

Lower Price Hill Community School

{Changing lives through education since 1971}

we
are LPH

We are Cincinnati.
We are 8th and State.
We are Price's first home.
We are the gateway to the West.
We are where Mill Creek meets the Ohio.
We are a community who cares.
We are history and the future.
We are proud.
We are LPH.



Back design for We Are LPH t-shirts available from LPHCS for \$12

Photos Top: Sanctuary front view. Bottom left: view of temporary office space in West Annex. Bottom right: volunteers at GO Cincinnati Day.

Our Journey Forward: A message from the Executive Director

What a difference a year makes! The time since I wrote last year's annual report has been a true whirlwind. The fundraising aspirations to renovate the complex, born during a plane ride conversation among staff on the way to a conference, were met and exceeded. Our dream to renovate the school, sanctuary, and complex is transpiring into reality. I write this from my temporary office space in the West Annex as the roof and exterior of the school building are under construction. The physical transformation of the space is only a small part of the change taking place at the Lower Price Hill Community School; our programs themselves are shifting as we continue in our tradition of GED preparation and college access, while adding in more skill building needed for college, career, and life readiness. This is what we are actually about, affecting the change in our students' lives. While graduating with a GED and enrolling in college are fantastic goals, the true outcome is how it translates into the improvement of the everyday life for our students and their families; the opening of doors, the expanding of options, the ability to dictate what they want to do with their lives. This is why we exist.

It is difficult to capture all of this in the descriptions of our programs, especially given that in the past we were known to the public as a "GED school" or a place where college classes were held. While these are accurate depictions of services that occur here, it is only a small piece of LPHCS. This is why you will see a new image coming out from our organization. This complex, with all of its possibilities is part of the drive for this change, but it is also the natural progression in our development. The past year alone forced our programs, staff and leadership to show their fortitude, with spectacular results. We are not the same organization we were when it started, much less the organization we were five years ago...We are stronger, we are thriving, we are standing on the edge of something bigger than the former school could have ever imagined.

We are proud to be Lower Price Hill. We invite you to join us as we go confidently into our future.

Why Adult Education? Why Now?

HUMAN DIGNITY is the most important human right from which all other fundamental rights derive.



In our work at LPHCS we often reflect on why we believe so strongly in our work in adult education and our responses always seem to come back to a similar premise, human dignity. The benefits of education are quite vast and impact nearly every social indicator including: employment opportunities, sustainable wages, access to healthcare, civic engagement and moral consciousness. To us, these are all important factors to why education matters, but our driving principle is rather simple: **everybody deserves a second chance at education and everybody deserves the opportunity to pursue what they want in life.** When

working in under-served communities, organizations often forget to approach people as people, focusing only on their “needs” and not on their potential. The same is often true in education; we fail to believe that every individual can be great. This is where we hear our call to action.

Following the wise words of Hillel, we ask: **“If not you, then who? If not now, then when?”** As we observe our modern system, we see the need for education and we see potential solutions. So we ask, if we do not come together as a community to close the education gap and create opportunity, then who will? If we do not act now to open the door to education, then when will it open? We do not see ourselves as the only solution to the problem, but rather as an important bridge in the gap. Every part of the education community plays an important role. Our role is to ensure that every person has the opportunity to re-engage with education and has the right of human dignity.

Our Community Garden

This year LPHCS teamed up with Public Allies Cincinnati to create a new community garden in Lower Price Hill. We transformed an empty lot across from our complex into a beautiful new space to grow fresh vegetables and fruits with the community. Our volunteer team built six raised beds and filled them with soil donated by Marvin’s Organic Gardens and Jeanne Nightingale. We planted a variety of crops this year and shared our harvest with students and neighbors.

Thank you to all of our volunteers!



Our 2012-2013 Community Partners



COLLEGE bridge

The College Bridge program has completed another fantastic year in our work with 176 students to remove barriers to a college education. Over the past year, we have focused our energy on improving student success and retention with targeted interventions. Through feedback from successful students, we have increased tutoring and intensive mentoring with students to create a more supportive environment for students. These targeted strategies have led to a high retention rate of 79% and an 81% success rate of students.

We are also proud to announce that the program is the recipient of the 2013 Ohio Association of Developmental Education Award for Community Partnership Excellence. We will receive this award and present our partnership model at the 2013 OADE Conference on November 1, 2013 in conjunction with Soni Hill, the Director of Student Success and Retention at Cincinnati State.

Although we could talk at length about our successes, perhaps the best way to capture our impact this year is through the words of our students: **“Without the help from this place I don’t think I could have made it through college. You constantly push us to do better and support us and that’s what I need,”** Paul LeBlanc, College Bridge student, speaking about why this program has changed his life. **“I probably would have never enrolled in college if not for you,”** Kimberly Washburn, College Bridge student who is one semester away from graduating from Cincinnati State with her Associate’s in Early Childhood Education.



Jazzeire, 6

At LPHCS childcare Christmas party

Focus on {Community}

Every year LPHCS hosts a Christmas sale to offer our community the opportunity to buy new items at a discounted price for their families. At our “Santa’s Workshop” all items are donated to LPHCS and sold for \$5 or less and all proceeds go to support our education programs. We are always in need of donations of new toys and clothing items for this event. We will be accepting donations from now until December 10th. For more information contact Emily Eskridge at 513-244-2214 (ext. 202) or emilye@lphcs.org. No donation is too small. We are grateful for all support.



2012-13 Key College Program Outcomes

176 students received services

79% retention rate of students

81% of students successfully completed
75% of their college courses

Our Temporary Home

During the renovation of our complex, LPHCS will be located in our West Annex building at 2118 Saint Michael Street. All of our programs are open, as in previous years, Monday – Thursday from 9am-3pm. It is a much smaller space than our normal building, but our staff and students are fantastic and making everything work well.

Staff {2012-2013}

Executive Director
Jen Walters, BSW, JD
jenw@lphcs.org

Associate Director
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emilye@lphcs.org

College Bridge
Program Director
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maryk@lphcs.org

Counselor/Outreach
Jacob Baker, BBA

GED Program
Lead Instructor
Erica Ninneman

Instructor
Debbie Shelton

Instructor
Sarah Groeschen

Instructor
Jody Bauer

Instructor
Malcolm Barnes

Read to Succeed
Program Coordinator
Kathy Weiler, MEd

Instructor
Rose O'Brien, OSF, MEd

Instructor
Paula Bader

Childcare
Patricia Heideman, CDA

 Lower Price Hill
Community School

 @LPHCS

EDUCATION > forward

In order to better capture what we do everyday in our GED program, we have renamed the program Education Forward. This name encompasses our mission to help individuals move their education forward through college, career and life readiness.

The transition into our swing space has been an interesting experience for all of the students and staff at LPHCS. Students from the Education Forward program describe the space as a "club house," which is a fitting description of the small rooms with desks lining the walls. Students are sitting side-by-side, as fellow students, preparing for the GED before major changes come to the test. The new version of the test will create another transition to which the students will have to adjust. The test officially changes January 1, 2014, and LPHCS has signed up over 30 students to test in the coming months. We continue to urge students to sign up to test before December 31, 2013.

The drastic changes to the test will create more barriers to the success of our students. All test scores from previous years will no longer be considered starting in 2014, resulting in students who have previously passed sections having to take the entire test over. The major change is that all testing will be given electronically; paper tests will no longer be an option, so students will have to have basic typing skills for the short answer questions. Also, the test, which is currently \$40, will be three times the amount, costing individuals \$120. We advise everyone who is in need of a GED to make it happen now!



Kathy Weiler, LPHCS Staff 2007-2013

2012-2013 Program Highlights

Education Forward

21 GED Graduates

240 Students Served

10 Enrolled in College after earning their GED

Read to Succeed

123 Students Served

READ to succeed

Kathy Weiler has a long history of service at Lower Price Hill Community School as a college teacher, GED tutor, reading specialist, and the founder of the Read to Succeed program. We are grateful for all the service Kathy gave to LPHCS through the years and her excellent ways of assisting students. Although our LPHCS family will miss her, we wish Kathy the best of luck in her new work!

While Kathy was here, she noticed the need for specialized tutoring in reading and she created a model of intensive instruction that has helped so many students learn to read. The Read to Succeed program identifies nine different reading skills from basic through advanced levels and helps students build skills to reach the advanced level. All of our students and staff will greatly miss Kathy, not only for her dedicated service, but also for her kindness, common sense, ingenious listening, and caring for everyone. We plan to continue her great work in the Read to Succeed program and look forward to building from the foundation she created.

2012-2013 LPHCS by the Numbers



608 students received services



48% men



52% women



Terrance Wooten

Student at LPHCS - Nov. 2012-Apr.2013
GED Graduate - April 2013
AmeriCorps Tutor at LPHCS 2013-2014

Why I love LPHCS

This is a relaxing place that invites people to be a part of education. Everyone here is encouraging and dedicated to helping you accomplish your goals.

It's all about the student because it is the students that drive the organization. Most students lack confidence and all they need is someone to journey with them and provide encouragement.

I understand because I was there. I needed this family of support.

Why I Decided to Join the Team

I saw the opportunity to help and decided that I needed to give back. I became part of a family while I was here and when I earned my GED I knew I wanted to stay a part of this family. I have always wanted to help people and what better way to help then through education. With education, people can help themselves. Education transforms people into something greater.

\$50
by
1000
people

As a small organization, every dollar has a great impact in our community. We ask you to join our \$50 by 1000 campaign and donate today so that we can continue to change lives through education.

Your \$50 Donation Can

ensure that a student can get to school for an entire month

cover 10 hours of tutoring by an AmeriCorps member

provide a day of childcare for 8 children

**It takes a village
to change the world.**

Please join our village.

You can donate online at www.lphcs.org or by mail at 2104 Saint Michael Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45204

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for more updates on how \$50 can change lives at LPHCS.

Staff {2013-2014}

Executive Director
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jenw@lphcs.org

Associate Director
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emilye@lphcs.org

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Education Forward
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Instructor
Debbie Shelton

Instructor
Sarah Groeschen

Instructor
Jody Bauer, BSW

Instructor
Terrence Wooten

Read to Succeed
Instructor
Rose O'Brien, OSF, MEd

Instructor
Paula Bader

Childcare
Patricia Heideman,
CDA

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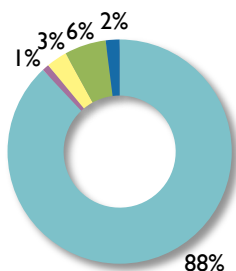
Ben Siefring
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Thank you for your support!

We are so grateful for all of the support from our donors and volunteers. All of our work is dependent on the generosity of all those who give their time and money to support our mission.

2012-2013 Income



- Foundations \$360,588
- Religious \$4,285
- Individuals \$14,185
- Contracts \$23,768
- Other \$7,683

2012-2013 Expenses

- GED/Read to Succeed \$223,931
- College Bridge \$130,404

2012-2013 Renovation Partners

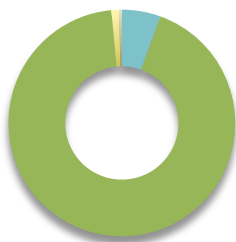
Mark Brunner & Associates



Brashear Bolton Architects



2012-2013 Restore Saint Michaels Project Fundraising



- Individual Donors \$25,401,74
- Foundations \$427,000
- Religious Orgs \$5,025
- Corporations \$1,800

Current Project Status

2012-13 funds combined with funds raised in the previous and current fiscal years, complete the private fundraising goal for the renovation project.



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Cincinnati, Ohio 45204

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**We've Started Construction
on our Restore
Saint Michael's Project**

If you plan to visit the Lower Price Hill Community School, bring your hard hat! The school has officially moved into the temporary space of the West Annex while the rest of the complex is undergoing its transformation. The roof work of all the spaces is nearly complete and the masonry work is beginning. We are anxiously awaiting the closing of the tax credit component to finalize the funding to complete the project.

We are so pleased to announce that the private fundraising needs have been committed, though we are continuing our fundraising efforts to ensure the project continues to move forward and to begin a complex maintenance fund. Please let us know if you would like a tour to see the progress or see the future plan. Thank you all for your faith in the project and your support. This has truly been a grassroots effort and we are so grateful to all of our supporters.

Stay {Connected} with LPHCS

If you would like to join our email list for periodic updates on what's going on at LPHCS, please send an email to maryk@lphcs.org



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