

PEACE COMMUNITY CENTER

2017-2018

IMPACT REPORT



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.



2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dear Friends and Partners,

This past year has been pivotal to our growth as an organization and in our work with incredible Hilltop youth and families. Thank you for being a significant partner in this mission with your prayers, commitment, and grace as we strive to help youth reach their full potential.

During this past school-year, and with your generous help, Peace Community Center and Hilltop youth have so much to be proud of:

- 381 youth joined us in our elementary, middle school, high school, and college and career programs to access educational programming;
- Middle school students expanded their access to STEAM programming through expansive enrichment programming;
- 86% of our high school seniors graduated high school on-time with 80% then moving directly into a post-secondary program.

Our incredible community also stepped forward to help fund Peace Community Center's *Hilltop: Where Scholars Grow Campaign* — our first-ever campaign to fund program and facility expansion. We are eternally grateful for each gift given this past year, which helped us complete the \$2.6 million fundraising goal in December 2018.

We are excited to continue this educational journey with Hilltop youth, families, and you! As we dream into the future, you can expect:

- Celebrating the completion of the *Hilltop: Where Scholars Grow Campaign*;
- Hiring Peace Community Center's next Executive Director;
- Increasing our service to students throughout all our programs;

Thank you for your friendship and commitment to educational opportunities for Hilltop youth. We are blessed to walk with you, and we look forward to deepening our partnership in the year ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Terry Edwards

2017-2018 Board President

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED FAITH IN
OUR SCHOLARS**



MCCARVER SCHOLARS ELEMENTARY



McCarver Scholar and 5th grader Reese joined the elementary program three years ago because she wanted to have more time to learn and a place to meet new friends. Reading and math were difficult for her, and she wanted to improve her skills to be more comfortable in school.

"I used to get so nervous when I had to read with other students in my class because I would get stuck on some words and I didn't want to be judged. Math was also really hard and I knew that I wanted to get better."

Spending time at McCarver Scholars, Reese began to get better in both. At program, she practiced reading to others and working through tough math problems by getting help each day.

"It was really helpful when I learned new ways of doing math at McCarver Scholars. I started to see math in a different way that worked better for me. Everyone is really patient when I practice reading, too, and even though I'm still working on a few things I'm getting better and will keep practicing. I'm really proud of getting better."

Reese has grown socially as a McCarver Scholar too. Now she has lots of friends at school, but it wasn't always like that for her. "I used to get judged and teased for what I wore, or how I did my hair, or what I brought to school. It didn't feel good. When I started coming here we talked about ways to get through it. Over time it got better, and now I have a lot of friends from being here. I even have friends in different grades!"

McCarver Scholars has helped Reese grow both academically and socially and gives her a sense of belonging at school.

"I feel happy to be a McCarver Scholar and it feels nice to be included. I really like that I get to come here every day!"



Reese, 5th Grade
McCarver Elementary School

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Peace Community Center's learning pipeline begins when students enter 2nd grade at McCarver Elementary. With the aim of providing students with a safe place to learn both after school and over the summer, our youngest scholars practice reading, math, social-emotional strategies, and try new experiences through grade-appropriate enrichments.

FAST FACTS: Elementary

- **118 students served**
- **455 hours** of after school and summer programming
- **71% of third graders** showed improvement in reading, a Graduate Tacoma 2020 target

HILLTOP SCHOLARS MIDDLE SCHOOL



Joazzie joined Hilltop Scholars in 6th grade because he wanted to do something greater than just go to school. He used to think school was boring and would just watch TV or play video games at home after school, and he was getting tired of the same old routine. Now he gets to have fun after school and be part of something big!

"I feel special because I'm not just a regular Jason Lee student anymore, I'm a Hilltop Scholar! It means that I get to do activities after school, and it's like I have another

whole family that cares about me, and I am included in something that is worth my time. It's my favorite part of coming to school and gives me something to look forward to during the day."

Hilltop Scholars has helped Joazzie grow while having a fun time. With Hilltop Scholars, now he always gets his homework done and his grades have improved. "It's nice because I have time to do my homework in program, so I always do it because that's what the time is for and I can get help. It's really helped me with math, and I learned new methods that I actually still use to this day!"

Joazzie's favorite part of the program is all the activities he gets to do. During enrichment time he gets to try out new hobbies and develop new skills. The enrichments are always changing, so there is always plenty to do.

"One time we had a sketching enrichment where we learned to make better drawings. It was really fun, and I might want to be a sketch artist one day. Sometimes we play sports, and I really like basketball and football. Athletics are really big in my family, and I want to play football in college."

College is definitely in Joazzie's future and he is working hard to get there. In fact, he has already started saving! "I know college is expensive, so I've been saving since I was about five. Whenever I get money I save half of it so that I can go to college when I am ready."



Joazzie, 7th Grade
Jason Lee Middle School

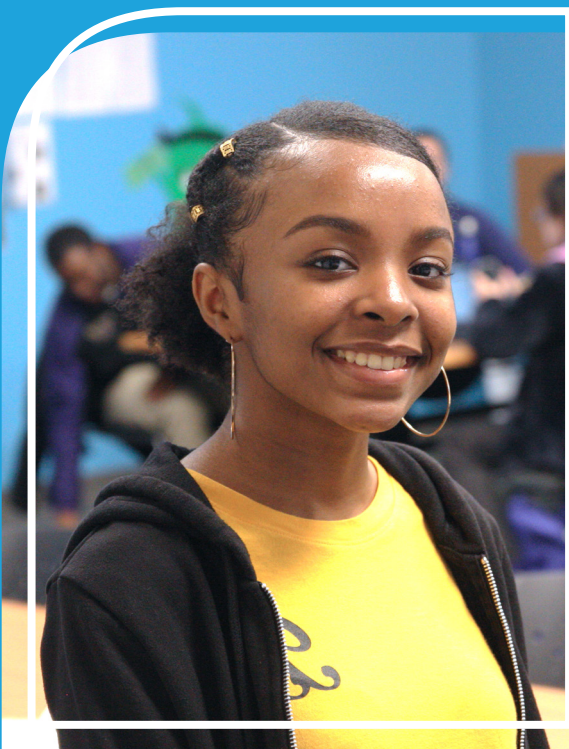
ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

At the middle school level, students officially enter Hilltop Scholars. Serving those at Jason Lee Middle School, Hilltop students begin meeting weekly with an Academic Coach. Operating after school and into the summer, our 6th-8th graders build academic skills, engage in unique enrichment activities, and begin to prepare for high school.

FAST FACTS: Middle School

- **153 students served**
- **400+ hours of tutoring and enrichment during the 2017-2018 school year + summer academy**
- **761 meetings with Academic Coaches during the 2017-2018 school year**

HILLTOP SCHOLARS HIGH SCHOOL



At Hilltop Scholars, she got to know more people and began making new friends. Now, as a junior in high school, she is a lot more social and comfortable talking to anyone.

As a Hilltop Scholar, Imahni gets help keeping up with her running-start college classes, writing essays, and planning her future. She also gets support in making difficult decisions when her path gets challenging.

"There was an issue that came up a little while ago with my running-start classes, and I thought about quitting. The staff at Hilltop Scholars are really great, probably my favorite part of the program, and they helped me problem-solve and come up with a solution. It felt really good to be supported in that way."

While Imahni is still deciding her career path she knows she is developing important skills now that will help her throughout life.

"My goals are to graduate high school with all A's and B's, raise my math grade, and keep up with my college courses. My Academic Coach helps me stay on track with these goals, and we talk about preparing for after high school too. I've already applied for a few scholarships that I wouldn't have if it weren't for Ms. Kelsey encouraging me to. I am really excited for the future."

When Imahni first joined Hilltop Scholars in 7th grade, she had a much different personality than she has now. While grades weren't an issue for her, she was really quiet in school and kept to herself.

"I was always just very quiet and didn't talk to very many people. That began to change when I started coming to program."



Imahni, Junior
Stadium High School

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The Hilltop Scholars High School program was created to provide Hilltop youth with a safe and supportive space to continue being successful in high school and beyond. In addition to academic tutoring and homework help, students take leadership courses, college prep classes, attend career fairs, and learn how to write applications for a variety of post-secondary opportunities.

FAST FACTS: High School

- **82 students served**
- **13 of 15 students enrolled in college within one year, exceeding Graduate Tacoma 2020 targets**
- **80 hours of summer programming offered**

COLLEGE & CAREER POST-SECONDARY



Nick became a Hilltop Scholar in his junior year of high school when he was having a hard time meeting graduation requirements. At the time, he didn't realize that the program would have a significant impact on him long-term, and that he was getting support during a particularly important time in his life.

"Hilltop Scholars helped me see the value in different aspects of school. I played football and I was always so caught up in sports that it was taking away from my studies. Peace brought me back to focus. Speaking with mentors like

Trevor helped me conceptualize what I wanted to do in the future. I was pretty insecure about the idea of going to college, but he was always there to talk me through it."

Hilltop Scholars continues to support Nick as he attends Evergreen State College. Through regular check-ins and care packages from Peace Lutheran Church, Nick knows that the program is still there for him.

"It's always when I'm going through a tough time or having a bad day, and then my care package from Peace comes! They have nice snacks and always include words of encouragement. It will say things like, 'you are a champion, you can do this!' I actually still have all of the notes they've sent me."

Nick is now a senior in college and is excited for the future. He has an internship with Metro Parks, where he created a program supporting underrepresented youth with job placement. He wants to continue this kind of work in the future.

"I want to get a Master's degree in Organizational Development and work with businesses and organizations to make sure their hiring practices are equitable. There are so many places that hire without taking equity into account. I want to focus on diversity within diversity and make jobs more accessible no matter how someone presents."



Nick, Senior
Evergreen State College

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Our support doesn't end at graduation. In our College & Career phase we help students through the transition to work or post-secondary education through coaching and assistance in using campus resources. During tough times (like exams!) care packages are delivered stuffed with snacks, supplies and notes of encouragement.

FAST FACTS: Post-secondary

- **28 students served**
- **80% direct enrollment** of Hilltop Scholars who applied to 2- and 4-year colleges
- **80% lifetime enrollment rate**

2017-2018 FINANCIALS

Thank you to the **409 generous individuals** who supported our scholars throughout the 2017-2018 school year. **You make this work possible!**

OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Individuals	\$ 274,858
Business	\$ 50,067
Churches	\$ 27,685
Other revenue*	\$ 160,209
Government	\$ 124,897
Foundations	\$ 412,238
Net assets released from restriction	\$ 232,932
Total Operating Support and Revenue	\$1,286,475

* Other revenue includes in-kind, interest income, rental income (net), reimbursements, and miscellaneous income

OPERATING EXPENSES

Elementary Program	\$ 201,336
Middle School Program	\$ 153,847
High School Program	\$ 229,341
College and Career Program	\$ 79,528
Other Programs**	\$ 185,393
Management & General	\$ 308,732
Fundraising	\$ 108,324
Total Operating Support and Revenue	\$1,266,501
Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$ 19,974

** 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.

BREAKDOWN OF OPERATING EXPENSES

67%
PROGRAMS

FUNDRAISING
9%

24%
MANAGEMENT

STATEMENT OF POSITION

Assets	
Current	\$1,713,911
Long-Term Pledge Receivables	\$ 34,840
Property and Equipment, Net	\$1,617,774
Total Assets	\$3,366,525

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Total Liabilities	\$ 298,058
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$1,019,421
Designated	\$ 176,247
Temporary Restricted	\$1,872,799
Total Net Assets	\$ 3,068,467
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,366,525

HILLTOP: WHERE SCHOLARS GROW CAMPAIGN

2017-2018 Contributions	\$ 426,406
2017-2018 Expenses	(\$ 256,945)
Total Nonoperating Activity	\$169,461



THANK YOU

FOUNDATIONS

- Anderson Foundation
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Dimmer Family Foundation
- Discuren Foundation
- Elizabeth A. Lynn Foundation
- Florence Kilworth Charitable Trust Foundation
- Forest Foundation
- Foundation for Tacoma Students
- Fuchs Foundation
- Greater Tacoma Community Foundation
- Hugh C. Wallace Trust
- Jean E Thomson Foundation
- June and Julian Foss Foundation
- KeyBank Foundation
- Korum for Kids Foundation
- Lucky Seven Foundation
- Milgard Family Foundation

- MJ Murdock Charitable Trust
- Names Family Foundation
- Neeb Family Foundation
- Opus Community Foundation
- Oscar T. and Olivann Hokold Foundation
- Rotary Club of Tacoma South
- Sequoia Foundation
- Stewardship Foundation
- The Bamford Foundation
- The Mannix Canby Foundation
- The Norcliffe Foundation
- Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
- United Way of Pierce County
- Washington State Combined Fund Drive
- William Kilworth Foundation

BUSINESSES

- Amazon Smile
- BCRA Design
- Boeing Company Gift Match
- CHI Franciscan Health System
- Commencement Bank
- Community Health Care
- Fairweather Lodge No. 82
- John Korsmo Construction, Inc.

- Kroger
- Maddock & Associates
- Microsoft Giving
- MultiCare Health System
- Pacific Lutheran University
- Quest Diagnostics: Matching Gift Program
- Russell Matching Gifts
- Sandra Jerke & Associates, Inc
- Symetra Matching Gifts
- Tacoma Community College
- Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Committee
- The Boeing Company
- Thrivent Financial
- Truist
- Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation

CHURCHES

- Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
- Bethany Presbyterian Church
- Elbe Evangelical Lutheran Church
- ELCA SWWA Synod Region 1
- Emmanuel Lutheran Church
- Faith Lutheran Church
- Lutheran Church of Christ the King
- Mount Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Mountain View Lutheran Church
- Peace Lutheran Church
- Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church
- St. Mark's Church by the Narrows
- Trinity Lutheran Church

GOVERNMENT

- City of Tacoma

DONOR & VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



"We have been donors since 2000 when Peace Community Center was first built. With all the privileges we have been blessed with, we feel it is important to support the community with both our resources and time. When we volunteer at McCarver Scholars, we see a lot of empowerment of our youth going on. What we receive is greater than what we give, and it is so worthwhile to see young students grow up and be leaders in the community."

– Craig and Mary Cogger





**PEACE COMMUNITY
CENTER**

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