



CHILDREN ^{as} CATALYSTS FOR CHANGE
Literacy Conquers Poverty

Newsletter - Christmas 2017

OUR MISSION

The mission of CC4CF is to support educational organizations that enable students to become self-sufficient members of their communities. These organizations provide education to underserved children and families who want to improve their quality of life.

Board of Trustees

Timothy F. McDevitt, MD, Founder
Sean P. MacNeal
Ann Scattergod McDevitt, MA
Michael J. McDevitt
James B. Young

Summary of Giving

9 Years - \$210,000.00
800 Children Supported

 **LITERACY CONQUERS POVERTY** 





Spring Benefit 2018

Featured Speaker: Stanford Thompson

Stanford Thompson is a musician and educator who is passionate about using music for social action and serves as the Founder and Executive Director of Play On, Philly!, an El-Sistema inspired program bringing music education to students in underserved areas in Philadelphia. Recently recognized as a TED Fellow, Stanford regularly appears at local TED events, national conferences and international symposiums as a keynote presenter and contributor. He believes that music education and orchestras offer us important lessons in leadership, innovation, and diversity and inclusion.

Stanford currently serves on the boards of the American Composers Forum and the Philadelphia Wind Symphony, and was previously a board member for the Curtis Institute of Music, Interlochen Center for the Arts, and El Sistema USA.

Stanford is a native of Atlanta, GA and holds degrees from The Curtis Institute of Music and the New England Conservatory's Abreu Fellows Program.

2017 Annual Report

It has been a year of significant changes for the Foundation. We have two new board members, **James B. (Brink) Young and Sean MacNeal**. Both young men have brought a fresh look to our mission statement, and a breath of fresh air to our tired website.

We are indebted to many behind-the-scenes helpers. Thanks to **MaryKate McDevitt** for her artistic vision in the newly-designed website and stationery and to **Meri McDevitt** for the donation of her original sculpture "The Singers." Two other behind-the-scenes helpers are editors **Holly McDevitt** and **Louise Dagit**. They keep my grammar on point. And last, but not least, to **Pete Rothman** for his accounting firm's (Rothman Boylston, LLC) assistance with the QuickBooks™ update. We conclude the year 2017 with heartfelt thanks to all the loyal people who support our mission. Education is priceless. It is the 'keyless entry' into our digital, global world. You, our donors, hold the keys.

[View the Donor List here!](#)

[View the Time and Talent List here!](#)

Save the Date!

CC4CF SPRING BENEFIT

THURSDAY,
APRIL 26, 2018



Getting to Know Our Team **Sean P. MacNeal**

We the Board of Trustees are most grateful for his generous gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We welcome Sean and look forward to working with him on our future projects to grow our foundation. Married with two children, Sean lives in Conshohocken.

Sean has more than 20 years of experience in the worlds of marketing and financial management. His market research client list includes Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch and leading private equity firms. His expertise on insider and corporate buyback activity is quoted in The Wall Street Journal and Barrons.

Sean is the Chief Operating Officer of HawkGrips, a multi-million dollar company specializing in rehab and sports medicine equipment. He has been with the company since its inception and is responsible for its growth into a worldwide distributor of its products to 30-plus countries.



Spring Benefit 2018 **Honorary Chair: Jim White**

It is with great pleasure we announce that Jim White will be the Honorary Chair of the 2018 Spring Benefit. Jim does us a great service. We are very proud to have him join the CC4CF team.

Jim White is CEO of J. J. White Incorporated with offices in PA, DE, IN and Boston. He is the fourth generation to be involved with his family's construction company which serves clients in nineteen states.

Jim is a graduate of Notre Dame University. He is married to Megan White and they are the parents of five children. Together, Megan and Jim are actively involved in the support of organizations which foster their values in religion, education, and community outreach.



Back to School

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, I volunteer teach in the Adult Ed part of Hope Partnership for Education. Teaching adults who aspire to take the GED (the high school equivalency diploma) sheds a whole different view on what the term "disadvantaged" means. For some it means qualifying for a transportation card that pays for the bus to school. **For others it means juggling work schedules with child care coverage.** For most it is a sacrifice of time, for all it means the resolve to do the work that learning entails.

Most of our students have been out of school for many years. Some of our adults have **never been to school.** Recently, one student earned a completion award for completing an independent computer assisted learning module. When Warthenia (Wawa) received that piece of paper, she lit up like a Christmas tree. She finished the whole module on her own time, and she reaped the rewards of her efforts. This is just one example of what going 'Back to School' means.

The CC4CF Benefit we hold each spring is meant to underscore the priceless value of a good education. Whether funding a **SmartBoard**, or **Goggle Chrome Book**, your contribution touches the lives of real people in real situations of need. I can only hope this



A Wonderful Memory

A St. Matthew School book mark on the table at the Spring Luncheon generated quite an outcome! Among the quotes, was that of a first-grader and what she would do if she had a \$100: "Buy an American Girl Doll, because I just love dolls." Well Mimi & Jim Flanigan took it to heart and arrived a few weeks later with an American Girl (plus an extra outfit). When sent for, little Siani entered our office carrying a small bag and immediately proceeded to present the talk she had just given in the classroom... (She thought that's why we asked for her.) She left us in awe about her 'research' on Abraham Lincoln including show-and-tell articles in her bag: his favorite snacks; scrolls of his Emancipation Proclamation and Gettysburg Address; and a box with 16 pennies (because did you know that his picture is on the penny and he was the 16th President)? She completely mesmerized us and only stopped because it was dismissal time! Remember the research project and oral presentation when you were in first grade??!! You can imagine, Siani went back to her classroom a happy little girl. Thanks for your love and for making memories, Mimi and Jim!

small vignette will illuminate a part of the picture you might not see in North Philly. One Benefit won't fix the problem. But working together, we can change a piece of it.

With sincere thanks,

Ann McDevitt, President of CC4CF



In our efforts to streamline our expenses, paperless is the way to go. We have dispensed with our annual paper newsletter which included a collection envelope and are giving you a 'link' to make a donation. The schools will be the biggest beneficiaries because our expenses will decrease and our distributions will **INCREASE**.

The schools we support exemplify the best in inner-city education. Small class sizes, great high-school graduation rates, family-centered values, and multi-cultured enrollments --- a reflection of our global world.

As with any change there is a downside. In this case we are foregoing our mailing list of 1,000+ names for a smaller email list. We need you to hit the [FORWARD](#) button and send the newsletter to friends and family. When they respond our list will grow and our donors will increase! Then it will be a **WIN-WIN** change for all of us.

HELP US GROW OUR SUPPORT AND INCREASE OUR EMAIL LIST!

You can make a difference now through your generous support.

Donate Now!

*Children as Catalysts for Change Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation.
Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.*

The official registration and financial information of Children Catalysts for Change foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania: 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.