



PEACE COMMUNITY  
CENTER

2016-2017

IMPACT REPORT



# 2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## OUR MISSION

Rooted in faith and the Hilltop neighborhood, Peace Community Center believes education is an integral part of a strong community. We support and encourage youth historically underrepresented in college to cultivate their academic and leadership talents so that they can gain full access to educational opportunities and reach their full potential.



David T. Alger, President  
Associated Ministries, Retired

Stephon Harris, Vice President  
University of Washington, Tacoma

Don Haueisen, Treasurer  
Pacific Lutheran University, Retired

Jaleesa Trapp, Secretary  
Tacoma Public Schools  
Intel Clubhouse

John Aakre  
Thrivent Financial

Abi Deleon  
PhysAssist

Terry Edwards  
Everett School District, Retired

Chris Ferguson  
Pacific Lutheran University, Retired

Lisa Flesher  
Tacoma Fire Department , Retired

Heather Gulian  
Franciscan Medical Group

Amanda Scott-Thomas  
Tacoma Public Schools

Al Shelton  
Puyallup Tribe

Pastor John Stroeh, Advisory Member  
Peace Lutheran Church

**146** VOLUNTEERS  
**75%** LIFETIME COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE

**373** TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED  
**94%** LIFETIME HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

# THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

We are honored to share this 2016-2017 Impact Report with you. Because of your generosity and dedication, Hilltop students are getting access to educational experiences that will help open doors to incredible opportunities.

A few of the notable adventures and accomplishments from this past year include:

- Serving **373 Hilltop students** across our elementary, middle school, high school, and college and career programs;
- Providing **1,392 program hours** and **3,593 academic coaching sessions**;
- Celebrating as **92%** of our high school students graduated on-time (our lifetime rate is 94%);
- Welcoming our new **Executive Director, Jay Thomas**, into the role after he served nine months as Interim Executive Director.

With your help, and alongside our students and families, we continue to disrupt the inequitable access to educational opportunities Hilltop students face. Our collective goal is to help more students of color, students impacted by poverty, and students that are first-generation college-bound get support to reach their full potential. We know this is what transforms futures and communities.

In the pages that follow, we share student stories and data points to help you feel the impact of your generosity. We hope our students bring you joy and confidence that your gifts are igniting a passion for learning.

We are excited to continue this journey with you in the year ahead! In the very near future, you can expect:

- An exciting announcement for big changes that will improve our programs and help us serve even more students,
- Invitations to come see our students and programs in action

Thank you for choosing Peace Community Center as your place to make a difference for kids, the Hilltop community, and in education.

Sincerely yours,



Jay Thomas  
Executive Director

Rev. David T. Alger  
2016-2017 Board President

# MCCARVER SCHOLARS

## ELEMENTARY

When Juan moves through the halls of McCarver Elementary, he admits that he can be a little bit of a smarty pants.

“I like it when the younger kids see me and shout out, ‘Hey Juan,’ and all my friends are like, ‘How do you know them?... It’s because I’m a McCarver Scholar, and when you’ve been here for as long as I have, you help out the younger kids.”

Over the past 4 years, Juan has grown into a student leader that other students look to for guidance, and it’s a role he takes seriously.

Juan joined the program during the summer before 2nd grade. The child of two Spanish-speaking parents, Juan initially struggled with his reading and writing. It affected his confidence in the classroom.

“My mom signed me up for the summer,” Juan said. “I just thought it would be fun to hang out with my friends and go on fields trips.”

A lot of the older students helped

Juan with his writing and made him feel more comfortable raising his hand. Now, reading is one of his favorite activities.

“Most people don’t like going to school. But at McCarver Scholars, everyone wants to come because if you have this, there’s always something to look forward to.”



**109** STUDENTS SERVED

**83%** MISSED LESS THAN 10 DAYS OF SCHOOL

**62%** INCREASED READING

YOU HELP KIDS BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES WHILE THEY’RE YOUNG

### ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

McCarver Scholars is there for students starting in the 2nd grade. The program provides our scholars with a safe place to learn after-school and during the summer.

During programming, our young scholars practice reading skills, and try new experiences during enrichment. Our goal is to help students get the support they need to experience success in school and prepare for middle school.

# HILLTOP SCHOLARS

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

When an older student told Katelynn about the Hilltop Scholars program in 7th grade, she signed up right away. She was having a hard time keeping her grades up and thought Hilltop Scholars was a great way to do something about it.

“Joining Hilltop Scholars last year really made a huge difference. My grades went from a C to a B+ and I had more opportunities to learn with all the different activities after school.”

For Katelynn, one of the most important parts of being a Scholar was the connection with people. Having her own Academic Coach, someone to help her through the day and help her stay on track, was invaluable in her quest to improve academically.

“Both the Academic Coaches and the tutors made me feel like people cared about my success. I got help planning my schoolwork and finishing assignments after school.”

Being a Hilltop Scholar also, opened Katelynn’s eyes to find new ways

to challenge herself. Before getting involved with Peace Community Center, Katelynn says she’d never really considered college, but now she’s got big plans for herself.

“Now, I’ve visited a few colleges and I’m interested in attending St. Martin’s and pursuing an engineering degree to hopefully become a computer technician.”



150 STUDENTS SERVED

2771 COACHING SESSIONS

86% MISSED LESS THAN 10 DAYS OF SCHOOL

YOU’RE PROVIDING CARING ADULTS WHO HELP STUDENTS THROUGH TOUGH TIMES

### ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Our Hilltop Scholars: Middle School program serves Hilltop youth attending Jason Lee Middle School. Students meet weekly with their Academic Coach to get help with academic strategies, self-advocacy skills, and confidence building.

Our after school and summer program helps students build academic skills, prepare for high school and take part in enrichment activities, like robotics and glee club.

# HILLTOP SCHOLARS HIGH SCHOOL

When Delia, a high school senior, first joined the Hilltop Scholars program as a 7th grader it was for one reason: "They were offering ice cream gift certificates," said Delia with a laugh.

"I wasn't really invested in school but my grades were fine. I was mostly concerned with hanging out with friends and having fun."

She had a wakeup call when she went to high school. Delia quickly felt like she was spinning out of control as her schoolwork became more complex, and her friendships became more destructive.

"I needed to make some serious changes and I started going to the high school program regularly."

Delia's decision to get more involved was connected to her goal to graduate high school on-time. She will be the first person in her family to attend college and attributes reaching this milestone to the Center's commitment to college readiness.

"My mom always told me I was going to be the one to go, but it was having people working WITH me that's making it happen," said Delia. "I wonder sometimes how it would be different for my other siblings if they had the academic coaches I had, or the volunteers, or any of this?"

Delia has younger cousins that she looks forward to seeing follow in her footsteps. "I'm just the first, but I'm not gonna be the last."



78 STUDENTS SERVED

822 COACHING SESSIONS

92% GRADUATION RATE

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE LEARNING WHO THEY ARE AND DECIDING WHO THEY WILL BE

## ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The Hilltop Scholars: High School program was created for Hilltop youth and provides the support students need to be college and career ready. Scholars take leadership and college prep classes so that they're ready for life after high school.

In addition to meeting weekly with their Academic Coaches, scholars have a safe place to get help with homework, study for tests, or write applications for college.

# COLLEGE + CAREER

When Juwan started 9th grade at Foss High School, he joined Hilltop Scholars. Having space where he could hang out and have fun was tremendously impactful to his life, and with hard work and encouragement, Juwan looked at his future critically after a difficult time in high school.

However, he wasn't immediately interested in attending a four-year university. He started working toward his Associate's degree at a community college but quickly decided a full-time job would be a better short-term strategy while he figured out what career he wanted to pursue.

Juwan jumped at the opportunity to return to Peace Community Center when the chance came, joining the staff this year as a Murdock Vision and Call Intern with the high school team.

"I'm excited to use this opportunity to focus on giving back to the community that helped me so much! Being a Vision and Call Intern gives

me the opportunity to grow as a person and learn something new, even as I prepare to go back to school to start my long-term career."

This year, Juwan is going back to school to finish up his Associate's with a long-term goal of earning a degree in marketing.

"I don't know where I'd be without Peace's support, this place has helped me every step of the way."



10 CITY OF TACOMA SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED

216 CARE PACKAGES SENT

70% COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE

YOU HELP STUDENTS BECOME LEADERS READY FOR THE WORLD'S CHALLENGES

## ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Our support doesn't end at high school graduation. As scholars head into adulthood, we continue to support them through the often-rocky transition from high school to post-secondary. These students receive coaching and support from our Director, support accessing and using campus resources and care packages with snacks, supplies, and notes of encouragement.

# 2016-2017 FINANCIALS

Thank you to the 413 generous individuals who supported our scholars throughout the 2016-2017 school year. You make this work possible!



## OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions, non-governmental	\$552,504
Government	222,525
Other revenue*	32,478
Net assets released from restriction	318,904
In-kind contributions	72,000
<b>Total Operating Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,198,411</b>

\*Other revenue includes interest income, rental income (net), reimbursements, and miscellaneous income

## OPERATING EXPENSES

Elementary Program	\$314,842
Middle School Program	179,360
High School Program	241,990
College and Career Program	63,548
Other Programs**	61,515
Management & General	119,833
Fundraising	147,916
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$1,129,004</b>

\*\*Other programs includes Vibrant Schools Tacoma Coalition, community meals program, and other support services of the Center. The Center is the fiscal agent for Vibrant Schools.

Change in Net Assets from Operations \$69,407

## BREAKDOWN OF OPERATING EXPENSES

### FUNDRAISING

76% PROGRAMS

13%

11%

MANAGEMENT

## STATEMENT OF POSITION

Assets	
Current	\$1,575,155
Property and Equipment, Net*	1,526,363
Long Term Pledges Receivable, Net	145,500
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$3,247,018</b>

\*In 2016, the Center signed a 20 year lease with Peace Lutheran Church, resulting in an increase in assets over the life of the lease.

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	\$405,521
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	862,294
Temporarily Restricted	1,979,203
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>2,841,497</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,247,018</b>

## HILLTOP: WHERE SCHOLARS GROW THE CAMPAIGN FOR PEACE COMMUNITY CENTER

Beginning Balance	\$714,321
2016-2017 Contributions	556,779
2016-2017 Expenses	(365,912)
<b>Total Nonoperating Activity</b>	<b>\$905,188</b>

Peace Community Center is partnering with our community to raise \$2.6 million for program and facility investments through our *Hilltop: Where Scholars Grow* Campaign. The projects include expanding and renovating our facility, hiring additional staff to support and grow our high school program, and raising sustainability funding to support elementary students and programs.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITH IN OUR SCHOLARS

## FOUNDATIONS

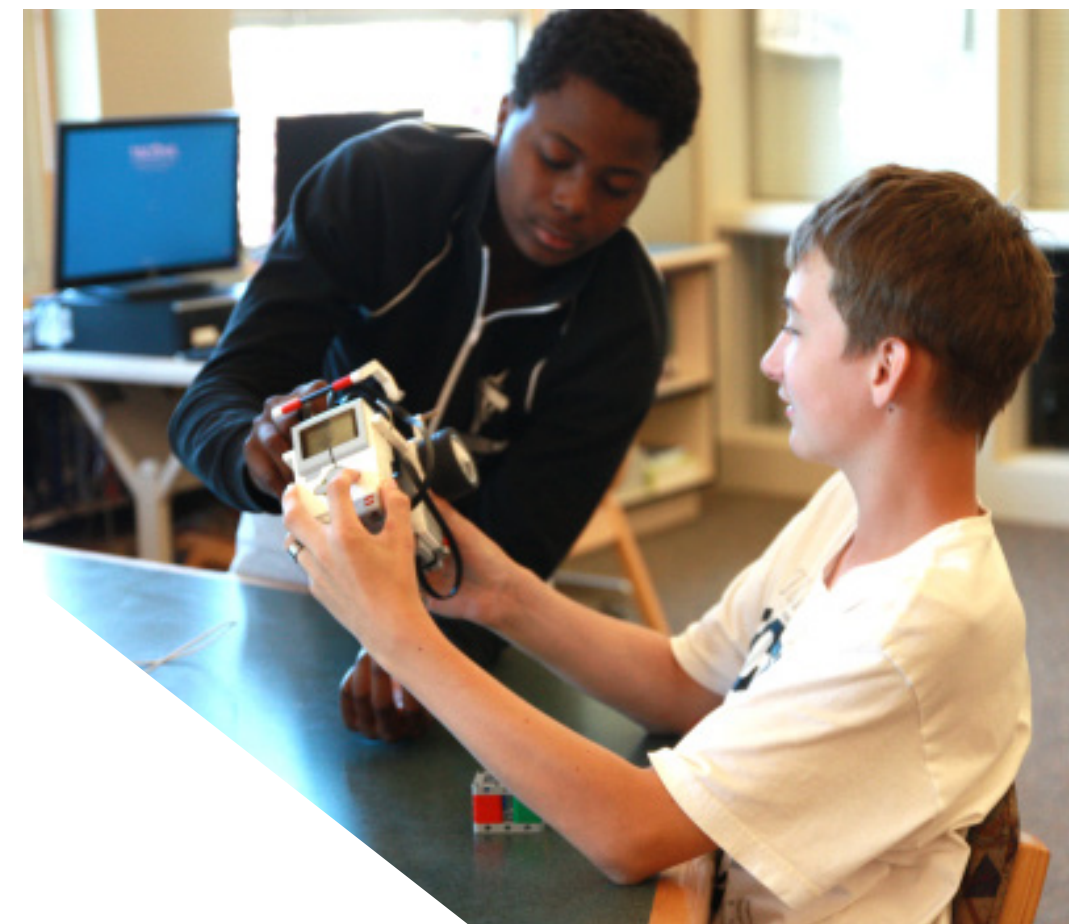
Anderson Foundation  
 Baker Foundation  
 Bamford Foundation  
 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation  
 Dimmer Family Foundation  
 Discuren Foundation  
 ELCA Foundation  
 Florence Kilworth Charitable Trust  
 Forest Foundation  
 Foundation for Tacoma Students  
 Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Foundation  
 Greater Tacoma Community Foundation  
 Hugh C. Wallace Trust  
 Jean E Thomson Foundation

KeyBank Foundaiton  
 Lucky Seven Foundation  
 Mannix Canby Foundation  
 Medina Foundation  
 Milgard Family Foundations  
 MJ Murdock Charitable Trust  
 MultiCare Health System  
 Neeb Family Foundation  
 Norcliffe Foundation  
 Rotary Club of Tacoma #8  
 Safeco Insurance Fund  
 Sequoia Foundation  
 Stewardship Foundation  
 Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund  
 Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation  
 United Way of Pierce County  
 William Kilworth Foundation



## BUSINESSES

Amazon Smile Program  
 Boeing Employee Giving Program  
 CHI Franciscan Health  
 David B Vail, Jennifer Cross-Euterneier & Associates, PLLC  
 Gray Lumber  
 John Korsmo Construction Inc.  
 Kaiser Permanente  
 Kroger  
 Lutheran Trust  
 Microsoft Matching Gifts  
 MultiCare Health System  
 Pacific Lutheran University  
 Quest Diagnostics Matching Gifts  
 Russell Investments Matching Gifts  
 Symetra Matching Gifts  
 Tacoma Community College  
 Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community  
 Thrivent Financial  
 Truist



## CHURCHES

Agnus Dei Lutheran Church  
 Bethany Presbyterian Church  
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
 Celebration Lutheran Church  
 Creator Lutheran Church  
 ELCA SWWA Synod Region 1

Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
 Faith Lutheran Church  
 First Lutheran Church  
 Lutheran Church of Christ the King  
 Mount Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 Mountain View Lutheran Church  
 One Hope Church

Peace Lutheran Church  
 Resurrection Lutheran Church  
 Roosevelt Heights COGIC  
 Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church  
 Spanaway Lutheran Church  
 St. Leo Parish  
 St. Mark's Lutheran Church by the Narrows

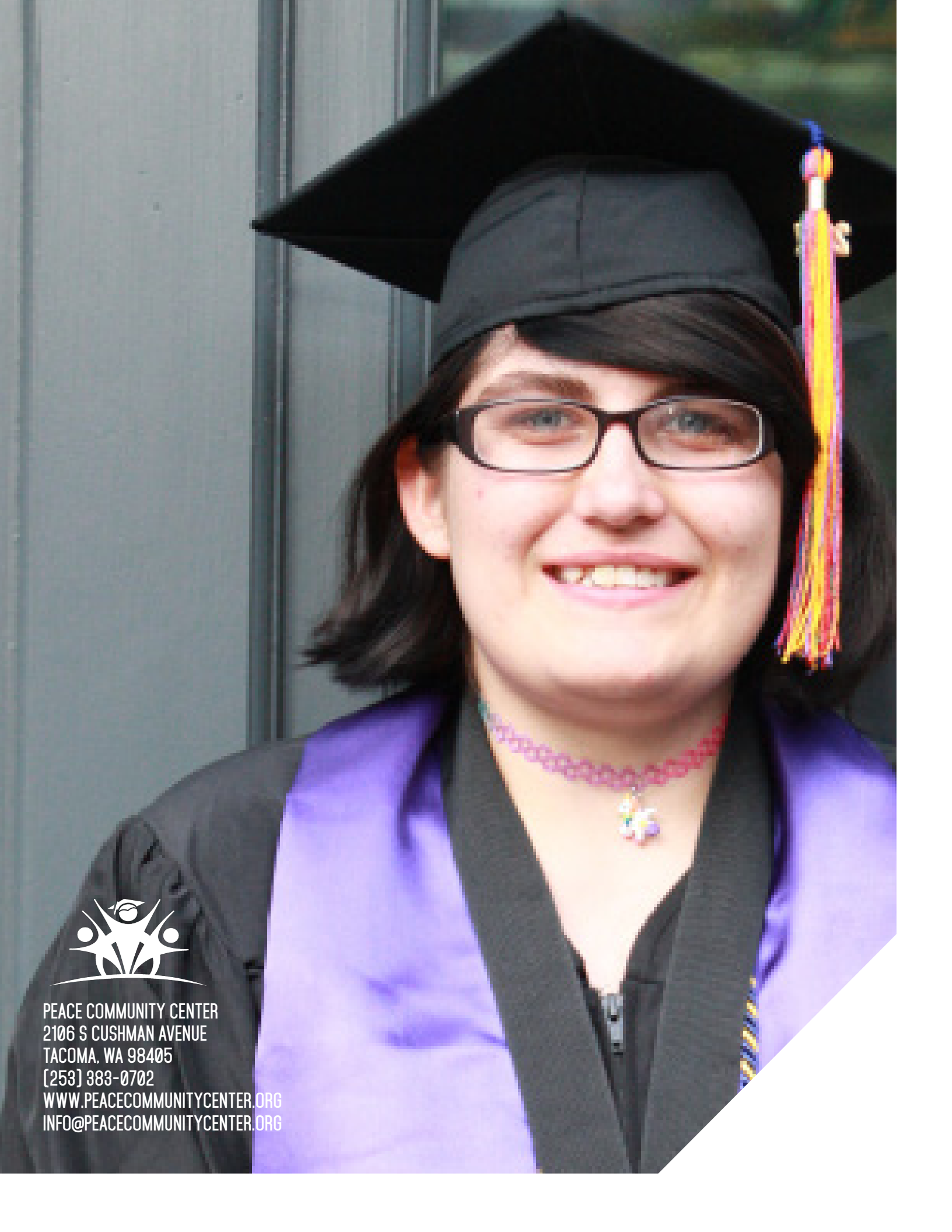
## DONOR HIGHLIGHT: HERMAN & DOROTHY DIERS



“After 13 years of visiting in Hilltop homes (with the Hilltop Action Coalition) I was persuaded that the key to the future of those families was in a meaningful education for their kids. Lo and behold PCC came along and found an effective way to involve both the families and the school district in making education come alive for those children. So the two of us are honored to continue to be a part of this beloved community.”

-Herman and Dorothy Diers





PEACE COMMUNITY CENTER  
2106 S CUSHMAN AVENUE  
TACOMA, WA 98405  
(253) 383-0702  
[WWW.PEACECOMMUNITYCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.PEACECOMMUNITYCENTER.ORG)  
[INFO@PEACECOMMUNITYCENTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@PEACECOMMUNITYCENTER.ORG)