



2015 - 2016

ANNUAL REPORT



THE GREATER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM experience

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"As the purse is emptied, the heart is filled." This quote from Victor Hugo, the world-renowned author of "Les Misérables" and the "Hunchback of Notre Dame," is a simple yet powerful quote about giving. It is a wonderful statement about you, our GEP donors. When you empty your purses and give to our program, you indeed fill the heart of every child who attends this program. They smile and are full of excitement when they go on a trip to Charleston for the very first time because of your purse. Their eyes dance with wonder when they attend a ballet or see a real, live Panthers game at the stadium because of your giving. And, their hearts fill up with joy when they receive a passing score on EOGs because your donations allow for critical educational materials and instruction during afterschool hours. Because of your love for GEP, we have been able to provide our children with **The GEP Experience** for 41 years. For this, your hearts should be filled. Thank you for your commitment to GEP.



George E. Battle, Jr.
GEP Founder

This year has been an incredible one for Greater Enrichment Program for two significant reasons. One, despite financial constraints, GEP has continued to serve our children in a mighty way. Our GEP kids have made lasting memories through the awesome field trips, sports clinics and STEM activities GEP and its partners have offered. Second, GEP was selected the 2016 Community Program of the Year by North Carolina's Center for Afterschool Programs, beating out more than 6,000 other afterschool programs. GEP received the designation based on the quality of its mentoring and tutoring programs, STEM activities, student engagement, academic growth and family activities and programming. This is such a huge honor for our program and for the children and families we serve. Our success would not be possible without you – our donors and volunteers. Thank you for supporting the program and for being a rung on the ladder our children need to achieve great and marvelous things.



Mike Kilpatrick
GEP Board Chair

Bronica Glover
Executive Director

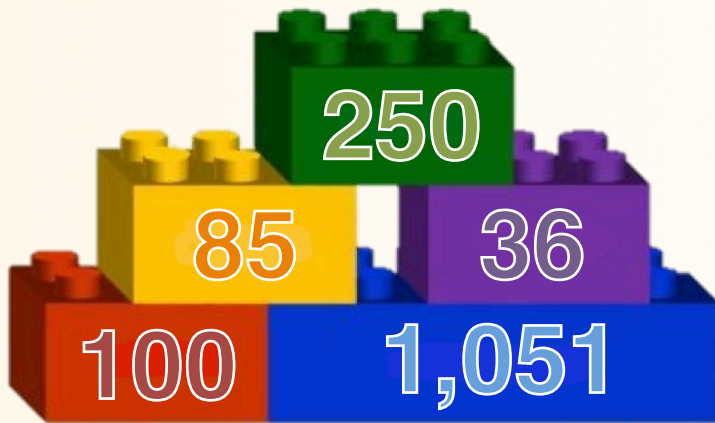
Katy Vasquez
Office Manager

Angie Benjock
Financial Manager

Tangella Stephens
Ashley Park Site Director

Denise Rice
Merry Oaks Site Director

Tangella Stephens
Thomasboro Site Director



GEP Quick Stats

- 250 students served at GEP
- 85% average daily attendance
- 36 hours of STEM enrichment and activities
- 100% of GEP students receive free lunch
- 1,051 hours of parent volunteer time in the classrooms, at events and in the sites

ACADEMIC & CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

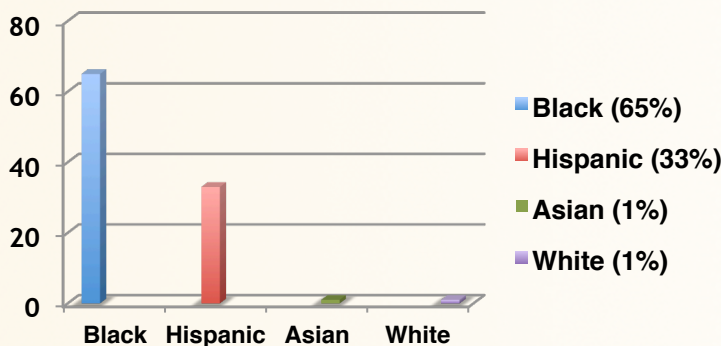
At GEP students receive a healthy snack, homework assistance, literacy and/or STEM enrichment, physical fitness, a safe ride home and cultural enrichment (field trips, special facilitators, community partnerships). GEP students participated in 60 hours of teacher-directed activities, 20 hours of technology time, 36 hours of STEM, 100 hours of physical fitness and cultural enrichment activities, including:

- Financial literacy program with Wells Fargo
- Diamond Dell Gem Mining Experience
- STEM activities including designing roller coasters and creating DNA helices with candy
- Summer in the City Day Camp reading challenge
- Girls' empowerment workshop series
- The Nutcracker Ballet with Charlotte Youth Ballet
- Substance abuse prevention workshop with Anuvia
- Etiquette workshop with Touch Inc.

STUDENT ACADEMIC GROWTH

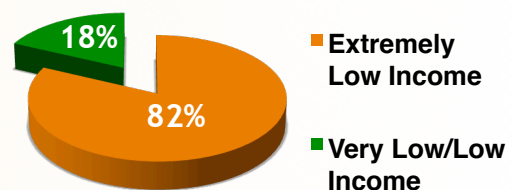
- 92% of third through eighth grade students maintained or improved their grades from first through fourth quarters in math
- 89% of third through eighth grade students maintained or improved their grades from first through fourth quarters in reading
- 93% of kindergarten students at the Merry Oaks GEP site are at or above the Text Reading Comprehension level
- 70% of first grade students at the Merry Oaks site are at or above the Text Reading Comprehension level
- 68% of second graders at the Merry Oaks site are at or above the Text Reading Comprehension level
- 64% of GEP third grade students at Ashley Park passed the Math EOG compared to 47% overall at the school
- 27% passed the Reading EOG compared to 17% overall at the school

Ethnicity of GEP Students



*Graph represents ethnic breakdown of GEP students







Family Household Income



*Graph represents family income level of GEP students

THE GEP DAILY SCHEDULE

Each day after school, GEP students receive the following:










-  Healthy snack
-  Homework assistance
-  Literacy instruction or participate in a STEM activity
-  Physical fitness activity
-  Cultural enrichment (field trips, special facilitators or community partnership activities)
-  Safe ride home



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

206 members of the Charlotte community engaged in various volunteer efforts with GEP, such as mentoring, tutoring, leading STEM activities and teaching students about financial responsibility. The volunteers represented many corporations, schools and organizations, including Foundry Commercial, Kids Heartfelt Health, Wells Fargo, Johnson C. Smith University, UNC Charlotte, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Student Internship Program.

PARENT & FAMILY ACTIVITIES

-  Back to School Bash
-  Family Night Movie in the Park
-  Fall Family Fitness Festival
-  Family Literacy Luau Night
-  Thanksgiving program
-  Holiday gift program
-  Math & Science Night
-  Black History Quiz Bowl
-  Community Resource Fair & Family Fun Day

CMS TEACHER SURVEY COMMENTS

"The site director provides essential support that encourages students to be productive academically, socially and emotionally."
- Ms. Lewis, 2nd grade teacher

"GEP is very needed in the school because it helps students improve academically."
- Mrs. Rogers, 4th grade teacher

"GEP gives students the opportunity to continue developing social and academic skills outside of the classroom."
- Ms. Jolicoeur, 3rd grade teacher

"The GEP scholars are prepared when they enter the classroom."
- Ms. White, 5th grade teacher

"GEP is such an incredible program!"
- Mrs. Nix, 2nd grade teacher

"My students really benefit from the program."
- Mrs. Scott, 3rd grade teacher

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

- 100% of parents would recommend the GEP program to other parents
- 96% of parents feel their children are very safe in the GEP program
- 90% of parents grade the overall program as excellent or good

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

To encourage involvement and engage parents in their children's education, GEP requires all parents or guardians to volunteer at program events and activities. GEP achieved **100%** parent participation for 2015-2016 with more than 1,000 hours in volunteer time.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Productive citizenship and community service are essential to GEP's program offerings. Students are required to participate in community service projects each quarter, and the staff works closely with the GEP Student Advisory Board to come up with project ideas. The students engaged in three community service projects during the 2015-2016 school year, including:

- ▶ Pasta with a Purpose
- ▶ Canned food drive
- ▶ Community clean up

SPOTLIGHT ON GEP ALUMNI



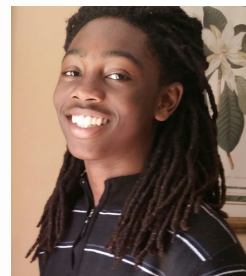
Justice Isom

Justice Isom, a former GEP student who attended the Bruns Academy site, is an eleventh grader at West Charlotte High School. She is in honors courses, is on the

homecoming court and is enrolled in the Johnson C. Smith University Upward Bound program. She aspires to be a fashion designer.

Sharod Sellers

Sherod Sellers is a former GEP student from the Merry Oaks International Academy site. He is in the tenth grade at Phillip O'Berry High School, where he plays junior varsity football. Sharod takes honors courses, is on the A/B honor roll and would like to become an engineer.



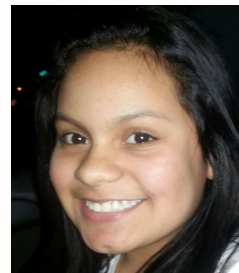
Georgienna Lockhart

Georgienna Lockhart is a former GEP student at the Merry Oaks site. She is a tenth grader at Phillip O'Berry High School where she currently has a 4.2 GPA.

During her seventh grade year, Georgienna received the Michael Friedland Foundation Scholarship for academics. She is on the Phillip O'Berry junior varsity girl's basketball team and hopes to become a heart surgeon.









Gina Coque

Gina Coque is a former GEP student who currently is in the ninth grade at Rocky River High School and a member of the Diversity Club. She takes honors courses and is on the A honor roll. Upon graduation, Gina wants to attend the New York School of Interior Design to become an interior designer.









COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Through it's numerous partnerships with corporate and non-profit organizations, GEP is able to offer students engaging educational and cultural experiences throughout the year. Some of the partnerships include:

-  Charlotte Youth Ballet – provided weekly ballet instruction to students
-  Executive Women International – sponsored a Reading Rally
-  Kramden Institute/Everyone On – donated computers and software
-  Providence Day School Lacrosse Team – sponsored lacrosse clinics for students
-  Palisades Episcopal School – sponsored monthly field trips for students
-  Countryside Montessori – sponsored character education programs
-  St. John's Episcopal Church – sponsored students to attend a week-long summer experience at Camp Bob
-  N.C. Tennis Foundation – provided tennis training and curriculum to staff and students

SUPPORT FOR GEP STUDENTS & FAMILIES

-  Back to School Bash - 100 school backpacks and supplies provided by Myers Park Mustang Community Association
-  25 Thanksgiving baskets provided by Steele Creek A.M.E. Zion Church and North Carolina A&T State University Alumni
-  Holiday gifts sponsored by Carolinas HealthCare Foundation
-  Monthly Parent Advisory Board meetings that provide leadership training and support to parents
-  Terrific Tuesdays parent workshops with topics including using positive discipline methods, repairing credit, developing/enhancing interview skills and becoming financially literate
-  Single dads support group events

CMS TEACHER SURVEY RESULTS

- 100% of teachers feel that having GEP at their schools is beneficial to the students, their families, teachers and administration
- 100% believe GEP offers a well-rounded program that includes a balance of academics, cultural enrichment and character education programs
- 100% said “yes,” they have good communication with the GEP staff and site directors

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Carolinas Healthcare Foundation
 Central Piedmont Community College
 Charity League of Charlotte
 Charlotte Hounds
 Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools
 Charlotte Tennis Association
 Charlotte Youth Ballet
 The Chris Canty Foundation
 City of Charlotte
 Countryside Montessori
 Everyone On
 Executive Women International Charlotte Chapter
 Exercise Fit Kids
 First Tee
 Foundry Commercial
 Girl Scouts Hornets Nest Council
 Griffin Brothers
 Hands On Charlotte
 Johnson C. Smith University
 Kids Heart Felt Health
 Kramden Institute
 Mecklenburg County Boy Scouts Council
 Myers Park Mustang Community Organization
 N.C. Tennis Foundation
 Palisades Episcopal School
 Providence Day School Lacrosse Team
 St. John's Episcopal Church
 Tahill Inc.
 University of North Carolina at Charlotte
 Wells Fargo

2015 - 2016 LIST OF DONORS

Greater Enrichment Program would like to thank our 2015 – 2016 donors for your generosity and dedication to our organization. Without your unwavering support, we would not be able to provide the wonderful programs offered to our children. GEP thanks you!

Corporate Donors & Grants

21st Century Community Learning Grant
Bank of America
Belk Inc.
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Bragg Financial Advisors
Carolinas HealthCare
Carolinas HealthCare Foundation
Charlotte Hornets
Charlotte Tennis Association
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G&G Family Foundation (Graeme Keith)
Gombar Family Fund
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Johnson C. Smith University
Maggie's Coin Laundry (Larry Welch)
NCFI/Barnhardt Foundation
Palisades Episcopal School
Rooms To Go Children's Foundation
Wells Fargo

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John Knox
(in honor of his employees)
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Shirley Welch
Betty White
Elizabeth S. White
Robert Wiggins, Jr.
Dr. James & Martha Woodward
Joan Zimmerman
Special Donation
Andy & Mac Everett



"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."

– Robert M. Hutchins, Education Philosopher

The Greater Enrichment Program is committed to providing quality afterschool programs to those who need it most. GEP has developed a program model that has a proven track record of student achievement, parent engagement and successful community collaborations. I am so thankful for our dedicated staff and school and community partners who help us provide a program that encourages our students to be the best that they can be. It's been a challenging year, but thanks to our donors and volunteers, we are still making a significant difference in the lives of the children we serve. For that, I am grateful!

– Bronica Glover, GEP Executive Director