just physical and mental wellbeing. In addition to sports and health education, we have partnered with local banks to provide financial literacy classes to all participants. We also provide an Academic Enrichment Program to help all participants with their homework and studies and in the past year have provided 70 tech readers to the children. This holistic approach of our program on the overall wellbeing of the children allows us to continue to adapt and provide enrichment focused on health, academic success, mental health, and financial literacy.

We are pleased to inform you that instead of our usual six-week sports program we provide during the summer holidays, this year we are providing a **'Summer of Learning'** program focusing on all three pillars of our foundation.



Thanks to the support from many of you we will be providing the following program to 140 children throughout June / July:

## BIKE RODEO

We have partnered with local cycling professionals who have developed a program that is both educational and physical. During the event every child will learn:

- The importance of a fitted bike helmet
- Bike fitting & repairs
- Basic bike handling skills
- Rules of the road
- Decision making with complexity
- Learning while playing
- Upon graduation EVERY child will receive a new bike and a lock

## LITTLE MEDICAL SCHOOL

We have partnered with the Little Medical School who will teach the children about the body through the eyes of a doctor, nurse, and veterinarian:

- **Week 1:** All About the Heart
- **Week 2:** First Aid
- **Week 3:** All About Bones
- **Week 4:** Patient Assessments
- **Week 5:** Canine Anatomy
- **Week 6:** Food Safety & Medicating Animals

During the six-week program the children will wear lab coats and will each have their own stethoscope and first-aid kit. Upon graduation they will all receive a framed certificate of completion. Our hope is that this program will inspire the children to work hard at school so that they can eventually go to college and enter a career in medicine.

## BASKETBALL

We have partnered with the Gulf Coast Lions who will teach the children the sport of basketball. This six-week program will provide a fast-paced, inclusive basketball experience, and pairs it with adult mentors who promote positivity, and who find every opportunity to create teachable moments.

- Creation of an inclusive, accessible, positive, and teamwork-focused basketball culture
- The children will participate in at least 60 minutes of fun, physical activity through the fast-paced, inclusive, and successful template established by the Gulf Coast Lions
- All children will increase their basketball skills on the court while Coach-Mentors instill positive off-court habits and character traits related to sports, health, and education
- Support and encourage every child with the tools, resources, and enrichment to become the next leaders of their communities

We hope you are as encouraged with the progress we are making, and are as excited as we are about our **'Summer of Learning'** program.

Thank you once again for your continued interest and on-going support that will make a lasting impact on the lives of these wonderful children.

**Vince & Ian**

Co-Founders, Newtown Connection



**NEWTOWN**  
**CONNECTION**

[newtownconnection.com](http://newtownconnection.com)

