Dear Friends,

Building on nearly 15 years of thoughtful leadership, creative teaching and support from many generous contributors in our community, 1,000 children experienced the magic of Freedom Schools in the summer of 2016. Thank you!

Our scholars enjoyed almost three hours a day of literacy instruction, participated in field trips for fun and cultural enrichment and built unforgettable relationships with college Servant Leader Interns and community volunteers at 16 sites across Charlotte. Some highlights from the summer of 2016 include:

- Being selected as a beneficiary of the Charlotte Hornets Day of Service. The Hornets awarded a gift of $50,000, and Lowe's and Bank of America employees joined to build year-round libraries at several Freedom School sites.
- The Second Harvest Food Bank Food Pantry donated over 1,500 bags of groceries and healthy snacks for families.
- American Airlines and an anonymous donor sponsored our first, annual Scholastic Book Fair allowing all scholars to choose up to $50 in new books at no cost to them, reinforcing our commitment to help our scholars build and expand their own home libraries.

We are also excited and hopeful about the growing number of opportunities and victories of our scholars and families. Check out these numbers for the summer of 2016:

- 118 Servant Leader Interns, hired and trained represented 39 colleges and universities
- 1,610 volunteers from over 25 community partners
- 286 families (60% of total) volunteered and participated in parent engagement workshops
- 24,000 books sent home with scholars to build their own personal libraries
- 11 field trips enjoyed by each Freedom School Scholar resulting in 11,000 opportunities for enrichment and growth.

These are impressive numbers but we’re even more excited about what the future holds. One of the most significant developments of the year was the completion of Phase 1 of our Strategic Plan. Phase 1 informs our growth of 20% more scholars in 2017 and will guide our growth strategy for the next 3-5 years.

We have a strong, year-round staff and a committed Board of Directors who will help chart a course for the future as we continue to fight summer learning loss well into the decade to come. Freedom School Partners has and continues to attract emerging non-profit leaders. As our community looks for ways to improve reading proficiency for students through the efforts of Read Charlotte, we are glad that Freedom School Partners falls squarely within one of their focus areas—summer learning. It is critical that there are programs, like Freedom School, that protect the school-year investment. I am thrilled that Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is focused on literacy, and we look forward to supporting CMS and the collaborative, community-wide movement.

We will continue to focus on our core mission while strategically expanding impact, none of which would be possible without the volunteer and financial support of the Charlotte community.

Thank you,

Mary Nell McPherson
Executive Director
**BY THE NUMBERS**

**SCHOLAR DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN**

**Gender**
- 44% Male
- 53% Female
- 3% No response

**Race**
- 65% Black
- 26% Hispanic
- 3% Asian
- 2% White
- 2% Mixed Heritage
- 2% Other

**MORE STATISTICS**

- 90% of scholars gained or maintained reading ability during Freedom School
- 92% of parents reported seeing an increase in their child’s reading ability
- 51% of scholars have been in Freedom School Partners for at least 2 years
- 95% of scholars receive free/reduced priced lunch

**EXPENSES BY CATEGORY**

(Total dollar amount: $2,396,541)

- 76% Program
- 16% Fundraising
- 8% Admin.
- 13% Foundations
- 29% Individuals and Families
- 2% Public Dollars
- 30% Faith Groups

**INCOME BY CATEGORY**

- 29% Individuals and Families
- 13% Corporations
- 30% Faith Groups
- 26% Foundations
- 76% Program

**TAKING CARE OF OUR SCHOLARS**

- 60,000 Meals served to Scholars
- 30,000 Snacks served to Scholars
- 15,000+ Books donated to Scholars
- 3,000 Scholar activities like chess, STEM, art, music, field trips
- 1,000 Scholars served in 2016
- 1,300 Volunteers
- 8,000 Volunteer hours
$100,000 AND UP
Christ Lutheran Church
The Leon Levine Foundation
Lucille P. and Edward C. Giles Foundation

$60,000-99,999
Christ Episcopal Church
Merancas Foundation
Myers Park United Methodist Church
Providence Day School
Providence United Methodist Church
Triad Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

$25,000-59,999
Bank of America Foundation
Charlotte Merchants Foundation
CrossRoads Corporation
Bob and Peggy Culbertson

Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Faison Enterprises
Foundation For The Carolinas
Hornets Basketball
Jones Day
Mecklenburg County
Mount Carmel Baptist Church
Myers Park Baptist Church
Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church
Sisters of Mercy of NC Foundation
Wellford and Ann Tabor
UNC-Charlotte

$10,000-24,999
Anonymous (2)
Alpha & Omega Foundation
American Airlines
BlackArch Partners
CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church
Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated
Covenant Presbyterian Church

Dilworth Cares
Bruce and Nancy Downing
Duke Energy Foundation
Elevation Church
Alex and Patty Funderburg
Brad and Ariel Gritter
Travis and Lise Hain
Richard and Tara Harris
Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte
K&L Gates
Burch and Arrington Mixon
Clark and Anne Neilson
Barney Offerman and Jan Valder
Blake and Eydie Okland
Sharon United Methodist Church
Stephen and Parker Shuford
Temple Beth El
Tom Webb and Kathryn Heath
Jim and Marty Williams
Fletcher and Anne Wright
$5,000 - 9,999
Anonymous
Alston & Bird
Donald and Barbara Bernstein
Jay and Wendy Bilas
Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft
Campbell Family Foundation
Charles and Mary Bowman
Compass Group
Craig Family Foundation
John and Jennifer Culver
Deloitte
Fifth Third Bank
Greg Harper and Jennie Cook Harper
Ben and Kathy Hill
Rick and Kelly Hopkins
Bob and Mindy Jones
Katten Muchin Rosenman
Foundation
Tom and Gina Lawrence
LeighDeux
Luther and Jane Lockwood
Bill and Carol Lorenz
Bob and Sally Miller
NASCAR
Matt Nichols
PNC Foundation
Vince and Malyn Pratt
Rinehart Wealth Management
Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson
Matt and Jeannie Salisbury
Martin and Leigh-ann Sprock
Gary Starr
The Tow Foundation
Brent and Claire Trexler
Henry Trexler and Kelly Zellars
Campbell and Burnett Tucker
UNC Charlotte College of Education
Ken and Juanita Wade
William F. and Betty G. Mulliss Foundation

$1,500-4,999
Anonymous (2)
Suzanne Alwan and Walker Jones
Weston and Marty Andress
Darren and Kathryn Ash
Barnhill Family Foundation
Kim Beal
Steve and Molly Bollier
Ron and Sandra Boozer
Mike and Clarkie Brown
Larry and Tracy Brown
Gretchen Johnston Carpenter
Chilanta Community Foundation
Childress Klein Properties
Christ Church ECW
Matthew and Virginia Christianson
John Clay and Cathy Bessant
Kieh and Serena Cockrell
Jeff Cohen and Judy Seldin-Cohen
Bill and Sally Cooper

Continued on next page
$1,500-4,999 (CONT.)
Mike and Katharine Cowan
Don Duffy and Laura Stanley-Duffy
Leigh and Robert Edwards
Frank and Lisa Emory
Smitty and Jill Flynn
Erika Gant
Larry and Valerie Goldsmith
Good Friends
Kevin and Kathryn Griffin
Mattie Grigsby
Clay and Deidre Grubb
Brian and Susan Harden
Walt and Phyllis Harper
Matt and Brooke Harper
Donny and Tricia Harrison
Bill and Elizabeth Hobbs
Cory and Katherine Hohnbaum
Andrea and Nathan Howard
Charlie and Kathy Izard
Jack and Jill of America - Queen City Chapter
JP Morgan Chase
Camille Kanofsky
Larry Nabatoff and Kelly Katterhagen
Troy Kilpatrick
King & Spalding
Peter and Ashley Larkin
Amy Lefko
John Lipe
Kathryn Mahan and Ann Hooper
John and Nancy Maloney
Gregory and Robyn Massey
Mary Nell McPherson and Kevin Strawn
Laura Meyer Wellman and Ward Wellman
Geoffrey and Kimberly Mize
Moore & Van Allen
Will and Emily Mullinix
Novant Health Foundation
Julie Olney
Scott and Anne Perper
Pat and Debbie Phillips
Walker and Anne Poole
Presbytery of Charlotte
R. Michael Ranson
Ellen J. Reich and Rick Glaser
Matthew and Lindsay Rocco
Brian and Sally Sacco
Rubin Salant
Joe and Jackie Salinas
Tom and Austin Sapp
Bobby and Stacey Selkin
Grady Smith and Laura Knight Smith
Southpark Breakfast Rotary Club
Kathy Sparrow and Don Tyson
St. Andrew’s United Methodist Church
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
Taylor and Jessica Stanfield
Scott and Jenny Stevens
Oscar and Shana Suris
Temple Israel
Bill and Lisa Trosch
Truliant Federal Credit Union
United Healthcare Services
Dave and Mary Vickers-Koch
Winston & Strawn
Barbara Wright
Julian and Amy Wright
Freedom School Partners promotes the long-term success of children by preventing summer learning loss through igniting a passion for reading and inspiring a love of learning.

Freedom School Partners fulfills this mission by:

1. Delivering a culturally diverse curriculum that affirms our scholars with engaging literature and exposure to the broader community.
2. Serving families and children who lack access to quality summer enrichment opportunities.
3. Addressing the whole child by supporting their academic, social and emotional needs.
4. Offering a work-force development opportunity for college students to gain professional experience, serve as positive role models and enter the teacher pipeline or social service pipeline.
5. Collaborating with diverse community stakeholders who contribute to and benefit from the partnerships.

- Alexander Graham Middle in partnership with Crossroads Corporation and Myers Park Presbyterian Church
- Christ Lutheran Church in partnership with McPIE
- CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church
- Highland Renaissance Academy in partnership with Covenant Presbyterian Church
- Montclaire Elementary in partnership with Selwyn Ave. Presbyterian Church and St. Andrew’s United Methodist Church
- Mount Carmel Baptist Church
- Pinewood Elementary in partnership with Myers Park Baptist Church and Sharon United Methodist Church
- Providence Day School
- Q.C. Family Tree
- Rama Road Elementary in partnership with Christ Episcopal Church
- Reid Park Academy presented to the community by Wells Fargo
- Sedgefield Elementary in partnership with Myers Park United Methodist Church
- Shalom Park
- Oakhurst Academy with Providence/St. John’s United Methodist, St. Gabriel Catholic Church and St. Matthew Catholic Church
- The Grove Presbyterian Church
- UNC-Charlotte
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2016)
Barbara Wright (Chair), Wells Fargo
Frank Barnes, CMS
Kim Beal, Grant Thornton
Rev. Y. Trevor Beauford (Secretary),
    Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Hank Durkin, Microsoft
Lisa Emory, HM Properties
Patty Funderburg, Community Volunteer
Kim Graham, CommunityOne Bank
Jennifer Green, PNC Bank
Lise Hain, Community Volunteer
Greg Harper (Treasurer), Bank of America
Reid Leggett, Community Volunteer
Bill Lorenz, Bank of America
Burch Mixon, Burch Mixon Garden Designs
Geoffrey Mize, Ernst & Young
Laura Solitario, Ettain Group
Dr. Gary Starr, Starr & Dickens Orthodontics
Derrick Thompson, NTT Data Consulting, Inc.
Campbell Tucker, Novant Health
Mary Vickers-Koch, Central Piedmont Community College
Juanita Wade (Vice Chair), Community Volunteer

STRATEGIC ADVISORS
Lauren Batten, Charlotte Country Day School
Brian Collier, Foundation for the Carolinas
Eric Davis, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
    Board of Education
Jill Flynn, Flynn Heath Holt Leadership
Clay Grubb, Grubb Properties
Rob Harrington, Robinson Bradshaw
Jane Lockwood, Community Volunteer
Alisa McDonald, Community Volunteer
Ellen McIntyre, UNC Charlotte
Andrew Plepler, Bank of America
Sally Robinson, Community Volunteer
Fletcher Wright, Deloitte (Retired)
Julian Wright, Robinson Bradshaw

STAFF LEADERSHIP TEAM
Mary Nell McPherson, Executive Director
Paul Barnhardt, Chief Operating Officer
Nikki Keith, Director of Development
Allen Davis, Director of Program Operations