

Crosby-Garfield Building Damage



Learning Together Recovery Update Week Five

Dear Friends,

Today marks five weeks and one day since we lost access to our main campus and classrooms at the Crosby-Garfield Building on Lenoir Street. A couple weeks ago, we shared with you the impressive history of that building and today we want to share some of our own history.

In 2025, Learning Together will celebrate 50 years since we officially incorporated. During all that time, we have continuously served the children and families in our community that have been historically excluded and disadvantaged by the education system, and have worked to fill a void that is still present in early childhood education today.

Before “diversity” was acknowledged, much less cultivated or celebrated, racial segregation was the enforced norm across the south, and disability rights were unheard of. And yet, when founding Learning Together in 1969, Julia Williams was guided by her experience as an international missionary and local schoolteacher to provide education to those in need, specifically where they lived and raised their families. Julia’s team of teachers and administrators knew that a safe educational setting is realized through ease-of-access to those who need it, community engagement, a sound physical structure, and commitment to shared values.

The loss of our main campus and classrooms at the Crosby-Garfield building is having an immediate and significant impact. If you are in a position to help, please consider making a financial donation or donating items from our wish lists. Every little bit helps right now.

In the past 53 years, Learning Together has moved from: the Fairmont United Methodist Church (1969), to Forest Hills Baptist Church (1975), to the Broughton Building on the Dorothea Dix Hospital campus (1981), to its home of the last 30+ years at the historic Crosby-Garfield Building on East Lenoir Street (1988). Each Raleigh location of Learning Together is another chapter of history shaped by a building, it’s location and the needs of the community surrounding it.

Learning Together will soon add another home to that list: Edenton Street United Methodist Church. Ours is a history shaped by changing financial stresses on nonprofit educational institutions, evolving socio-economic demands on neighborhoods, and shifting racial and cultural priorities. **The constant throughout all changes and challenges is our commitment to help pre-school children and families achieve their healthiest and best lives.**

With gratitude,

Learning Together