



"This is a great partnership for the families in the Olathe community! At the Center of Grace we nurture children, strengthen families and build community. The families we collectively and individually serve will benefit significantly from the up-to-date and quality facilities this campaign will provide. I love that the children and youth can continue to work on their academics and develop their leadership skills through Boys & Girls Clubs, because they will have the opportunity to dream bigger and achieve their full potential. The Center of Grace is a one-stop shop, where the families who are enrolled in the Club can also receive help with other services. They know this is a safe place where they are respected and assisted in any way possible, and that makes all the difference."

-Pastor Sylvia Romero, Center of Grace, Executive Director



A Campaign for *Growing with Grace*

Center of Grace (the Center) began in 1999 as the Mission Outreach campus of Grace United Methodist Church. Its vision has always been to collaborate with partners to serve its most vulnerable neighbors.

In 2016, Center of Grace became an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit, although it remains part of the Grace United Methodist Church family. The Church donated the Center's facility and six acres to Center of Grace for the purpose of serving this community. Nearly 20 years since its founding, the Center has become all that was envisioned and more.

A campaign for *Growing with Grace* is just the beginning of an exciting new chapter in the life of the organization, its partners, and the entire community. By expanding and renovating its existing, debt-free facility, the Center will be able to add designated classrooms to serve students from pre-K to high school, adequate restroom facilities, storage, and multi-purpose space to serve even more individuals and families.

In 2018, Center of Grace:

- ◆ Served 27,443 free meals
- ◆ Provided clothing, shoes and household goods to 6,793 people
- ◆ Supplied 825 needy students in Olathe with a new pair of shoes and socks
- ◆ Helped 118 families with rent/utilities
- ◆ Offered 287 free health screenings
- ◆ Provided 32 JCCC dental cleanings
- ◆ Supplied 290 people with assistive medical equipment
- ◆ Enrolled 225 students (K-12) in Boys & Girls Club; 183 of these students received back-to-school supplies
- ◆ Enrolled 485 adult immigrants in the JCCC ELL program
- ◆ Enrolled 37 children of adult immigrants in the ELL Preschool