



# THE CAPITAL COMPASS



## ELC Groundbreaking Set for Sept. 9

A date has been set for our Early Learning Center groundbreaking ceremony! On Monday, Sept. 9, at 10 a.m. we'll welcome the community and many supporters to this kickoff representing the beginning of our Stronger Together Capital Campaign's public phase.

We're expecting a large crowd and a lot of excitement for this event. Along with members of the public, we're inviting elected officials, other regional leaders, and media representatives. Some of our Child Development Center students will also be there in their little hard hats to turn the first shovels of dirt for their new facility that will be built right behind our Downtown Branch!

Phase I ELC completion is expected in fall 2025, which will pave the way for our Phase II Downtown Branch rebuild and East Branch updates.

Our strong vision will result in stronger partnerships, stronger programming, and a stronger community.

On our website's homepage you'll notice a new top tab labeled "Capital Campaign," where a wealth of information is now housed. Be sure to check the website regularly for construction and campaign updates, and we'll also continue to keep you posted via the Capital Compass newsletter, which we'll continue to make available on our website and near the front desk at the Downtown Branch.

We look forward to sharing more news with you soon!

Best regards,

*Stephanie Parsons*

### In this issue:

**Letter from the  
CEO**

**Supporter  
Spotlight**

**ELC Fast Facts**

**Notes**



## Supporter Spotlight: The Prestons

Preston family members not only have been transformed by the Findlay Family YMCA, but they've also helped the nonprofit grow into the premier health, wellness, and spiritual hub that it is today.

With the organization poised to physically and programmatically expand again, JJ Preston is serving key roles as a member of the Stronger Together capital campaign committee, the Y Board of Directors, and the Y itself while ensuring his two daughters grow up experiencing its many benefits.

JJ's Y volunteer work furthers a family leadership legacy launched by his mother, Debbie Preston, who served on the board as president and vice president, including during the previous capital campaign that funded the 2001 Downtown Branch's \$7.1 million renovation and expansion.

"My hope is that the Y continues to be a vital part of our community, for everyone to gather and appreciate each other. It gives the different generations a place to be able to do things together and it makes it fun to be healthy," said Debbie. "I hope we can continue to do those things in a brighter, bigger environment for everyone."

**"You want to make it that community space for everyone to experience the Y and to be a part of it," said JJ.**

The point, he explained, is "to mix Christian principles, community, faith, athletics, and family through many different programs and paths. The more variety you have, the more you create opportunities for kids to find their success and their passion."

Honoring an organization's heritage is also important. "The more than you can remember how you got there, the easier it is to progress toward the future," JJ pointed out



### Of Note:

- We're building capital campaign content on our website, which will include regular construction and campaign updates.
- The Downtown Branch and Child Development Center will remain open while ELC construction takes place.
- Traffic on East Lincoln Street may be impacted at times to accommodate construction equipment and materials moving to and from the site.
- A digital copy of this newsletter along with general YMCA news and updates can be found on our website at [findlayymca.org/news](http://findlayymca.org/news)

## ELC Fast Facts

- The facility is expected to open by early fall 2025
- As many as 320 children will be served.
- Many amazing individuals, businesses, and organizations have given to help us build our ELC and to complete Phase II. We'll be publicly thanking them in the near future. We're still asking for donations for Phase I and particularly for Phase II.

