

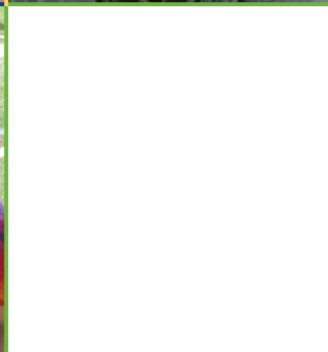
WE ARE FREEDOM SCHOOL

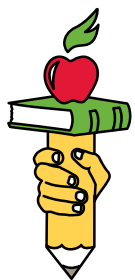


**Freedom
School
Partners**



2014
ANNUAL
REPORT





Freedom School Partners

WHAT IS FREEDOM SCHOOL?

Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools® programs are six-week summer literacy and character building programs led by college student Servant Leader Interns. Freedom School Partners serves children who most need and yet can least afford summer learning opportunities.

OUR MISSION

Engage, educate and empower children to succeed in school and in life through quality educational enrichment programs.

"Freedom School Partners is one of the gems of our community. The children who participate in this summer program develop self-efficacy, perseverance, and a strong cultural identity while learning the power of great literature."

– ELLEN MCINTYRE

Dean of the College of Education at UNC Charlotte

LITERACY



The Integrated Reading Curriculum (IRC) engages children in books that reflect diverse cultural images and history. IRC incorporates cooperative learning, role playing, group discussion and creative writing.

- Books are sent home weekly to build personal libraries.
- DEAR Time (Drop Everything and Read).
- Harambee! A morning pep rally with singing, cheers and a community guest reader.



LEADERSHIP

College students called Servant Leader Interns serve as classroom leaders and gain paid professional development experiences.

- 90 hours of comprehensive training.
- Hired through a competitive recruitment and interview process.
- In-depth, rigorous experiences inspire future advocacy.

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS



Children build social and emotional skills by participating in activities that promote resilience, conflict resolution and self-control. Research shows these skills are vital to children's success.

- "I Can Make a Difference" is the theme of Freedom School.
- Afternoon activities include chess, STEAM, (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math), field trips, cultural experiences and team building.

CONNECTION



Strong, healthy and consistent relationships help children know that they are full of potential and are accountable to others.

- 1:10 classroom ratio.
- Parents participate as volunteers to show children they support their learning experiences.
- Healthy meals, transportation and daily encouragement provide children with emotional and physical security.

WE BELIEVE IN CHILDREN, SO CHILDREN WILL BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES.

COMMUNITY



Meaningful relationships and partnerships within the community strengthen the collective commitment to children and lead to sustainable change.

- Individuals and organizations invest in a scalable program model by volunteering and providing financial support.
- Partnerships bridge cultural and socio-economic divides in the community.

a note from
MARY NELL McPHERSON



DEAR FRIENDS,

Building on ten years of thoughtful leadership, creative teaching and support from many generous contributors in our community, 1,200 children experienced the magic of **Freedom Schools** in the summer of 2014. 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 20 sites across Charlotte. The year culminated with the **2014 Bank of America Neighborhood of Excellence Initiative Award**.

Although awards are nice, what pleases us more is the growing number of day-to-day small victories for children and families. Check out these numbers for the summer of 2014:

- 148 Servant Leader Interns, hired and trained, who represent 48 different colleges and universities
- 1,610 volunteers from over 25 community partners
- 475 families (61% 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 13,200 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 investment in additional visionary leaders for future growth.

Renee Sherrod joined us as Chief Operations Officer and provides key support in the areas of strategy and planning.

Chris Glover came on board as Evaluation Coordinator and is pursuing a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, specializing in Urban Education.

Marni Eisner now leads our fundraising and marketing efforts as Director of Development.

Teamed with this strong staff, our committed Board of Directors 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 does and will continue to attract emerging non-profit leaders. The Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Initiative offers a unique combination of individual leadership development for the executive director and staff and \$200,000 in flexible funding, enabling us to grow strategically and address important local issues. I am thrilled that the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System is focused on literacy, and we look forward to supporting them and the collaborative, community-wide movement, **READ Charlotte**.

In closing, I am inspired by the leadership team that will take Freedom School Partners to the next level. We will continue to focus on our core mission while responsibly expanding impact, none of which would be possible without the volunteer and financial support of the Charlotte community. Thank you!

IN PARTNERSHIP,

MARY NELL McPHERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

VOLUNTEER QUOTES



LISA

"Freedom School Partners speaks to my soul and ignites my mission to serve children. Instilling the importance of education in brilliant minds at a young age is paramount. My involvement with FSP has made me a better person." **LISA EMORY, VOLUNTEER WITH THE FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH SITE AND A MEMBER OF THE FSP BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



JOAN

"I enjoy working with Freedom School because of the mission that it has set forth for young people. So many young people would miss so many opportunities if this program did not exist. I love seeing the excitement of the Servant Leaders and Site Coordinators as they implement this program on a daily basis. I love seeing the shining faces of the children who are covered by love and concern for seven hours a day in a safe environment where they are learning to love reading and they are becoming lifelong learners." **JOAN DUNN, VOLUNTEER WITH THE MT. CARMEL BAPTIST SITE**



JOHN

"Every summer I help the scholars at the Montclair Freedom School make a stop-motion animated movie about reading. It's a blast to watch the scholars brainstorm, create artwork and animate and to observe the growing bonds between scholars and interns." **JOHN LEMMON, VOLUNTEER WITH SELWYN AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PARTNER WITH THE MONTCLAIRE SITE**



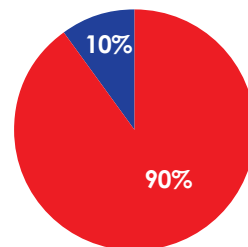
"What is most remarkable about Freedom Schools is not what you teach, but what you learn from your scholars and the rest of your Freedom School family. Freedom School's commitment to service, leadership and the community has had a tremendous impact on me personally and as a future educator! There is truly no school like a Freedom School!" **TRACY GAITEN, JUNIOR EDUCATION MAJOR, UNCC; SERVANT LEADER INTERN WITH LEVEL III SCHOLARS**

2014 Statistics

1,200	Scholars
24,000	Books donated to scholars
72,000	Meals
36,000	Snacks
3,600	Afternoon activities
20	Sites across Charlotte
13	Zip codes
148	College Student Interns
1,500	Volunteers
25	Site Partners
2,380	Bus rides

Impact on Literacy

- 90% of children gain or maintain reading ability during Freedom School.*



- Low-income children typically lose 2-3 months of learning during the summer.
- Children in poverty typically enter kindergarten with a 30-million-word deficit as compared to their higher income peers.

*For detailed information about evaluation results and procedures, please contact the Freedom School Partners office at info@freedom-schoolpartners.org.

a note from
MACIE STEWART



DEAR FRIENDS,

As the wise Winnie the Pooh shared, "Always remember you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think." That is the magic of **Freedom Schools**. We create a place where children can believe in themselves, read, discover, be kids, connect with a community of adults who care and go back to school in the fall more excited about learning.

This summer we will have the joy of serving 1,200 children in grades K-12, with 160 college students representing 37 colleges and universities. These college students are selected for their passion for making a difference and for their love of children.

A unique quality of Freedom Schools is that it combines the joy of children holding books for three hours every day, with field trips and activities that broaden the world for our scholars. The college student Servant Leader Interns are dynamic role models who make the **Integrated Reading Curriculum** come to life, showing children there is a story in that book that is exciting and resonates with their lives.

Children in poverty typically enter kindergarten with a 30-million-word deficit as compared to their higher income peers. Freedom Schools help bridge this education-hindering gap. The Integrated Reading Curriculum is designed to create a safe space for discussions and critical thinking around engaging books. This past summer, each scholar received almost 30 books to take home for their personal libraries.

Afternoon activities range from fantastic hands-on science experiments and cooking with volunteers to visits to Discovery Place, the Mint Museum, a CPCC play and a fun day at Cane Creek riding paddle boats. "**You can't dream it, if you haven't seen it**" sums up the power of the afternoons of discovery and the goal of these experiences — creating memories and dreams for potential scientists, biologists, artists and photographers.

This past summer, an eighth-grade scholar held up a book on Helen Keller and asked if she could take it home. "Absolutely" was my answer and receiving a bright smile and fantastic hug I was reminded what Freedom Schools are all about and why this will be my twelfth summer with this amazing program!

THANK YOU!

MACIE STEWART
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

PARENT & SCHOLAR QUOTES



JAMI

"My daughter, Mujasa, was very interested in the reading and singing in particular. Freedom School was very beneficial for her and gave her something positive to do. She didn't want to miss a day. She takes more initiative now and her grades this fall came up a lot. She'll get in the car and say "I'm almost done with this book." She never said that before. She wants to go back next summer." **JAMI, MOTHER OF 6TH GRADER MUJASA**



XARIELLE

"I loved having fun with my friends and going to cool places. The books were great too. One was about sharing, I remember that a lot. It helped me read better. It is just cool. It teaches you stuff. I got to do ballet on the last day for our parents and the food is really good and you get a snack." **XARIELLE (2ND GRADE)**



TIFFANY

"I really liked the interns because they were nice and very helpful. We got to laugh and read books about important people. Freedom School taught us about cause and effect and we wanted to read more about that. It keeps us safe and we get to eat." **TIFFANY (4TH GRADE)**



XMONTRE

"I loved doing art at Freedom School. Discovery Place was awesome! It had animals. The books were about history and we got to do art projects after we read. The people really care about you at Freedom School." **XMONTRE (4TH GRADE)**

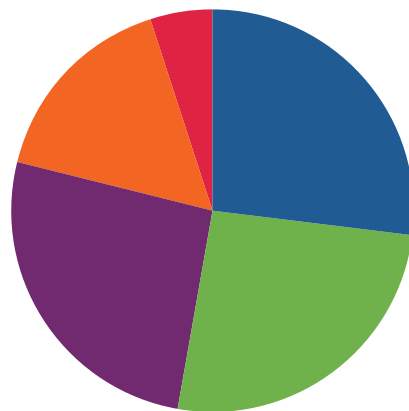


ADDY

"One of my scholars was crying when we were making family trees. I didn't want to push her, but I reminded her that friends could be family too and whenever she walks through that door, she had a family waiting for her in my classroom. She drew her family tree and it had every scholar's name on it." **ADDY ALLRED, SERVANT LEADER INTERN, JUNIOR AT GUILFORD COLLEGE**

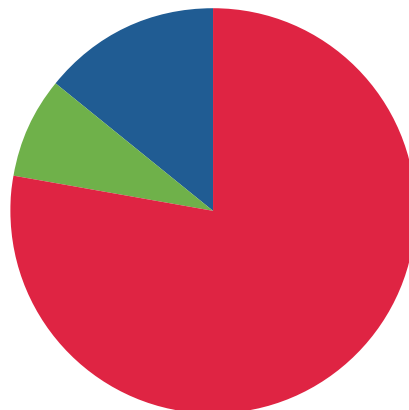
Income by Category

Foundations	\$673,409 (27%)
Individuals and Families	\$669,725 (26%)
Faith Groups	\$654,705 (26%)
Corporations	\$406,020 (16%)
Collaborative Agencies	\$117,410 (5%)
<hr/>	
\$2,521,269	



Expenses by Category

Programming	78%
Administration	8%
Fundraising	14%



Freedom School Partners is a 501(c)(3) organization. Financial information about the organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919.807.2214. The license number is SL002429. The license is not an endorsement by the State. A copy of the complete audited financial statement will be finalized in January and will be available at freedom-schoolpartners.org.

a note from
BARBARA WRIGHT



DEAR FRIENDS,

Several years ago, I'd have felt pretty safe in saying that, as Senior Company Counsel for one of the largest banks in the country, I didn't have much in common with a 1st grader at Sedgefield Elementary School.

When I was growing up, I always had my nose in a book, and I credit my love of reading and the many books I enjoyed for the path my life has taken. Books exposed me to the wonders of the world around me, opened my imagination to innumerable possibilities and gave me joy. Reading transported me out of the world I was in and into worlds I never could have imagined.

In this predominantly digital world, I figured that memory of childhood was a pretty antiquated notion. But I saw how wrong I was when I sat on the gym floor last summer at Sedgefield Elementary's **Harambee!**, Freedom Schools' morning reading pep rally.

A sweet little girl (wearing a bright pink winter coat despite the summer heat) approached me with a shy smile, curled up next to me on the floor and listened, rapt, to the story being read by that day's Harambee reader, and it all came back to me.

The wonders of the world around us. Imagining the possibilities. Experiencing the joy of a brand new book. For me there isn't anything better than sharing that kind of magical moment – a woman in a black pant suit and a girl in a pink winter coat sitting on a gym floor, smiling at each other over a great story, no longer strangers.

I believe in **Freedom Schools** because I believe every child is entitled to the joy that my small friend and I shared over that book. So very many children in our community don't have access to that opportunity.

I am inspired when I envision every child having books in his or her home, thrilled when I think of the wonderful world that would be opened to them, and energized to seek change when I realize we haven't made that happen yet.

The Freedom Schools experience is the most direct path that I've found to realize that vision, and I won't be satisfied until every child who can benefit from a Freedom Schools summer has that opportunity. But we need help to make that happen. Our children deserve that chance, and our executive director, year-round staff and Servant Leader Interns are pouring their substantial energies into helping fulfill that dream – they so deserve our encouragement and our financial support.

On behalf of my sweet friend in the pink coat, and the thousands of others whose lives would be changed forever by Freedom Schools, I am thanking you for helping turn that **dream into a reality**.

IN PARTNERSHIP,

BARBARA WRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON

STAFF QUOTES



RENEE

"I always wanted to work for a local nonprofit in the Charlotte community. I feel very blessed to have the opportunity to work at Freedom School Partners with a great team of people who are making a difference in the lives of thousands of children." **RENEE SHERROD, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (2014)**



GIGI

"We are raising Charlotte's future leaders. I believe it's crucial that our community's children are given the opportunity to build the literacy and social and emotional skills that we teach and know will help them navigate and succeed in their futures. This work is so hopeful. Yes, Freedom School is all about literacy and falling in love with reading, but it's also about learning to love yourself, respect others and make good decisions—just good stuff!" **GIGI HARRIS, DONOR RELATIONS COORDINATOR (2011)**



ALLEN

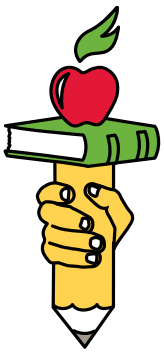
"I have seen the benefits of Freedom School first hand. I remember the very first time I saw the 'light bulb' go off in a scholar. It was one of the most impactful moments of my life as I realized that I had just changed the world for the better. The power of changing the world in a single moment has kept me involved in Freedom School. We create opportunities every day for people of all walks of life to make a change in the world." **ALLEN DAVIS, PROGRAM COORDINATOR (SERVANT LEADER INTERN IN 2006 AND HAS GROWN IN THE ORGANIZATION EVER SINCE!)**



MOLLY

"When I was growing up, I loved going to school. School was where adventures began and the consumption of knowledge was limitless. Freedom School Partners offers such a unique opportunity for our scholars – the chance to be inspired by our Servant Leader Interns and to read books that challenge, motivate and allow them to imagine the possibilities for their own lives. FSP has deep roots in the generous Charlotte community, that believes in the future of our scholars. The community's investment in FSP is proof we are nurturing the future leaders of our city, state and world." **MOLLY BOLLIER, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE (2012)**





Freedom School Partners

CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND FREEDOM SCHOOLS® PROGRAMS

prepare children for success through summer literacy and character building programs led by college student role models in collaboration with community partners. Freedom School Partners serves children who most need and can least afford summer programming.

FREEDOM SCHOOL IN 2015

CDF Freedom Schools® programs operate 6 weeks, June 18–July 29, 2015, Monday–Friday, to strengthen literacy skills, develop character skills, and create communities that believe in children.

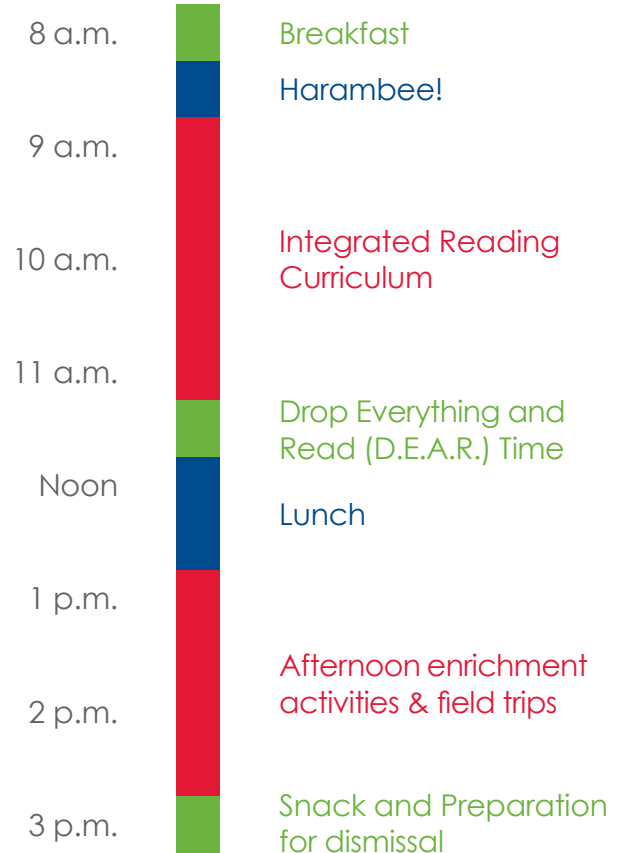
KEY PIECES: FREEDOM SCHOOL MODEL

- Surround children with caring adults and college students (1:10 ratio) who share their enthusiasm for learning
- Engage youth in high-quality books which are sent home weekly to build personal libraries
- Start each day with "Harambee!," a pep rally to celebrate the value of each participant and prepare for learning ahead
- Support children's needs by providing two nutritious meals, a healthy snack, and transportation
- Engage parents as volunteers in the classroom and participants in children's developmental workshops



FREEDOM SCHOOL PREVENTS SUMMER LEARNING LOSS FOR OVER 90% OF PARTICIPANTS. 61% OF SCHOLARS SHOWED GAINS AND 34% **MAINTAINED** **IN THEIR ABILITY TO READ.** MOST LOW-INCOME YOUTH **LOSE TWO TO THREE MONTHS READING ABILITY** DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

A Freedom School Day



2014 STATISTICS

CHARLOTTE

Children Served: 1,213

Site locations: 20

Servant Leader Interns: 148

NATIONAL

Children Served: 12,745*

Site locations: 107 cities, 29 states

Servant Leader Interns: 1,391

*10% of all children served by the CDF Freedom Schools® program are in Charlotte.



FREEDOM SCHOOL STAFF

SITE COORDINATOR

- Leader who oversees the scholars and staff
- Provides technical assistance and coaching support to Interns
- Communicates with and engages families

SERVANT LEADER INTERNS

- College students who serve as a role model, coach, counselor and teacher
- Work with a group of 10 students
- Receive 90 hours of training
- Establish a positive, supportive and structured environment for the children, and maintain health and safety standards

INTEGRATED READING CURRICULUM

- Activity-oriented curriculum designed to excite, motivate and inspire children to read
- 6 weeks of lesson plans reflect the theme "I Can Make a Difference"
- Books reflect multicultural images and engage children through the richness of diversity
- Aligned to Common Core Standards

19 LOCATIONS IN 2015

- Alexander Graham Middle with Crossroads Corp and Myers Park Presbyterian
- Christ Lutheran with McPIE
- CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian
- Friendship Missionary Baptist
- Highland Renaissance Academy with Covenant Presbyterian
- QC Family Tree
- The Grove Presbyterian
- Montclair Elementary with Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian and St. Andrew's United Methodist
- Mount Carmel Baptist
- Pinewood Elementary with Myers Park Baptist and Sharon United Methodist
- Providence Day School
- Quail Hollow Middle
- Rama Road Elementary with Christ Episcopal
- Reid Park Academy with Wells Fargo
- Sedgefield Elementary with Myers Park United Methodist
- Shalom Park
- St. John's United Methodist Church with Providence United Methodist and St. Gabriel Catholic
- Trinity Presbyterian with Church at Charlotte
- UNC Charlotte

Board of Directors

Passionate about serving children and families in need and committed to racial and gender diversity among its own members, this working board brings a variety of talents from many sectors of the Charlotte community.

Kim Beal, Capgemini
Reverend Y. Trevor Beauford
(Secretary), Friendship Missionary
Baptist Church
Reverend Doctor Jerry L.
Cannon, CN Jenkins Memorial
Presbyterian Church
Hank Durkin, Microsoft
Lisa Emory, Allen Tate Company
Patty Funderburg, Community
Volunteer
Kim Graham (Vice Chair),
CommunityOne Bank
Lise Hain, Community Volunteer
Greg Harper (Treasurer), Bank of
America
Stacey Henderson,
Charlotte Works
Reid Leggett, Community
Volunteer
Bill Lorenz, Bank of America
Burch Mixon, Burch Mixon Garden
Designs
Geoffery Mize, EY
Carl Powell, Community Volunteer
Ellen Rogers, Bank of America
Merrill Lynch
Laura Solitario, Ettain Group
Gary Starr, Starr & Dickens
Orthodontics
Campbell Tucker, Novant Health
Mary Vickers-Koch, Central
Piedmont Community College
Barbara Wright (Chair), Wells
Fargo & Co.

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 & Hinson

Jane Lockwood, Civic Leader
Alisa McDonald, Duke Energy
Foundation
Ellen McIntyre, UNC Charlotte
Susan Patterson, Knight Foundation
Andrew Plepler, Bank of America
Sally Robinson, Civic Leader
Fletcher Wright, Deloitte (retired)
Julian Wright, Robinson, Bradshaw
& Hinson

Freedom School Staff

Julie Attilus, Development
Coordinator
Molly Bollier, Director of Finance
Allen Davis, Program Coordinator
Marni Langbert Eisner, Director of
Development and Marketing
Chris Glover, Evaluation
Coordinator
Gigi Harris, Donor Relations
Coordinator
Carolyn Lugo-Allred, Senior
Administrative Coordinator
Mary Nell McPherson,
Executive Director
Irene Romero, Partnerships
Coordinator
Sally Sacco, Bookkeeper
Tammy Sanders, Activity and
Logistics Coordinator
Renee Alexander Sherrod,
Chief Operating Officer
Kenya Smith, Volunteer Assistant
Macie Alexander Stewart,
Director of Programs
Necole Watts, School-Year
Engagement Coordinator
Tiffany Williams, Scholar and
Family Coordinator

Servant Leader Intern Board Members

Curtis Bobray
Hannah Marie Warfle



Community Volunteer



"The one word that comes to mind regarding Freedom School is 'transformative.' One needs to attend only the first and last days of Harambee to see the remarkable difference made in the lives of the children served. Their confidence, their attitudes toward learning and their excitement is palpable. Being there, you get that overwhelming sense of community that Freedom School nurtures—one of trust, love and caring between the intern teachers and the scholars. Further, I've witnessed an equal transformation in the lives of the interns, who show tremendous growth in confidence and come away with the knowledge that their efforts can truly make a difference in the lives of others." **GINA LAWRENCE, VOLUNTEER WITH PROVIDENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PARTNER WITH THE ST. JOHN'S SITE**



Thanks To Our Partners!

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our donor list. If you feel a listing is incorrect, please contact the FSP development office at 704-371-4922 or julie@freedomsschoolpartners.org.

\$150,000 AND UP

Bank of America

\$100,000 TO \$149,999

The Lucille P. and Edward C. Giles Foundation

\$60,000 TO \$99,999

Christ Episcopal Church
Christ Lutheran Church
Church at Charlotte
The Leon Levine Foundation
Leon and Sandra Levine
Merancas Foundation
Myers Park United Methodist Church
Triad Foundation
UNC Charlotte College of Education
Wells Fargo

\$25,000 TO \$59,999

Anonymous
Charlotte Merchants Foundation
Craig Family Foundation
CrossRoads Corporation
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Fifth Third Bank
Mount Carmel Baptist Church
Providence Day School
Providence United Methodist Church
Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church
Snyder's-Lance
Southminster Retirement Community
US Airways Education Foundation

\$10,000 TO \$24,999

Corporations, Foundations and Faith Partners

Anonymous (2)
Apartment Realty Advisors/ Carolinas
BlackArch Partners
Brumley Foundation
Carolina CAT
CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church
Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Duke Energy Foundation
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Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte
William F. and Betty G. Mulliss Foundation

Myers Park Baptist Church
NASCAR Foundation
PNC Foundation
Sharon United Methodist Church
Temple Beth El

Individuals and Families

Anonymous
Darren and Kathryn Ash
Jay and Wendy Bilas
Derick and Sallie Close
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Robert and Mary Engel
Alex and Patty Funderburg
Travis and Lise Hain
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Luther and Jane Lockwood
Burch and Arrington Mixon
Blake and Eydie Okland
Dean and Anne Carter Smith
Wellford and Ann Tabor
Van and Linda Turner
Ed Weisiger and Betsy Fleming
Fletcher and Anne Wright

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

Corporations, Foundations and Faith Partners

Barry, Evans, Josephs & Snipes
Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft
Chilanta Community Foundation
EY
Foundation For The Carolinas
Giving Tree Charities
Jay Howard Entertainment
K&L Gates LLP
Katten Muchin Rosenman Foundation, Inc.
Madison Park Homeowners Association
Mayor's Youth Employment Program
Presbytery of Charlotte
R. B. Pharr & Associates
Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson
Speedway Children's Charities
St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
St. Gabriel Catholic Church
The Tow Foundation
Trexler Foundation

Individuals and Families

Anonymous (3)
Bob and Amanda Anders
Gretchen Carpenter
Jeff M. Cohen and Judy Seldin-Cohen
Hank Durkin

Erika Gantt
Rob Hammock and Caroline
Chambre Hammock
Kraig and Marisa Holt
Tom and Gina Lawrence
Scott and Cheri Lindblom
Bill and Carol Lorenz
Robert and Sally Miller
Clark and Anne Neilson
Matt and Jeannie Salisbury
Gary Starr
Brent and Claire Trexler
William and Lisa Trosch
Tom Webb and Kathryn Heath
Bill and Betsy White

\$1,200 TO \$4,999

Corporations, Foundations and Faith Partners

Alston & Bird
Anne Neilson Fine Art
Bryan Cave
Capgemini Financial Services
Charlotte Pipe & Foundry
Charity League
Childress Klein Properties
Christ Church ECW
CohnReznick
CommunityOne Bank
Dowd Foundation
Employee Benefit Advisors of the Carolinas
Food Lion
Girl Scouts, Hornets' Nest Council
Gupton Marrs International
Hardison Cartridge
Hawthorne Lane United Methodist Church
Hornets Basketball
Jack and Jill of America
Jefferies
Kinder Morgan Foundation
King & Spalding
KPMG
Levine Jewish Community Center
Moore & Van Allen
Northwestern Mutual
Novant Health Foundation
Piedmont Club Foundation
Piedmont Natural Gas
Publix Super Markets Charities
QC Family Tree
Rinehart Wealth Management
Robert W. Baird & Company
South State Bank
Starr and Dickens Orthodontics
State Employees Combined Campaign
Valassis
Warehouse 242
Winston & Strawn
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

Individuals and Families

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Tim Atwell
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John and Gail Baron
Steve and Edith Benson
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Jacqueline Blackwell
Stephen and Molly Bollier
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Mike and Katharine Cowan
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Don Duffy and Laura Stanley-Duffy
Robert and Leigh Edwards
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Jay and Olga Faison
Doug and Patricia Faris
Jim and Cambey Gallagher
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W & P Gorelick Family Foundation
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Campbell and Jessica Jenkins
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Chris and Patty Lambert
Pete and Kelli Lash
Reid and Anne Leggett
John Lipe
Beth Lippincott
Amy Lefkof
Timothy Mayopoulos
Hugh and Renee McColl
Erica McDowell
Kevin Strawn and Mary Nell McPherson
Ward Wellman and Laura Meyer Wellman
Geoffrey and Kimberly Mize
Chris and Mary Sue Moore

Diane Mowrey
 Barney Offerman and Jan Valder
 Rachel Permut
 Jon and Beth Perry
 Pat and Debbie Phillips
 Larry and Dale Polsky
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 Lynn Salton
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 Ray and Kate Shem
 Mary Sherill Ware
 Sean and Andrea Smith
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"Poor children are among the largest group of people who are often times left out, denied, and not provided an equal opportunity to become successful in our schools and community. As a former educator, I am an advocate for children's rights, especially in education, because I believe an equal and quality education is a vehicle in which one can improve his or her station in life, especially for the poor. I volunteer at the Freedom Schools program at C.N. Jenkins because the six-week literacy based program provides an opportunity for the children not only to improve their reading skills, but the program also addresses their social needs, exposes children to cultural events, ensures parental and community involvement, and provides daily a breakfast, lunch and a snack. Over the last four years I have observed the children who return from a previous experience show improvement in their reading skills, social adjustment, and self-identity." **DORIS BOYD, VOLUNTEER WITH THE C.N. JENKINS PRESBYTERIAN SITE**

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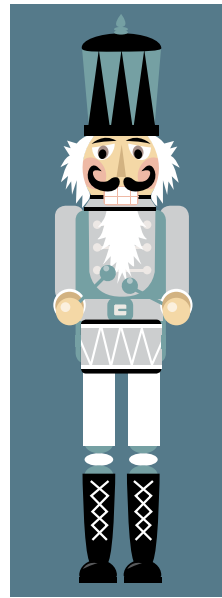
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