Through the Years...

1983 – Development Centers, Inc. formed as a merger between Children’s Orthogenic Center and Phoenix Place with just 5 programs - Day Treatment for Adults and Children, Children’s and Adult Outpatient Services, and a Detroit school-based program.

The Boards of Children’s Orthogenic Center and Phoenix Place also merged and became one committed board unified on behalf of Development Centers, Inc. Upon incorporation, with a budget of $700,000 and 19 staff we served approximately 500 consumers. We were located at Fenkell and Southfield in a cluster of small buildings.

1984- Added Adult Outpatient programming for northwest Detroit consumers

1985 – Added programming specific to young children and families with the development of what is now our Early Childhood and Family Services Division. We also added our Assertive Community Treatment Program at the Highland Park Outpatient location. 1985 also marks the year we started fundraising with road rallies and raffle tickets. Over the years, we have hosted many different events and are always grateful for the support that we receive.

1988 – We added Case management Services for Children and Adults to help ensure ready access to community-based resources outside of Development Centers.

1989- We moved to our location on West McNichols, assuming we were as large as we would ever be and wouldn’t need any more space.

1991 – We received our very first accreditation from CARF. We will soon be working on our 9th consecutive accreditation, showcasing our commitment to high quality programming.

1993- We added Early On services to help detect developmental delays in young children 0-3 years of age.

1994- We added Employment Programming for unemployed adults with what is now our PATH Program (Partnership, Accountability, Training and Hope). We hosted our first auction dinner fundraiser.

2000 – We added housing programs to help adults and families gain long-term, safe and suitable housing. We also began a Consumer Advisory Board to assist with programming and planning.

2002 - We were one of the founding members of the newly formed BHPI (Behavioral Health Professionals, Inc.) and became a provider in the CareLink Network.

2003- Through support from the Skillman Foundation, we began providing prevention services to very young children, aimed at helping all children get a jump start on a healthy and successful future. Our BrightStars Program now serves over 500 children and families per year.

2004- We expanded our space and moved into two buildings on Telegraph Road for Administration, Access, Children and Families, and Early Childhood Services. We also renovated the West McNichols offices for the Adult Services Division and the PATH Programs.
2005 – We welcomed Wraparound Programming to provide family preservation services to help youth stay at home with their families. We also formed a partnership with Starr Vista to provide programming for youth in the juvenile justice system. We hosted an Open House in all three main buildings and honored key stakeholders at the time.

2006 – Our newly formed Clubhouse Program began – where adult consumers participate in a work ordered day to help them stay connected and productive. We also added Peer Support Programming to provide additional hope to our consumers and a role model that they can relate to. We dedicated our Board Room in honor of Allan Tobes and all his contributions to Development Centers.

2007 – We began serving 5,000 consumers annually!

2008 – The Fisher Foundation joined our mission to help provide prevention services to young children and families in northwest Detroit, with a specific focus on the Brightmoor neighborhood and also to support quality childcare for this community. Development Centers formed our own volunteer team to help support the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life. Each year, co-workers, friends and family come together to help battle cancer! We began using an Electronic Health Record System.

2009 – We initiated a new focus on integrated health by piloting different delivery systems that combine both mental and physical health services. We also added our Full Circle Program, providing services to children and adults with developmental disabilities.

2010 - We added Parent Support Programming through the Family Alliance for Change Program where parents can receive advocacy and training services from someone who has shared similar experiences.

2011 – Youth Advocates joined our growing staff.

2012 – With a federal grant, Development Centers became an Early Head Start Provider, serving 94 children under the age of 3 and their families in their homes and an additional 16 children in a childcare setting. 2012 also marked our first annual “Art of Community”, an opportunity for our consumers to participate in art workshops and then display their art in a show that is open to the public. During the month of December, Development Centers spread a little holiday cheer to 200 of our families with a holiday food & gift box. This was the largest holiday distribution in our history!!!

2013 - We hosted our first ever fun run – The River Splash Dash! What a great time!!

Present Day - Development Centers, with our new look and logo, is proud to say that we now have an annual budget of 18 million, provide services to over 10,000 consumers within 25 individuals programs. Our staff has grown to 215 committed individuals who are proud of our long 30 year history. We have great support from our Board of Directors who offer guidance, connections and lend their expertise to help us grow and develop.