



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~ October 10, 2023

**Beech Acres Parenting Center and Anderson Park District
Past, Present & Future Community Partners**

Beech Acres Parenting Center today announced the sale of its 17-acre campus at 6881 Beechmont Avenue in Anderson Township to the Anderson Park District. The property is adjacent to Beech Acres Park, owned by the Anderson Park District.

The community has been the benefactor of the long-standing relationship between the Anderson Park District and Beech Acres Parenting Center.

"We are thrilled that our property will continue to serve the overall wellness of the Anderson Township community for many more decades to come, building on the legacy of memories made on this campus," said Laura Mitchell, president and CEO of Beech Acres Parenting Center. "From our new centralized location in the urban core, we are now helping even more children and families from throughout the region. We are still very active in Anderson Township, however, and this site will always be special for us."

THE EVOLUTION OF BEECH ACRES PARENTING CENTER AND ANDERSON PARK DISTRICT

- 1949** Beech Acres Parenting Center acquires 60 acres on Beechmont Avenue for the purpose of caring for Greater Cincinnati's children. Founded in 1849 as an orphanage, it closed residential care in the 1980s in favor of community-based services, and today is the nation's only full-service parenting center.
- 1970s** Beech Acres Parenting Center allows residents to enjoy much of their land as community recreation space.
- 1990** Anderson Park District begins renting the Beech Acres Geiger Center gym (later renamed RecPlex) for sports leagues, summer camps, and community events.
- 1997** Beech Acres Parenting Center sells 25 acres on Salem Road to the Anderson Park District which is developed as Beech Acres Park.

- 2004** The Anderson Park District leases the entire Geiger Center building and additional support facilities from Beech Acres Parenting Center. Renamed the RecPlex, the facility becomes the home of the park district Recreation Department; youth and adult leagues, programs, and events expand significantly.
- 2009** The Anderson Park District enters into an arrangement with Beech Acres for use of some of their buildings and their campus grounds, in exchange for campus mowing and snow removal services.
- 2018** Beech Acres Parenting Center sells the RecPlex and 6 acres to Anderson Township Government. The Anderson Park District continues to lease the RecPlex.
- 2022** Beech Acres Parenting Center moves its headquarters to its current centralized location in the urban core to reach more people in the region, even while continuing to serve Anderson Township. The Anderson Park District continues mowing services in exchange for continued use of the campus buildings and grounds.
- 2023** **Beech Acres Parenting Center sells the remaining 17 acres of the campus to the Anderson Park District.**

“We are grateful to Beech Acres Parenting Center for being a great community partner all these years,” said Anderson Park District Executive Director, Ken Kushner. “The property is essential for our immediate, intermediate, and long-term ability to grow with the recreational needs of the community. Immediately, we will continue to operate and maintain district-wide parks, facilities, and events out of the campus buildings and grounds, as we have since 2009. We have a few items to address then we will invite the public to enjoy their newest park area.” To learn more about the Anderson Park District, visit: AndersonParks.com

Beech Acres Parenting Center moved its headquarters in October 2022 to the urban core from Anderson Township, which had been its home for over 70 years. Their new home is 615 Elsinore Place Suite 500 Cincinnati, OH 45202, centrally located near both Eden Park and the Central Business District. In returning to Cincinnati’s urban core, Beech Acres Parenting Center is able to meet parents, families and children where they are - in homes, schools, pediatric offices and everywhere in the community. It also moves closer to its historical foundations. Established as the German General Protestant Orphan Home in 1849, the agency was first located on Burnet Avenue in Mt. Auburn. After 100 years in that location, the Home moved in 1949 to property in Anderson Township. Under the shade of the many beech trees on the site, it came to be known as Beech Acres, and later, Beech Acres Parenting Center. Next year, Beech Acres will celebrate its 175th anniversary of serving greater Cincinnati children and strengthening families. To learn more about Beech Acres Parenting Center, visit: BeechAcres.org.

Both entities are committed to their partnership legacy as Beech Acres Parenting Center will continue to provide programs and services to families in the Anderson area.