Education and human development experts have long promoted early childhood education as providing the foundational building blocks for children’s mental, social and emotional growth. The COVID-19 crisis amplified its importance, especially for front-line workers and their families.
2 THE WORLD TURNED UPSIDE DOWN
For months, striking images have provided glimpses of the global pandemic and racial justice protests that have rocked 2020. Offering inspiration during the turmoil are the words of the late U.S. Rep. John Lewis.

10 FORWARD MOVEMENT
With support from The Heinz Endowments and the FISA Foundation, nonprofits in the Pittsburgh region are being encouraged to make their organizations more accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities.

16 PRESERVING OUR DEMOCRACY
In the midst of the worst pandemic the U.S. has seen in a century, the 2020 Census and presidential election are moving forward as is a Heinz Endowments initiative to encourage local residents to participate in both.

18 CIVIC DUTY
Nonprofits working to boost voter turnout in the presidential election are having to beef up their efforts and their creativity as they navigate social distancing and other restrictions during the COVID-19 crisis.

22 SECURING THE VOTE
Recommendations from the University of Pittsburgh’s Institute for Cyber Law, Policy and Security are helping to tighten voting security in Pennsylvania just in time for November’s presidential election.

26 2020 VISION
With billions of community resource dollars and the parameters of legislative districts on the line, efforts to get more people, especially underrepresented groups, to complete the 2020 Census are undeterred by the pandemic.

30 PATHWAY TO THE FUTURE
Despite delays caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the Pittsburgh Readiness Institute will launch this fall with programs designed to help high school students become productive citizens.

32 SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED
Shortly after PAServes was recognized for its successes in connecting veterans to local services, the COVID-19 crisis created a new test for the network’s ability to coordinate support for servicemen and servicewomen.

37 HERE AND THERE